

Monday 31st October 2022

Message from the Head Teacher

Welcome back! I do hope you all had a restful and enjoyable half term break and are ready for our new term – Autumn 2.

Last half term was so busy! The children worked extremely hard and produced work across the curriculum that they should be especially proud of. It was lovely sharing their work with you through assemblies and year group topic showcases.

We ended the half term with a wonderful celebration of Black History Month and Diwali Dance, which demonstrated the cultural capital opportunities that we offer our children.

There is no doubt in my mind that this half term will be not only be a busy one, but it will also be an opportunity for our children to showcase all of their learning, as well as get involved in even more cultural capital opportunities. We do hope you are able to join us for our parent events, which are detailed on the calendar we sent out, as well as in newsletters.

Mr Chetty

Article 2

This half term we will be discussing Article 2 from the Children’s Rights.

Article 2 states that all children have the right to be protected from discrimination. This means that all children regardless of their gender, beliefs, religion and race have the right to be protected.

We will link this article to our work on anti-bullying and being kind to each other; showing the children that we should strive to be kind to others and not discriminate.

Attendance

Attendance letters are being sent out tomorrow to all parents / carers from Reception to Year 6.

The letter will detail your child’s attendance percentage for Autumn 1 (05.09.22 – 21.10.22).

If your child’s attendance falls below 94%, depending on the reasons, the attendance team will be inviting you in to meet for a discussion on how we can support to improve your child’s attendance. It is really important that you attend any meetings that you are invited to.

Attendance Policy

A reminder that you can find our school’s attendance policy on the website – www.downsellprimary.org

Our child friendly attendance policy is also available on the website and attached to the back of this newsletter. Please take some time to read through this with your child / children.

Our school target for all of our pupils is 96%.

Our attendance overall for Autumn 1 (05.09.22 – 21.10.22) was 95.4% (Year 1 to Year 6)

Well done to the following classes who have achieved the school target for Autumn 1!

Class	Attendance
Y3 Charlton	96.8%
Y4 Johnson-Thompson	96.2%
Y4 Messi	96.3%
Y6 Bolt	97.2%

There were 201 children out of 323 (Years 1 – 6) that achieved the school target of 96 – 100% - well done!

Of those 201 children, 137 children achieved 100% – well done! Please read your attendance statement letter to find out what your child’s attendance percentage was for Autumn 1.

Reminders

Events coming up

Tuesday 1st November

11am and 2.50pm Phonics workshop for Nursery parents

Wednesday 2nd November

New Reception parents open day (2023-24 intake)

Thursday 3rd November

Y4 African Drumming – Fellowship Square

Friday 4th November

Halloween Disco

Monday 7th November

Coffee morning – Waltham Forest Parents' Forum

Friday 11th November

Movie Night

Upcoming coffee morning

Monday 7th November: 9 -10am at Downsell Primary School

Waltham Forest Parents' Forum - Carol Prideaux

(Parent Participating Director)

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.

WFPF provides a support group for parents and carers, where members can talk through their personal issues and get support as part of a group at an informal coffee morning.

They run a monthly autism specific support group for parents and a general coffee morning forum members, in which they occasionally invite guest speakers to give talks on a variety of topics chosen by members.

WFPF also provides a Dads' support group run by dads in the forum. They meet twice a term and often invite guest speakers to come along to give an overview of their service.

Halloween Disco!

Join us this Friday after school for our Halloween Disco.

Dress up in your Halloween costume and let's have a frightful night!



Year 3's Music Performance

Year 3 parents / carers - please join us for this music performance!

Wednesday 2nd November 2022

1.30 – 2pm



Bonfire Special

Sizzling Bangers

or

Cheese & Potato Catherine Wheels

or

Baked Jacket Potato with Baked Beans (ve)

Firecracker Fries

Sweetcorn

Garden Peas

Crackling Bonfire Cup Cake & Warming Custard

or

A Barrage of Fresh Fruit

Selection of Salads

Homemade Tomato bread



Year Group News

There were so many examples of wonderful learning that took place in Autumn 1!

Have a look at the learning from Year 3 and Year 4.

Year 3

Year 3 Ancient Greece Project Homework Showcase

We had a wonderful time today sharing our beautiful project homework pieces to our parents and carers.



Year 4

We performed our African Drumming and Dance to parents / carers in the last week of Autumn 1. We are really looking forward to our performance at Fellowship Square!



We also enjoyed our Ramayana Dance Workshop as part of our Diwali celebrations.





Children's Rights - Article 28

Every child has the right to an education.



Child Friendly Attendance Policy



Every day counts!

Every minute counts!

Why do we need to come to school?

- It's the law!
- Being at school every day improves your chances of getting a job or going to college and university when you get older.
- To learn new things.
- Being part of a group helps us to get on well with others and make friends.
- Educational visits help us to learn about the big wide world outside of school.
- Taking part in clubs and teams is fun and helps us to play together and get better at what we do.

What happens if you don't come to school?

- You may get behind with your learning.
- You miss out on special days, celebrations, educational visits, school clubs and team events.

What is good attendance?

- Downsell thinks 96% and above is what each person should aim for.
- Punctuality also counts towards good attendance. Being on time for school so we do not miss learning opportunities.
- You should always try to come to school unless you are REALLY ILL

What do I need to know to help me achieve the target of 96% or above?

Attendance percentage	Missed days of learning	Traffic light colour
100%	You would have had no days off school for the year!	Green
99%	You would have had 2 days off school for the whole year.	
97%	You would have had 5 days off school for the whole year.	
95%	You would have had 10 days off school for the whole year.	Yellow
90%	You would have had 20 days off school for the whole year.	Red
85%	You would have had 30 days off school for the whole year.	

Rewards

- Celebrate class achievement – weekly celebration of classes with attendance 96% and above and termly class reward menu for the winning class to choose from.
- Half termly attendance statements sent out to parents.
- Termly attendance prize draw for those 96% and above and those who have the most improved attendance.
- End of year trip for those children with 100% all academic year.