

A message from the Head Teacher

Welcome back!

I would first like to wish you all a Happy and healthy New Year! We do hope that you all have managed to have a restful break and are ready for another busy term.

While we are all aware of the current situation with the Omicron variant, as a school we would like to ensure that we are providing our children with the same structure and routines as always. We will continue to work within the guidelines of our school risk assessment and we ask that as families, you also play your part in keeping the children and families of our community safe.

Please remember that you are to drop your child off at the school gate in the mornings and that the office is operating an appointment only system.

Before we finished Autumn Term, we sent out attendance statements and reminders about ensuring your child's attendance is 96% or above. This term we will work on reinforcing this message through assemblies, prizes and pupil voice. As the parent / carer, this does mean that if your child's attendance is below 96% you may be invited in for a meeting to discuss the reasons and ways in which we can help. We do hope that this is seen in the way it is intended – a supportive measure, that will ultimately benefit your child and their future outcomes.

Best wishes,

D Chetty

Mr Chetty

Head Teacher



School dinners

A reminder that 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.

Covid Risk Assessment Updates

Our covid risk assessment has been revised and updated to include current government and local authority advice.

The following points are key areas for our risk assessment:

- Members of staff will continue to wear facemasks in communal areas.
- Children will continue to work in year group bubbles.
- Appropriate ventilation in the school building.
- Daily risk assessments carried out, to ensure correct staff: pupil ratio. This will also follow guidance issued from the local authority in which they state: 'In many schools there may be a need to ask classes or year groups to remain at home and participate in online learning due to staff absences. All schools will seek to keep this to a minimum and for as short a time as possible. Schools are also being asked to ensure there is ongoing on-site provision for vulnerable children and children of critical workers.'

If your child develop symptoms

If your child has at least one of the following; a new continuous cough, a temperature, loss of taste and smell, ongoing headache, then they must not attend school and must isolate and you should arrange for a PCR test.

If your child tests positive

A child who tests positive is required to isolate for 10 full days, from the day on which their symptoms started (or on which they took the test, if they do not have any symptoms). However, now if they are negative on 2 lateral flow tests, taken at least 24 hours apart, beginning on day 6, and do not have a high temperature, then they can end isolation after the second lateral flow test result, and return to their school on the next day.

Please scan the QR code to read the full letter from Joe McDonnell (WF Director of Public Health) and David Kilgallon (Director of Learning Systems Leadership) about covid 19 and the return to school this term.



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Water bottles

A reminder that children **should not be bringing in glass water bottles into school.**

Please provide your child with a plastic / reusable water bottle instead.



Attendance Information

Our school target is 96% and above. If your child's attendance is 96% or above this means that they have improved life opportunities, as good attendance is linked to good outcomes.

If your child's attendance is below 96%, we would like to support you further with raising this. Over the term we will be inviting parents / carers in to discuss ways we can support further and we will be holding attendance surgeries with our EWO (Education Welfare Officer).

We will also be raising the profile of good attendance with pupils throughout the year.

Next week, the children will attend a virtual assembly in which they will be told about the attendance initiatives at school.

Last term we said a well done to 60 pupils who achieved 100% attendance from 2nd September – 16th December.

We asked a member of the school council to interview some of the children who achieved 100% attendance. Read the interview responses below.



School Council members interviewing: **Ruponti and Vlad**

Children interviewed who achieved 100%: **Henry (Y1) Kaden (Y2) Basma (Y5) Marcus (Y6)**



How does it feel to know you came to school every day from September to December?

Marcus – “I feel happy because I didn't miss any learning and when we do tests I might get higher scores because I didn't miss any learning.”

Henry – “I feel happy because I got to do lots of learning.”

Basma – “I feel excited and educated because that means I never missed any learning and I can achieve my dream job when I am older!”

Ruponti – “I feel good to know that I have been in school for all that time every day.”



Vlad – “It's great knowing that I didn't miss any lessons or anything important.”

Were you happy that your name was in the newsletter?

Marcus – “Yes!”



Why do you think it is important to be in school every day?

Marcus - “If you are not in school you might miss your learning. You might miss your teacher teaching some important parts.”

Henry - “If you don't come to school you will miss your learning.”

Kaden – “There are different things to learn and the next day you won't know what to do.”

Basma and Vlad – “If you don't come to school you might miss a party or a special event like a trip.”

Our attendance this week

The school's target for each child's attendance and classes is 96% or above.

Over the first few days back we had only one class that met this target – **Year 3 Silver**.



Well done to Year 3 Silver for achieving 100% attendance over these first few days back at school!