JOSEPH CLARKE SCHOOL

PARENT BULLETIN

Issue: 14 **Week Commencing: 05/10/2026**

Message from the Principal

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been another lovely week at school! Bakerloo Class enjoyed a wonderful trip to Kensington Palace, where they had the exciting opportunity to experience the palace princess workshop with stimulating opportunities for the pupils. What a memorable experience for our pupils!

A big thank you to all the parents and carers who attended our Meet the Teacher event on Tuesday. It was lovely to welcome you into school, and we really appreciate your continued support and involvement in your children's learning.

As we begin Black History Month, our pupils will be exploring and recognising the achievements, contributions and inspiring stories of Black individuals throughout history and today. It is a wonderful to celebrate diversity, promote understanding and reflect on the importance of equality and inclusion.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. Wishing all our families a lovely weekend!

Kind regards,
Chadia

Menu Week Commencing: 05/10/2026

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Option 1	Macaroni Cheese GLUTEN (WHEAT) & MILK	Margherita Pizza GLUTEN (WHEAT)	Chilli Con Carne	Chicken Tikka Masala MILK	Fish Fingers FISH & GLUTEN (WHEAT)
Option 2	Tomato & Olive Pasta GLUTEN (WHEAT)	BBQ Chicken Pizza OR Veg Supreme Pizza MILK	Chilli Sin Carne	Chickpea Masala Curry	Vegetable Pakora
Sides	Wholemeal Rosemary Focaccia GLUTEN (WHEAT)	Potato Wedges	Tacos, Coleslaw & Tomato Salsa SULPHITES	Basmati Rice, Kachumber Salad & Mint Raita	Skin on Chips

IMPORTANT: Free School Meal Update

The Government has introduced changes to **Free School Meals eligibility for 2026/27**, meaning more families receiving Universal Credit may now qualify. We strongly encourage **all families receiving Universal Credit to apply, even if you have previously applied and were not eligible**.

Families earning **under £7,400 per year** may also be entitled to additional support, including supermarket vouchers during school holidays and the Holiday Activities and Food programme.

Please remember that the **Mayor of London's Universal Free School Meals scheme continues to provide free school meals for primary-aged pupils in Waltham Forest throughout the 2026/27 academic year.**

Applying is quick, confidential and online. You will need your National Insurance number and Universal Credit details.

Apply here:
https://www.walthamforest.gov.uk/schools-education-and-learning/schools-and-colleges/free-school-meals/apply-free-school-meals

Please apply even if your child already receives a free meal at school, as registering your eligibility may provide access to additional support.

EXTERNAL EVENTS:

. **Look UK** & **British Blind Sport** are hosting a free online session, via Zoom, for parents of visually impaired children to support them get involved in sport.

'**Beyond the Sidelines:Building Sports Confidence & Inclusion**'
Wednesday 14th October 7-8pm
Please click here for more information and to register your free place

. **St John's College** are holding an Open Day on Thursday 22nd October at 11am & 2pm.
If you would like to attend, please email andriannanicolaou@johnsrcschool.co.uk

. **Sight Village London** - Exhibition for blind/low vision families: Tues 27th Oct 9:30-3:30 & Weds 28th October 9am-3pm
ILEC Conference Centre, 47 Lillie Road, SW6 1UD

. **BeeZee Families** in Waltham Forest are holding a FREE Healthy Lifestyle programme which runs across 12 weeks. If you are interested, or would like more information about this, please click the link below:
https://wlf.maximusuk.co.uk/beezeefamilies/

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

ATTENDANCE:

Weekly whole school attendance: **90%**

If your child will be absent from school you must report it to us by **9:30am** each day.
You can do this by calling the school office on 0208 523 4833, or leaving a message on the absence line.
Thank you.

Attendance Expectations

TERM DATES 2026-2027

Autumn Term:
3rd September - 17th December 2026
Half Term: 26th - 30th October
Christmas Holidays: 18th Dec - 5th Jan
INSET Days: 1st & 2nd September 2026

Spring Term:
5th January - 24th March 2027
Half Term: 15th - 19th February
Easter Holidays: 25th March - 9th April
INSET Days: 4th January 2027

Summer Term:
12th April - 20th July 2027
Half Term: 28th May - 4th June
Bank Holidays: 3rd May & 31st May
Summer Holidays: 21st July - 2nd Sept
INSET Days: 28th May & 25th June 2027

UPCOMING EVENTS/TRIPS:

Weaver class- Swimming Lessons: 5th-9th October (10-11am Leytonstone Leisure Centre)

Parent Information Session: Leavers 2027 - Next Steps: Thurs 15th October

IMPORTANT REMINDER:

For Year 6 pupils in Waltham Forest who transitioned to Year 7 this year and were in receipt of The Mayor of London's Free School Meal Scheme last year, you will now have to pay for school meals, unless you qualify for Free School Meals.

Parent Governor Nominations -
Would you like to be a Parent Governor?

We are seeking one parent to join our Governing Body as a Parent Governor and we invite you to apply if you are interested. Governors are key members of our team and help to ensure that our pupils receive a high-quality education and that we continually develop and improve as a school.

Please check the eligibility criteria in 'Appenix A' on the letter before you apply.

To apply please click here to complete the form

UNIFORM POLICY

Nursery - Year 11

Branded Items:
Red Polo shirt
Grey Sweatshirt

Non-Branded Items:
Grey trousers/skirt
Grey/Red Cardigan
Red Summer Dress

P.E. Kit
T-Shirt (any colour)
Tracksuit bottoms/ shorts (any colour)
Trainers/Plimsolls (black)
P.E. bag

Highams Park

Branded Items:
Black blazer with emblem
Tie (also available from Highams Park School Reception)

Non-Branded Items:
White shirt/blouse
Grey skirt/trousers
Grey jumper

Please note we no longer hold uniform stock at school. All uniform purchases need to be made through Speed Stitch. Details are below:

Address:
Unit 32, Walthamstow Business Centre
Clifford Road
Walthamstow
E17 4SX

Contact Details:
T: 0208 531 4800
E: schoolshop@speedstitch.co.uk

To view the items available please scan the QR code:

All items are available to purchase from Speed Stitch! They also deliver!

ANNUAL REVIEWS:

An annual review is a meeting to look at your child's Educational, Health & Care Plan (EHCP) and make sure the support & outcomes remain relevant. The review is person-centred and gives families, schools and professionals the opportunity to discuss progress, identify any changes needed and plan next steps.

For further information on the annual review process, what is involved, transitions, early reviews, local authority decisions and preparing for the annual review please follow the link to Waltham Forests SEND Local Offer or visit your local authorities website.

USEFUL LINKS:

Arbor
Arbor Help Centre
School Cloud
Speed Stitch
School Website
Free School Meals
Uniform Policy

Have a lovely weekend!