

2nd February 2024

Staffing Update

Our Senior Lunchtime Supervisor, Katie Gregory, is leaving us next week to take up a Teaching Assistant role in another school. We are very sorry to see her go, as she has done a brilliant job leading our lunchtime team with her calm efficient manner, but we wish her every success in her new venture!

We are very pleased to welcome Mrs Bolger back after her maternity leave and she is now teaching in Year 5. Mr. Orton is also back in Year 6 after the birth of his baby son – congratulations!

Young Voices

A group of Year 6 children participated in the Young Voices choir at the Genting Arena, Birmingham. The children (and teachers) had a fantastic time singing, dancing and watching the amazing performances from Urban Strides, MC Grammar, Nandi Bushell and many more. It was a brilliant night!



Athletics

On Wednesday 24th January, 18 Year 4 children attended a Sportshall Athletics competition at Bishop Vesey. This event put their perseverance and teamwork to the test as they participated in some tough races. All the children demonstrated what brilliant athletes they are and represented our school perfectly!

School Kitchen Award – 5 Stars*

Our school has recently had a routine visit from the Environmental Health team and are very proud to say we were awarded the highest rating of 5 Stars. Well done to our kitchen staff who work incredibly hard to maintain such high standards day in and day out – an excellent achievement!

Basketball

On Tuesday 30th January, a group of our Year 5/6 children went to Bishop Vesey to compete in a Basketball Tournament. All of our children demonstrated excellent sportsmanship which led us to an excellent **third place** in our group! We are extremely proud of all that competed.

Walmley Infant School – Nursery Admissions

If you are interested in applying for a Nursery place for September 2024, please contact the school via their email address; enquiry@walmleyinfant.org.

World Book Day Week 4th March – 8th March



When we return to school after half term, we will be celebrating World Book Week. Throughout the week, there will be lots of activities that your child will be able to take part in. **World Book Day** will take place on **Thursday 7th March**. Children can come into school dressed up as their favourite book character. We know that this is the best day in school for some children and we look forward to seeing their costumes. Children can also come into school wearing clean pyjamas and bring in their favourite book and a small soft toy. Please see the World Book Day Letter which was emailed on 26.01.24 for more information.

School Timings – reminder

Children should arrive anytime between **8.40am – 8.55am**.

They will finish the day as follows: Years 3 & 4 – **3.25pm** Years 5 & 6 – **3.30pm**

Attendance

A reminder to all parents that if your child is absent from school, you must inform the school office by telephoning to explain why your child is off that day, giving key details including symptoms of illness if they are unwell, by 9.30 am on the first day of the absence. Please help your child to build their resilience by sending them to school if they only have a mild cough/cold.

Earlybirds Bookings

A reminder if you need to make an emergency booking, it must be made before 12 o'clock on that day. In addition, if you cancel an Earlybirds session after 12 o'clock, you will have to collect your child from Earlybirds as they may have already been taken there by a member of the Earlybirds team.

Please also note that if you wish your child to have breakfast, your child must be in before 8.15 am as breakfast finishes at 8.20 am.

Clubs Spring 2

A reminder for parents that After School Clubs will start the first week back after February half term and run for 5 weeks.

Hotdog Lunch – Wednesday 28th February

We would like to give the children who normally have sandwiches the opportunity to have a lunch on Wednesday 28th February. If you would like your child to have a lunch, the cost is £2.60. **Payment for Hot dog lunches should be made using Scopay online payment system.** Hot dog lunch can be found in 'Products' then 'Hot dog lunch'. We are asking for payment to be made in advance; this will ensure your child receives a lunch on that day. Payment should be made no later than **Sunday 18th February.** **Please only pay £2.60 for the February Hotdog lunch and refrain from making overpayments as it causes issues on our payment system.** ***If your child normally has a lunch on a Wednesday, you do not need to pay***

Payments to school

Can we please remind parents that we are a cashless school, and all payments should be made using our online payments system <https://www.scopay.com/walmley-jun> We do not hold any cash in school and therefore cannot refund any payments made in cash that subsequently need to be returned. **Please note that any cash payments made, that need to be returned will sit on your child's account for you to use for a future trip/event.**

Dinner Money

Dinner money is £13.00 per week (i.e. £2.60 per meal). If you prefer to pay for the half-term in advance, it will be **£62.40** for Monday 19th February to Thursday 21st March. Please ensure that payments are made promptly using our online system. Outstanding dinner money invoices are sent by email and we wish to remind you that dinner money **should always be paid in advance not arrears.** We hope that your child will have school dinners, but please remember to give the school office one week's notice in writing of any changes to your child's lunch arrangements.

Free School Meals

Changes have been made as to how we collect information for Free School Meals. You no longer have to come into school to complete paperwork and bring in evidence as it is all done by simply registering online at <https://www.cloudforedu.org.uk/ofsm/birmingham>. You only ever need to register once and school will automatically be updated of eligibility or any changes of eligibility; this information is data protected as per the terms shown.

Dates for the Diary

9 th February	Break up for Half Term
19 th February	School Open
19 th – 23 rd February	Y5.8 Swim Week
23 rd February	Dogs' Trust – whole school assembly + Y3 workshops
26 th Feb – 1 st March	Y5.9 Swim Week
4 th March – 8 th March	Y5.7 Swim Week
27 th & 29 th February	Year 5 Guru Nanak Niskam Sewak Jatha Trip
4 th – 8 th March	World Book Week
6 th March	Book Swap - AM
7 th March	World Book Day
8 th March	Y4 Mother's Day assembly
20 th March	Parents' Evening 1
21 st March	Parents' Evening 2
21 st March	Easter Experience at St. John's church – Y5
21 st March	Break up for Easter
22 nd March	Teacher Training Day

Summer Term 2024

8 th April	School Open
24 th May	Break up for Half Term
3 rd June	Teacher Training Day
4 th June	School Open
19 th July	Break up for Summer
22 nd July	Teacher Training Day