

### A message from the Head Teacher

What a busy term we have had!

It has been a great pleasure to see some of the fantastic things that have taken place over the Autumn Term – outstanding examples of learning, school trips taking place again, organisations visiting such as Shaking up Shakespeare, panto and so much more!

Our staff have worked incredibly hard to ensure that we are providing high quality learning for all of our children, supporting them all with catching up the in class learning they have missed. I am sure you will, along with myself, want to say a huge thank you and wish them well for the holidays.

Pupils return to school on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> January. A reminder that attendance and punctuality will be one of our key priorities for Spring Term. Please remember to bring your child into school every day and on time – every day and every minute counts!

As you will all be aware, cases of the Omicron variant are rising. We will still keep in place our school measures in January to help keep the pupils and staff safe, however I must ask you all keep yourselves safe over the holidays so that everyone is able to return in the New Year.

On that note, on behalf of the staff and myself, we wish you and your family a safe and restful Christmas holiday and a Happy New Year!

Best wishes,

*D Chetty*

Mr Chetty

Head Teacher



### School dinners

A reminder that from 5<sup>th</sup> January 2022, a school meal will now cost **£2.30**, which comes to **£11.50** for the week.

SCAN ME



Find out if you are entitled to free school meals for your child by visiting Waltham Forest's website – scan the code to the right.

### Diary Dates

#### Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2022

Staff INSET day (no children in school)

#### Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2022

Children return to school (gates open from 8.25am)

Y3 swimming lessons start in Spring 1!



### Staff

As many of you will already know, we have members of staff leaving us to pursue careers in other schools.

Please wish them well as they begin their new journey.

Mr Cooke (Y5)

Mrs Rowlatt (Y6)



We would like to extend a warm welcome to those new members of staff joining our team:

Ms Ameena Ali (PPA Teacher)

Ms Naomi Sissila (Year 1)

Ms Sanjeeda Jalil (Year 4)

Ms Jamila Paraouty (Year 5)

Ms Muslima Aktar (Year 6)

### Poppy Appeal


**Downsell Primary School raised £526.86!**

The District Total (Leyton) raised £2,389.54



# Year Group News

As this is our last week in school, we would like to share some of the things we have been doing this week!



**Year 3**

**We learnt how to use the glockenspiels to play different tunes.**

**Did you know that the glockenspiel has a higher pitch than the xylophone?**

## Nursery



Nursery put on a great performance for parents in the morning and afternoon. They used their beautiful singing voices and dressed up in their hand made Santa hats! Well done Nursery!

## Year 1 – Artwork Inspired by Andy Goldsworthy

This week, during our art lessons, we used different medium to create our own version of Andy Goldsworthy's artwork.



**Year 4's** had a splendid term filled with laughter, learning and creativity. We are looking forward to the next term! We are learning today... to lead tomorrow!



**Santa and Rudolph came to visit Downsell!**

They visited all the classes and every child received a present.

## Attendance Celebration

Our school target is 96% or above.

**2<sup>nd</sup> September – 16<sup>th</sup> December attendance:**

Reception to Year 6's overall attendance during this period was 93.9%.

**Well done to Year 3 Helium** – they were the only class that achieved our school target during this period.

They achieved 96.9% from 2<sup>nd</sup> September – 16<sup>th</sup> December 2021.

Well done to the 60 pupils below who achieved  
100% attendance from  
2<sup>nd</sup> September – 16<sup>th</sup> December 2021



### Reception

Shiza  
Bianca  
Mariam  
Inaaya  
Arya  
Xhesika  
Aileen  
David  
Yasmin

### Year 1

Floriana  
Andreea  
Henry

### Year 2

Victoria  
Malak  
Kaden  
Nazar  
Aaron  
Paul  
Aimee  
Destini  
Elena  
Elizabeth

### Year 3

Kelsie  
Zahra  
Abdul-Hakeem  
Ethan-Andrei  
Erla  
Starran  
Tamra  
Luna  
Andreea-Gabriela  
Elizabeth  
Ayman  
Theodore  
Prenodu

### Year 4

Rafia  
Sarib  
Yasmin  
Pritheesh  
Aaliyah-Esha  
Aissatu  
Aman  
David  
Callum  
Unik  
Sara  
Urwa

### Year 5

Basma  
Magdalena  
Oluwatomiwa  
Ehan  
Stefani

### Year 6

Marcus  
Patrick  
Vlad  
Ruponti  
Abdullah  
Ehsanullah  
Abdullaahi  
Talal

## SEND Support

The information below covers a range of services, offered in the borough for those families who have children with special educational needs or disabilities (SEND).

If you would like any further information or support with contacting these services, please make an appointment to speak to Mrs Ailsa Betts.

### Family Fund <https://www.familyfund.org.uk/>

We help families across the UK who are raising a disabled or seriously ill child or young person aged 17 or under. You can apply to Family Fund if:

- You live in England, Northern Ireland, Scotland or Wales (Please note: If you are a family living in Wales, [please visit our Wales application pages to apply.](#))
- You are the parent or carer of a disabled or seriously ill child or young person aged 0-17 who lives with you
- You are currently living in the UK and done so for at least six months, or three months if your child is less than six months old.
- You are eligible to work and apply for public funds
- Your child is not in Local Authority care
- You need to also have evidence of entitlement to any one of the following:\*

Universal Credit, Child Tax Credit, Working Tax Credit, Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance, Income Related Employment Support Allowance, Income Support, Housing Benefit or Pension Credit.

- Your child or young person has a high level of additional support needs arising from a long term disability or disabling condition or a serious or life limiting illness. By long term we mean lasting or likely to last 12 months or more. Please read our [child and young person eligibility criteria](#).

You need to meet our Family Fund eligibility criteria and [child eligibility criteria](#) in order to be considered for a grant

### Waltham Forest Parent Forum

Waltham Forest Parent Forum is a friendly, voluntary group of parent/carers of children and young people with special educational needs and/or disabilities aged 0-25 in Waltham Forest.

To join, please visit:

<https://www.walthamforestparentforum.com/>

To spread some Christmas cheer, Waltham Forest Parent Forum is giving our members the chance to win a sensory stocking from Sensory Spectacle

To be entered into the draw all you need to do is make sure you've signed up as a WFPF member before 7:30pm on Tuesday 21st December 2021.

Being a member is completely free and only takes a minute to join online.

[www.walthamforestparentforum.com/join-the-parent-forum](http://www.walthamforestparentforum.com/join-the-parent-forum)

If you are a parent or carer of a child or young person with any special educational needs or disabilities in Waltham Forest, you can join the forum.

Don't forget to like/follow the WFPF Facebook page and share this post with other parent carers you know.

### Sleep Programme

Sleep Right is a free online, and telephone support service, that helps parents and carers of disabled children to improve their child's sleep.

**Eligibility:** The service is available to families with disabled children aged: 2 to 18 years old

Sleep Right typically lasts about 6 weeks. If you know that you will not be able to take part during that time, such as a planned holiday, please think about applying at a later date.

Sleep Right will help you put tools and techniques in place to help your child:

- feel calm and relaxed at bedtime
- fall asleep quicker
- wake up less during in the night
- get the sleep they need

<https://www.scope.org.uk/family-services/sleep-right/>

### Short Breaks

Short breaks give disabled children and young people an opportunity to try out new things, have fun and make new friends. For families, short breaks give them a chance to have a break from their caring responsibilities and do ordinary things together.

Contact: [020 8496 3515](tel:02084963515) [shortbreaks@walthamforest.gov.uk](mailto:shortbreaks@walthamforest.gov.uk)