



Weekly Newsletter Friday 22nd December 2023

Message from the Headteacher

This has been a long and busy term; my highlights have included the residential at Magdalen Farm, starting the Roots of Empathy project with Yr 5 and the two wonderful winter performances. I am sure every staff member and child will have their special highlights. Do ask your children what they have enjoyed. Enjoy the break and see you **Tuesday 9th January**.

Stars of the Week



Mutahhara showing great engagement in our recent carpet sessions and for remembering the content that is taught, especially the vocabulary and their definitions.
Alisha Y2 for trying her hardest with everything she does and being an excellent role model for her peers
Uthman Yr 5 for being a great example of diligence and kindness in his time at WD.

Attendance

N- 76%

R- 87%

1- 92%

2- 89%

3- 85%

4- 93%

5- 78%

6- 93%

Please ensure children are in school **every day**. No class managed to reach 95% attendance last week; this will be due to some sickness but predominantly parents taking children out on extended leave. Please take

Changes to school PE kit Years 1-6

In order to make sure that we maximise the time children are active in PE lessons we would like your child to come to school in their PE kit on their PE days and remain in their PE kit for the day. They can wear their school jumper/cardigan on top of their kit in colder weather.

See letter below

Oracy Target

This week children have been working on our oracy target::

I can speak loudly and clearly to my whole class and other large groups

Please help children speak slowly, loudly and clearly when talking to an audience.

WD Wrap Around Care

Wrap Around Care (childcare) is available for all children. Contact Bhumi or Ridhwan on the admin email if you want to book sessions. All information is on the website: [William Davis' Wraparound Care](#)

Merry Christmas to all families



Family Homework

Please take time to work with your children on the festive Holiday Homework:

- ★ Maths on Toast Family activities <https://www.mathsonttoast.org.uk/activities-and-resources/>
- ★ the Winter Reading Challenge <http://www.wintermini.org.uk/>

Staff Changes

Rachel is leaving at the end of term. Rachel has been a teacher (PPA and class) for 16 years. She will be greatly missed by staff and children. She has contributed significantly to the school over the years: leading our art curriculum and inspiring different charitable projects.

Maydul Yr 5 TA left due to personal reasons.

Martita left Nursery/ Yr 2 due to personal reasons.

Ubah is our new Yr 5 TA.

We are recruiting for the role in Nurs/ Yr 2.

Message from Rachel

Dear Parents & Carers,

It has been a real pleasure teaching your children over the past 16 years - in some cases, I have taught entire families as they have passed through our school.

I leave William Davis with many, many fond memories of my time here. It has been so difficult to say goodbye to such an amazing bunch of children and the staffing team here.

I may not get the chance to say goodbye to you all personally, but I wish you and your children all the health, happiness and success in this world.

Thank you for all the lovely gifts and cards - much appreciated! Please tell your children how much I will miss them!!

Take care of yourselves.
Best wishes Rachel

Important dates

Spring term 2024

Mon Jan 8th Parent Volunteer assessment at Hague 9:30-12:00
Tue Jan 9th school starts

Jan 9,16,23 30th - Parent Volunteer training at Hague 9:30-12:00

Mon 12th - Fri 16th Feb Half term holiday

Tues 5th March Parent Conferences

Thurs 7th March World Book Day

Wb 11th March 11th Ramadan starts

8th March- Science week

Thur 28th March school finishes

Fri 29th March to Fri 12th April

Easter holidays

Mon 15th April school starts

Monday 6th May bank holiday

Mon 27th May- Fri 31st May half term holiday

Mon 17th June school closed Eid Al-Adha

Friday 19th July school finishes

Cost of Living Crisis

Please have a look at this website for information on how Tower Hamlets plans to support families affected by the cost of living crisis.

[Cost of Living package worth nearly £6million.](#)

Online Safety

Keeping children safe online is our joint responsibility. Make sure that you have parental controls in place; and that you know the sites and Apps that your children use. Check the school's online safety policy on the website. [Safeguarding and Child Protection - WILLIAM DAVIS PRIMARY SCHOOL](#)

Book Amnesty

Please return all school books to the class next week so that the book corners can be stored. There are lots of books missing.

Uniform

We have noticed that many children are coming to school in the wrong uniform. Please check the website and ensure that your child is dressed in the correct uniform and PE kit.

<http://www.williamdavis.org.uk/uniform.html>

Parent Sessions

Coffee Morning on Wednesdays 9-10 am in the Parents Rm run by Yasmin- all welcome

Toy Library Thursdays Hoyam and Dilara

Felix Food Project Friday 2:30-3:30 run by Yasmin, Hoyan, Muna.

We are very grateful for the time and energy that our parent volunteers offer the school.

Uniform Stall

Look out for the monthly uniform stall on a Friday afternoon run by parents, Hoyam and Dilara

Is My Child Too Ill for School?

Please refer to these NHS guidelines when thinking about whether your child can go to school.

We need to reduce unnecessary absences from school.

[Is my child too ill for school? - NHS](#)

Extended Leave Gentle Reminder

Parents should not book holidays during term time. Holidays should be booked during the school holiday to limit missed education. If you want to discuss extended leave this must be done with the headteacher once the Extended Leave form has been completed. Extended leave should be for emergencies only.

Please note that **Ofsted** is taking a careful look at **school attendance** as it has dropped significantly after Covid at a local & national level. It's really important that we work together to ensure attendance is at least 96% across the school.

Hand, Foot and Mouth

We have a number of children with symptoms of Hand, Foot and Mouth. Please be vigilant and check any symptoms with the NHS link below and or a pharmacist. Both will be able to provide useful advice.

Evolving situation in the Middle East

We know that this time is complex for adults caring for young children. Please take time to read this Unicef guidance for parents about talking to children about conflict and war. [How to talk to your children about conflict and war | UNICEF Parenting](#)
Please talk to us if you are concerned about your child.

Birthday Celebrations

Although we have stopped our custom of parents sharing birthday sweets in the playground at hometime, please be reassured that we still sing and give children a sticker and pencil when they celebrate their birthday.

Sight and Hearing Tests

Please get your child's hearing and sight checked if you have concerns about them. Unfortunately our school nurse does not routinely screen children. School and parents need to work together to identify when a child can't see the board or hear class instructions. Please talk to your child and contact your GP or optician if you need to book a screening.

Magic Breakfast

Children are welcome to come into school for breakfast on a daily basis. Staff prepare toasted bagels or cereal and milk. Children must be in between 8:00 and 8:30 to be served breakfast.



Reading for Pleasure

Are you a member at the Whitechapel Ideas Store? Why not join this weekend and be a regular visitor to borrow books for you and your children.

Check out the website:

[Idea Store Whitechapel](#)

CHARGES

Reminders:

In order to replace books lost at home we will charge £5 for lost books.

EYFS parents will be charged £3 / term for perishable items.

Repeated late pick ups from ASC will incur an increased fine- see the **Charging and Remissions Policy** on the website.

Fathers and Male Carers

Fathers Football at Thomas Buxton Thursday mornings - see Russell. See poster below.

Parent Reader Needed

We have one volunteer who has started. Thank you!

We need another volunteer reader to work with a KS 2 child new to the country. Ideally this volunteer would read with the child daily 9:00-9:30. See Annika or Siobhan.

Sweets and Snacks

Please can I ask parents to help us promote healthy eating habits. If you want your children to have a snack at home time - **bring some fruit or a bagel**. Please avoid sweets, crisp etc that are high in sugar and fat. Please encourage water or milk.



Dear parents/carers,

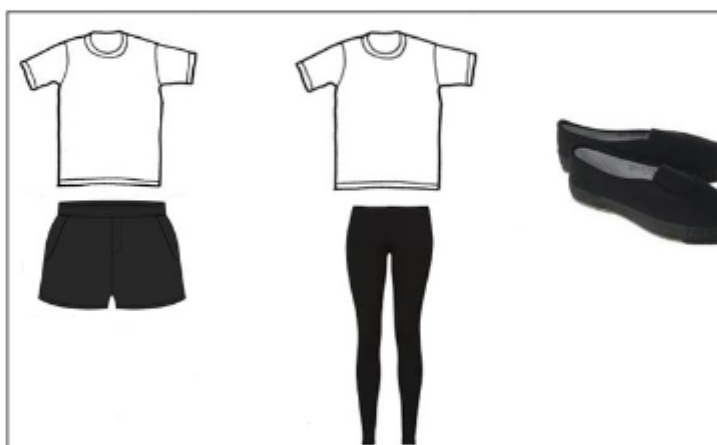
Re: Changes to school PE kit Years 1-6

In order to make sure that we maximise the time children are active in PE lessons we would like your child to come to school in their PE kit on their PE days and remain in their PE kit for the day. They can wear their school jumper/cardigan on top of their kit in colder weather.

Children in Reception will continue to change as part of their PE lesson and wider learning.

PE Kit

- Plain white T shirt
- Black/dark blue shorts, leggings or tracksuit bottoms
- Plimsolls or trainers



Health and safety

- No jewellery should be worn to school on PE days, including earrings. If stud earrings are not able to be removed you should cover the earrings with micropore tape. The amount of tape used needs to be sufficient to prevent the piercing penetrating the bone behind the ear should an unintentional blow be received from someone or some item of equipment, such as a ball.
- Long hair must be tied back.
- Headscarves must be removed for PE lessons. Girls in Y5 or 6 who wish to keep their heads covered in PE must bring a suitable headcovering - this should be close fitting and cover the top of the head only.
- Children must be wearing well fitted plimsolls or trainers with a good grip.

Please note if your child is not wearing PE kit to school we will ask them to use spare school kit on that day.



Spring term PE days:

Class	PE days and activities	
Reception	Monday- Throwing and Catching	
Y1	Tuesday - Dance	Thursday- Fitness
Y2	Friday - Dance	Tuesday- Fitness
Y3	Tuesday - Dance	Friday- Fitness
Y4	Monday - Fitness	Wednesday - Dance
Y5	Monday - Fitness	Friday - Dance
Y6	Wednesday - Dance	Friday - Fitness

Many thanks for your support,

Kind regards,

Charlotte Barrington
Deputy Head



An OCN accredited course
delivered by the
PARENTAL ENGAGEMENT TEAM

TUESDAYS

9, 16, 23, 30 January

6, 20, 27 February

12, 19, 26 March

9.30am- 12pm

Volunteer in E1 Schools

Information &
assessment session

Hague Primary School
Thurs 21 December 2023,
9.30am

Learn about

- the curriculum and how children learn
- teaching methods
- how to support learning
- how to keep children safe