

12th October 2026

Dear parents and carers

STARS OF THE WEEK W/C 12.10.26

N-AM	DOMINIC	3G	TALA
N-PM	DIAMOND	3SH	MESERET
RR	IBRAHIM	4P	EBRAHIM
RW	SARAH	4Y	AZAAN
1L	AVA	5A	EDIZ
1S	CERYS	5F	BARAKAH E
2DM	AMAYAH	6M	SUBAN
2H	ERIC	6PB	RYAN
THE NEST - SHAKIL			
MUSIC STARS: FARIS Y3 & ASRA Y6			
SPORTS STAR: SABRINA Y4			



ATTENDANCE AND PUNCTUALITY W/C 5.10.26

Best Attendance ☺	6M 99.3 %
Best Punctuality ☺	1S
Class that needs to improve their attendance	5F 91.7%
Class that needs to improve their punctuality	2H & The Nest

Overall School Attendance this year = 95.3%

WHOLE SCHOOL ASSEMBLY - BADGE AWARD CEREMONY FOR PUPIL VOICE GROUPS FOR 2022-2023



In assembly Mr Combe, myself and a team of staff who will run the groups, announced the new Pupil Voice groups for this academic year. There was much excitement and bristling pride as the children's names were read out. The children all worked very hard to put their nominations together, so a huge thankyou to parents for supporting their child in this democratic process! You will be able to see some of their speeches on the website. The children will all soon have their new shiny badges!



Here are the new Pupil Voice Groups:

School Council

Y1 – Ravi; Y2 - Alex; Y3 – Sadiya; Y4 – Khadijah; Y5 – Mara; Y6 – Emilia



Oracy Buddies

Y1 – Musa; Y2 – Malaysia; Y3 – Areej; Y4 – Poema & Twinkle; Y5 – Ilyas; Y6 – Sarah J



Anti-Bullying Ambassadors

Y1 – Ruqayah; Y2 – Eilish; Y3 – Theo; Y4 – Elias; Y5 – Ira; Y6 – Teddy



Feel Good (Sports) Ambassadors

To be announced very soon!



Makaton Buddies

Y1 – Chloe; Y2 – Ciara; Y3 – Charlotte; Y4 – Lila; Y5 – Gary; Y6 – Edie



Art Council

Y1 – Bash; Y2 – Taara; Y3 – Melody; Y4 – Amelia; Y5 – Logan HD; Y6 – Robin



Rights Respecting Schools Ambassadors

Y1 – Asta & Yasoanny; Y2 – Flynn & Adnan; Y3 – Ray & Dominic; Y4 – William; Y5 – Lyla & Naomi; Y6 – Imran & Robin



Computing Council

To be announced very soon!



Junior Health & Safety Ambassadors

Y1 – Arthur; Y2 – Isaac; Y3 – Nish; Y4 – Sophia; Y5 – Leyla T; Y6 – Connie



Eco Champions

Y1 – Milena & Cerys; Y2 – Joan & Arda; Y3 – Samara; Y4 – Hafsah; Y5 – Sahaj; Y6 – Ruby



SOUTH GROVE CELEBRATES WORLD OCTOPUS DAY

On Friday, our whole school assembly was on World Octopus Day - which is quite aptly on the eightth of October! Our minds were blown by some of the amazing facts about octopuses (not octopi) such as the fact that they are molluscs not fish and that they have three hearts and nine brains... and a beak!

Miss Fontenoy showed us some incredible images, demonstrating how an octopus can conceal itself really well. We discovered that octopuses are very intelligent creatures and can solve simple problems and even launch daring escapes. However, we finished on a serious note - that unless we start to look after our sea-life, over 300 octopus species will be in serious danger of extinction.

Spot the Octopus!



Octopuses have:

- Three hearts!
- 9 "brains"
- Blue blood
- 8 arms (not tentacles)
- One beak like a bird
- Zero bones

Meet the Mimic Octopus

- The Mimic Octopus can rapidly change colour and pattern to blend into rocks, sand, plants or coral.
- They can also change skin texture — making themselves look smoother or bumpy.
- They live in the Indo-Pacific Ocean, so they are surrounded by many other unusually patterned fish.
- It can change its shape, movement and colour to imitate other animals such as sea snakes, lionfish and flatfish.



Thank you to Miss Fontenoy for a brilliant assembly that both adults and children alike thoroughly enjoyed.

Inky: The Great Escape - National Aquarium of New Zealand

In 2016, an octopus named Inky made a brazen escape from the national aquarium in New Zealand by breaking out of its tank, slithering down a 50-metre drainpipe and disappearing into the sea.

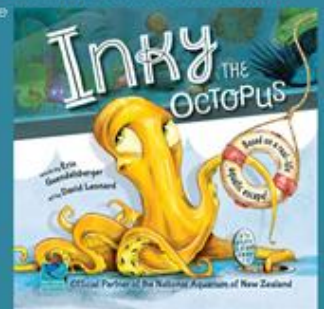
Inky—who was a common octopus—made his dash for freedom after the lid of his tank was accidentally left slightly ajar.

Staff believe that in the middle of the night, while the aquarium was deserted, Inky clambered to the top of his glass enclosure, down the side of the tank and travelled across the floor of the aquarium.

Another possible escape route could have involved Inky squeezing into an open pipe at the top of his tank, which led under the floor to the drain.

At the Island Bay marine education centre in Wellington, an octopus was found to be in the habit of visiting another tank overnight to steal crabs, then returning to its own.

What do these stories tell us about Octopus' intelligence?



Applying for Reception Place for September 2027

If your child will be five between 1st September 2027 and 31st August 2028 (date of birth 1.9.22 – 31.8.23) you need to apply for a school place. The closing date for applications is 15th January 2027. More information on the process can be found here: <https://www.walthamforest.gov.uk/content/applying-primary-school-place>

Miss Maltwood will conduct tours of the building after the children have left so she can answer any questions you may have. The page on our website to book a tour can be found here:

<https://www.southgrove.waltham.sch.uk/Prospective-Families/> This also gives you the opportunity to ask questions that can be answered during the tour.

**Tour dates – all at 4:00pm
except 30.11.26**

Wednesday 14th October 4:00pm

Tuesday 20th October 4:00pm

Thursday 12th November 4:00pm

Monday 30th November 9:00am

Wednesday 9th December 4:00pm

Wednesday 13th January 4:00pm

As numbers are limited, the dates will disappear from the form once they are full. Please let any friends or neighbours with children in this age range you may know about this as well.

Waltham Forest Admissions do not look at the applications until after the closing date, so places are not given on a first come first served basis however, if you apply after the closing date your application will be treated as a late application and you may not get your choice of school.

IMPORTANT – having a place in our Nursery does not guarantee a place in our Reception – you must still apply. Also, even if you have other children in the school, you must apply and please ensure that you say on your application that your child has siblings at South Grove.

**Reception
class**

admissions

SEND MEETINGS & COFFEE MORNING

The first 2 dates for meetings are now fully booked – more will be set soon.

There will also be a coffee morning on 21st October to meet Miss Moriarty

Please confirm your child's photo preferences by using this link:
[photo update](#)

IMPORTANT

THERE ARE STILL A FEW UPDATED EMERGENCY FORMS TO BE SENT BACK. IT IS VERY IMPORTANT THAT WE HAVE UP TO DATE INFORMATION. PLEASE ASK AT THE OFFICE IF YOU REQUIRE ANOTHER COPY.

PLEASE RETURN



On Tuesday last week, the Girls' Football Team for Years 5 and 6 represented the school at Chingford Goals.

In our first match vs St Mary's we drew 0-0. Despite dominating possession, we just could not score. In our second game we played Selwyn (who went on to win the group) and we put in a heroic performance, coming out as 1-0 winners. It was one of the greatest South Grove performances that I have ever seen. Every girl battled their heart out and ran themselves into the ground. We

followed that up with wins against Winns and Gwyn Jones. However, defeat against George Tomlinson meant that we weren't able to progress the quarter finals despite finishing on the same points as the team in second. Despite this, I told the girls how proud they made me and they could hold their heads up high.

A big shout out to Daisy, who came into the team to play in goal at the last minute due to an injury. The squad for the day was: Daisy, Olivia, Nylah, Yasmine, Zainab (c), Connie and Lil.

FREE SCHOOL MEALS – EXTENDED ENTITLEMENT – are you eligible?

We are asking all parents/carers (Nursery to Year 6) to complete a quick check to see whether their child may be eligible for **Free School Meals (FSM)** with the new expanded Free meal entitlement. Even if you are unsure whether you qualify, please complete the eligibility check. The check is very quick, will give you the answer straight away and there is no obligation to then apply but if you do

Please use the link to complete the check: <https://fsm.lgfl.net/app>

Then this link if you are found to be eligible and want to apply: [Waltham Forest - apply for free school meals](#)
Thank you for your support.



AUTUMN WALK / JOG / RUN THIS SUNDAY 18TH OCTOBER

Sponsored family fun event
2km round St James Park



Don't forget to pick up a sponsor sheet from the office or print off the one at the end of the newsletter



IMPORTANT! Parents evening

Will be next week with Year 6 on Monday and Tuesday and the rest of the school on Thursday. We hope to send the booking link out tomorrow.



Black History Month Lunch
has moved to next Thursday 22.10.26
all children who are usually packed lunch
are welcome to change for this
celebration lunch – just let the office know

With my very best wishes

J. Maltwood.

Julie Maltwood
Headteacher



Article 24 (health and health services)

Article 24 says: Every child has the right to the best possible health. Governments must provide good quality healthcare, clean water, nutritious food, and a clean environment and education on health and well-being so that children can stay healthy. Richer countries must help poorer countries achieve this.

We will also link to **Article 13**:
Every child must be free to express their thoughts and opinions and to access all kinds of information, as long as it's within the law.



SOUTH GROVE LEARNING GALLERY

THIS WEEK: YEAR 5 & YEAR 6

Year 5

Year 5 have been putting on their philosophical hats and contemplating why people believe in God. They were given a range of statements to debate on shared paper and they wrote their own thoughts, feelings and questions about what they meant. They were able to discuss their points articulately and clearly using their oracy skills to build upon one another's arguments. They demonstrated the 4Rs clearly, even if they did not agree with one another.

In Science, we have been learning about forces. The children have particularly enjoyed planning and carrying out a fair test. The photos show them hard at work making parachutes. They designed their parachutes by choosing how many attachment points to use to tie the strings to the canopy, as well as the dimensions of the material. They are looking forward to testing their designs and comparing how well their parachutes perform.



Year 6

Year 6 have been super creative with our hands-on History and Art project.

The children took on the role of ancient artisans as they designed and created their very own Roman pottery. They began by researching authentic Roman designs and techniques, carefully planning their shapes and patterns. Next week the children will put their practical skills to the test, by moulding and shaping clay to bring their designs to life.

It has been wonderful to see their focus, resilience, and attention to detail throughout the entire process, we can wait to see the final results!



SECONDARY SCHOOL ADMISSIONS 2027



Do you have a child who was born
between 1 September 2015 and
31 August 2016 or who is currently
in Year 6?



If so, they are due to start Secondary School in September 2027.
To make an application please apply online
www.eadmissions.org.uk by 31 October 2026.



For more information visit the Waltham Forest
Secondary Admission page on
[https://www.walthamforest.gov.uk/content/
applying-secondary-school-place](https://www.walthamforest.gov.uk/content/applying-secondary-school-place)



where you can download a copy of the **Starting
Secondary School 2027 brochure** which has full
details of how to apply for a Secondary School place.



SECONDARY SCHOOL TRANSITION DATE
Wednesday 7 July 2027



Every child.
Every opportunity.
Every day.



We value
difference and
celebrate every child.



Waltham Forest

PRIMARY SCHOOL ADMISSIONS 2027



Do you have a child who was born
between 1 September 2022 and 31
August 2023?



If so, they are due to start Primary School in September 2027.
To make an application please apply online
www.eadmissions.org.uk by 15th January 2027.



For more information visit the Waltham Forest
Primary Admission page on
[https://www.walthamforest.gov.uk/schools-education-
and-learning/apply-primary-school](https://www.walthamforest.gov.uk/schools-education-and-learning/apply-primary-school)



where you can download a copy of the **Starting
Primary School 2027 brochure** which has full
details of how to apply for a Primary School place.



Every child.
Every opportunity.
Every day.



We value
difference and
celebrate every child.



Waltham Forest

REMEMBER – STAY SAFE AND DO NOT GO DOOR TO DOOR FOR SPONSORSHIP – JUST ASK FRIENDS AND FAMILY



AUTUMN WALK • JOG • RUN

Sunday 18 October 2026 • 2:00pm

2km around St James' Park & Low Hall Playing Fields, Walthamstow

Raising funds for the South Grove 'Stay Cool' Playground Project

STAY COOL



Help us create more shade in the school playground and make South Grove more heat-resilient during the summer months.

Child's name: _____

Please **DO NOT** go door to door just ask friends and family to sponsor you! Write each sponsor's name and the amount they have pledged, then tick the box when you have collected it.

NAME	SPONSORSHIP AMOUNT	COLLECTED? ✓

TOTAL COLLECTED: £ _____

WALK • JOG • RUN • HAVE FUN • HELP SOUTH GROVE STAY COOL 🕶️

KEEP GOING!





October Family Play Event

Sun 18th Oct 10am-12pm

The Together Space, 1 Church Hill, E17 3AB

OUR OCTOBER ACTIVITIES

- **Sensory Sand Gardens with Art Forest School**
Led by Pippa and Lucy, children are invited to make Sensory Sand Gardens using natural materials, inspired by Japanese Zen gardens
- **Introduction to Weightlifting Workshop with Emma**
Fitness legend Emma will support children in this fun session, focusing on lifting weights safely with correct form and posture
- **Toys, Games & Books**
Explore our wide range of toys, games and books, including cars and trains, dressing up and much more!



BOOK TICKETS

thetogetherspace.co.uk

Award-winning inclusive events and services for children **with and without disabilities** and their families

Family Learning

Helping children grow and thrive.

Free October half - term workshops for Families



Family workshops

Celebrating your Family's Heritage

Walthamstow Library
Monday 26/10/2026
10:00am - 12:00pm



'Scan the
QR code or
visit the link
below to enrol
today'



<https://bit.ly/wfals-family-learning>

Let's Explore Halloween Arts and Crafts

North Chingford Library
Monday 26/10/2026
10:00am-12:00pm

Art Club for SEND families

Family Cooking with an Air Fryer

Queens Road Learning Centre,
97 Queens Road E17 8QR
Wednesday 28/10/2026
10:00am - 12:30pm

Queens Road Learning Centre,
97 Queens Road E17 8QR
Saturday 24/10/2026
10:00am - 12:00pm



WALTHAM
FOREST
**ADULT
LEARNING
SERVICE**



Contact Info

Email: adult.learning@walthamforest.gov.uk

Phone: 020 8496 2974

Waltham Forest Adult Learning Service

WALTHAM
FOREST
**ADULT
LEARNING
SERVICE**



DISCOVER SOMETHING NEW

Tailored Learning Enrolment Day



CREATIVE ARTS

Drawing, painting, printmaking, sculpture, photography and more.



TEXTILES & FASHION

Sewing, garment making, clothing repairs, bag making, fashion and creative textiles.



GARDENING

Grow your own food, plant propagation, garden design, no-dig gardening and wildlife friendly skills.



HEALTH & WELLBEING

Yoga, mindfulness, stress management, journaling, cooking and more.



FAMILY LEARNING

Creative family activities, parenting courses, SEND support and family workshops.

*Everyone
is welcome!*

- ✓ Meet our friendly team
- ✓ Find the right course for you
- ✓ Enrol on the day
- ✓ Courses starting this autumn and beyond



Wednesday 14th October 2026
10am to 12.30pm



Queens Road Learning Centre
97 Queens Road, Walthamstow, E17 8QR



lbwfadullearning.co.uk



020 8496 2974



adult.learning@walthamforest.gov.uk



Waltham Forest

HALLOWEEN WALTHAMSTOW ACRO, DANCE & DRAMA CAMP!

📍 HILLYFIELD AT THE PARK, E17 4NR

PRICE:

£42.50 Per Day

£35 Early Bird Per Day

EARLY BIRD ENDS 30TH SEPTEMBER!

BOOK NOW!

Join us for an action-packed camp full of:

- Acro skills & new tricks
- High-energy dance routines
- Drama games & storytelling
- Creative activities
- Confidence building & teamwork
- Fun, friendship & performance opportunities



**Monday 26th October –
Friday 30th October!**

 **8:00am–6:00pm
OR 10:00am – 3:00pm**
 **Flexible drop off!**
Ages 3–11

 **Book Now! Visit: <https://all-about-dance-uk.classforkids.io>**


Registered

For more information, contact info@allaboutdanceuk.com

Visit: <https://allaboutdanceuk.com>



Employability Workshops

Looking for support with your job search?
Join our engaging hands-on employability workshops designed to help
you boost your confidence and get you job – ready!

Workshop Name	Date	Time	Venue
Confidence with Employability PE0004T1	Thursday 01/10 /2026	10:00am - 12:00am	Queens Road Learning Centre
CV Support - 1 day workshop PE0005T1	Thursday 8/10/2026	10:00am – 2:00pm	
Interview Success- 1 day workshop PE0006T1	Thursday 15/10/2026	10:00am - 2:00pm	

Learn how to present yourself confidently.

We'll help you write a CV that clearly shows your skills and experience, highlights your strengths and achievements, and is tailored to different job roles so employers can see what you're good at. Practical hands-on workshop.

We'll help you get ready for interviews by practising how to speak confidently, answer common questions, and make a good first impression. Practical workshop with role play.

Interested in joining one or more of our workshops?

To reserve your place, simply contact Business Support on **020 8496 2974**

Queens Road Learning Centre (QR)97 Queens Road
Walthamstow E17 8QR



OCTOBER CAMP



Come join us for our Camp! Stay active and have fun with Football, Multi-sports, Art craft, Smoothie making , Nurf war and disco. A great way to make friends, and try something new this summer (Our staff are DBS-checked and trained to support children with additional need and diabetes.)

10 Earlybird place use code



Location: Harris Academy Tottenham,
Ashley Road, Tottenham, London, N17 9LN

Dates & Time:

26th - 28th October 2026

9:30AM-3:30 PM Cost: £15 per day

£5 Hot lunch Age: 5 - 14

£7 For 3:30 - 5pm



☎ 07486 046938 info@mbcommunitycic.com

