WALTON ON THE NAZE PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Choose Your Dream and Chase It!

Whole School Attendance w/c 7.9.26 - 95.79% Year to date 11.9.26 - 96.55%
Whole School Attendance w/c 14.9.26 - 93.19% Year to date 18.9.26 - 95.09%

School target 96.5%

Government Target 92.8%

PLEASE ENSURE YOUR CHILD HAS A WATER BOTTLE AND A COAT IN SCHOOL EVERY DAY!
Please remember to name your coat!

www.waltonprimaryschool.co.uk

24th September 2026

Dear Parents,

Nearly halfway through the first half term - the nights are getting darker earlier, but there is still some sunshine to enjoy!

Y6 Children
Lift Tendring (formerly Tendring Technology College) will be holding a Year 6 Opening Evening on **Monday 28th September between 5pm and 8pm.** This is a great time to see what they can offer your child. For further details, please contact Thorpe Campus on 01255 861341.

Year 6 - admission to secondary school September 2027
From **12 September 2026** you can apply online for your child's secondary school (year 7) place for September 2027.

The statutory national closing date for applications is **31st October 2026.** You will hear on 1st March 2027 which school your child has been allocated.

Applications can be made online via www.essex.gov.uk/admissions. All of the application information is available on the website above.

Please ensure you apply before 31st October. Please contact the School Office if you require any help with this.

Applications received after the 31 October 2026 are considered late and will reduce your chance of being offered a place at your preferred school.

New EYFS for September 2027

Do you have a pre-schooler due to start school? We have an Open Morning on Tuesday 10th November at 10.30am (details to follow) Please contact the school office to book in (Tel 01255 675657 or email admin@walton.essex.sch.uk)

Did you know that from **9th November 2026** you can apply online for your child's primary (reception) school place? The statutory national closing date for applications is **15th January 2027**. You will hear on 16th April which primary school you have been allocated.

Read about the primary (Reception) school place application process.

Applications received after the 15 January 2027 are considered late and will reduce your chance of being offered a place at your preferred school.

REMINDERS ☺



Attendance
If you need some support with attendance, eg morning routines, please contact us, we are always willing to listen and encourage – we can only do this if you talk to us! Both Mrs Haley and Mrs Martin love a chat, and can see you in person, or via a Teams call. If you wish, you can also speak to Mrs Bliss on the main gate.

Swimming Pool Parking Permits
Our swimming pool car park permits also cover the car park on the Bath House Meadow -lots of room for parking to prevent congestion along Standley Road and Eagle Avenue. You collect your child from the playground, but you can walk around the back of the school and out the back gate, direct into the pool car park. New permits are available from the office.

Nut allergy - we have several children in school with nut allergies. **These are life threatening**. Please remember that packed lunches must not include nuts. This includes cakes and bars with nuts in them and Nutella spread. Please remind your children they are not to share their food.

Grapes & Cherry Tomatoes - please remember grapes and cherry tomatoes can be a choking hazard – please cut them lengthways.



Breakfast Club
We currently have spaces – please contact the office. It costs £2 per day, and must be paid half termly in advance on School Money.

Sickness Policy

Please remember, our policy states that children cannot return to school for **48 hours after the last episode of sickness / diarrhoea**. Please ring if you are unsure but, if your child has a cough or cold, please send them in! We will always phone home if they are really poorly. **Remember, we want to get above 96.5%!**

- Some NHS guidance can be found by following this link: NHS Guidance for Parents: Is my child too ill for school? – a useful resource to help parents decide when children should stay at home.

Absence

Please do not forget to phone the school before 9.30am each day of your child's absence unless told otherwise. Remember, EVERY DAY COUNTS! No absences will be authorised unless exceptional circumstances. We will be fining or even prosecuting those families who are consistently absent from school. It is parental duty to bring your child to school every day.

Please provide a copy of any medical appointments - you can also email these, copies of hospital letters etc, to Mrs Smiley on admin@walton.essex.sch.uk or Mrs Martin on senadmin@walton.essex.sch.uk

Contact Numbers / Emails

Don't forget to update these at the office – this ensures we can contact you, and send texts and emails. Children get very upset if we cannot contact parents / carers, especially when they are poorly.

We are sending more information out via email, so **please ensure we have emails for both parents**; this hopefully ensures that everybody receives the same information. Please contact the office if you think we may not have all your email contacts

Registration

The school gates open at 8:30am – we have been lining up until 8.35/8.40 and then taking children in - registration will be **8:45am for all children**. After 8.45am, you will need to take your children to the office and sign them in on a Late Form, providing a reason for the lateness.

Please note that if you are late, after 8.45am, you will not be able to bring your scooter or bicycle in to school.

If you are going to be late, please ensure you phone the school before 9.15am to order a school dinner; if you have not phoned to let us know, your dinner choice will be very limited and we cannot guarantee a hot meal.

Medical Information

Please ensure you let Mrs Martin know if your child receives a new diagnosis, or needs medication in school. There are appropriate forms to fill in and be signed off. Please do not send any medication in with your child. All medication in school has to be agreed, logged and bagged.

If your child has regular medication, please ensure that you get the repeat prescription in plenty of time!

Please contact Mrs Martin on senadmin@walton.essex.sch.uk with any queries.

Speaking with staff:
There is always a member of SLT on the gate to discuss problems or concerns with. If you wish to talk in confidence, please make an appointment to see us.

If you wish to speak to a child or deliver something, please take this to the Office. We do not wish children to be encouraged to be near the red line by the fences for safety reasons.

Roots to Food
Years 3,4,5 and 6 - took part in the cookery workshop with Darren from Roots to Food; this is a rolling programme we currently take part in yearly, so the children will take part every year. The dish was Chicken Fricassee - ingredients and recipe are attached so you can enjoy this at home. The children had a fabulous time being chefs!

Photos at the back of the newsletter.

A Allen

Mrs Bliss
Head Teacher



30.9.26	TFF (Tendring Families First) coffee morning / drop in – with Stef and Julieann (family and school support) – see attached, please email senadmin@walton.essex.sch.uk to book your seat
8.10.26	Flu Vaccinations
9.10.26	Individual School Photos
21.10.26	Autism Anglia drop-in 9am details to follow
22.10.26	Dad's Coffee & Cake (details to follow)
23.10.26	Non Pupil Day
26.10.26	Half Term Holiday
2.11.26	School opens 8.30am
9.11.26	New EYFS Open Morning (for 2027 admission) – details to follow
10.11.26	Parents Evening (details to follow)
11.11.26	Family First Aid (details to follow)
11.11.26	Parents Evening (details to follow)
13.11.26	PTA Non Uniform Day
w/c 16.11.26	Travelling Book Fair - details to follow
20.11.26	PTA Non Uniform Day
26.11.26	Christmas Bazaar (details to follow)
30.11.26	EYFS & KS1 Nativity 1.45pm (to be confirmed)
1.12.26	EYFS & KS1 Nativity 9.15am (to be confirmed)
10.12.26	Christmas Discos (details to follow)
11.12.26	Travelling Pantomime visit to school – oh yes it is!
21.12.26	Christmas Holidays
2027 DATES	
	School opens 8.30am
15.2.27	Half Term Holiday
12.3.27	PTA Non Uniform Day
19.3.27	PTA Non Uniform Day

25.3.27	Easter Fayre (details to follow)
26.3.27	Bank Holiday
29.3.27	Easter Holidays
12.4.27	Children return to school, 8.30am
4.6.27	PTA Non Uniform Day
11.6.27	PTA Non Uniform Day
19.6.27	Summer Fete (details to follow)

Attendance News

Celebrating Attendance

We know that attendance can be a tricky subject, and we try to keep it fair to all whilst following statutory Government legislation – Support First. Our Attendance Policy is on the school website and we would encourage you to read this so you are clear on attendance rules. All schools are following the same policies, which should prevent parents having different answers from different schools.

Adding to this, Mrs Martin, our Attendance Officer, is going to offer some informal attendance meetings where you can pop in for a chat over a cup of tea to discuss attendance before it becomes an issue. We want to support you in supporting your child. You are also welcome to phone her at any time to request a meeting.



We currently acknowledge attendance with weekly Tasty Tuck, certificates at every half and full term, and letters home acknowledging improvement. We also have an Attendance Prize Afternoon which is for the class with the best attendance for the term, and an amazing Attendance Prize Trip for the class with the best attendance for the year.

We believe that by rewarding each term's individual attendance, more classes have the opportunity to win a trip and, hopefully, this will encourage better attendance.

For information:

Please don't worry if your child is on a part-time timetable, or they have a long-term medical need, we can account for this with the correct evidence, ensuring they are included, and they will also be included in the trip if their class wins.

The attendance chart below shows the attendance for each class for the previous week in school. Our target is 96.5%. This will be updated and posted on each newsletter.

EVERY SCHOOL DAY COUNTS

Week ending 11.9.26

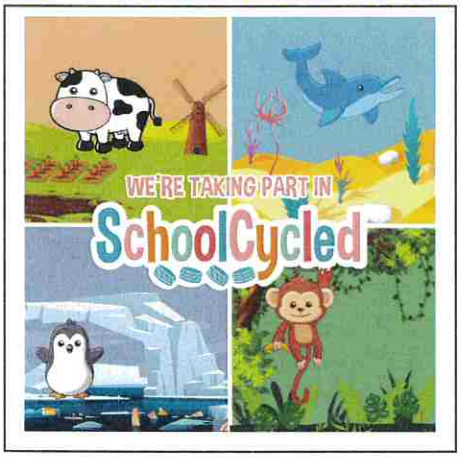
1	Class 3	99.15%
2	Class 5	97.74%
3	Class EYFS	96.13%
4	Class 1	95.71%
5	Class 4	95.52%
6	Class 2	94.4%
7	Class 6	92.50%

Week ending 18.9.26

1	Class EYFS	97.33%
2	Class 2	96.00%
3	Class 1	93.33%
4	Class 3	92.50%
5	Class 6	91.72%
6	Class 4	91.38%
7	Class 5	91.24%

We now need to work on timekeeping – let's improve the lateness

SchoolCycled



We have joined a new initative to raise awareness of recycling, and earn "earth points" to spend on recycled items – we're hoping to collect enough earth points to buy some benches for the school playground – each bench costs approximately 600 kg of tops!

We've already "recruited" Costa in Frinton to save their milk bottle tops, and the coffee shops at Colchester Station!

Please can you save your plastic bottle tops for us – milk, squash, fizzy drinks, fabric conditioner etc?
Any plastic lid from a plastic bottle is accepted!

Can you encourage your friends and family to save them for us, or even your place of work?
Every top helps!

These two medium freezer bags are not quite one kg, so it will take some doing, but I'm sure we can do it! We have almost filled one box this half term! Please, please can you wash and dry the lids, especially the milk ones, to avoid smells!





If you can, please send them in a tied bag, this will make it easier for us to double check the contents bag by bag, instead of a large box!

The collection box is in the main foyer for your tops – one in the main foyer, and one outside the office.

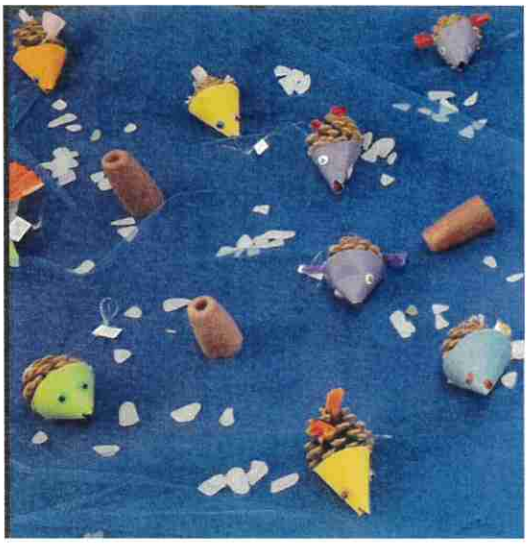
Let's see how quick we can fill a box.

Year 6 News

Photo from our recent beach trip.



Year 6 have been busy preparing entries for the Between the Tides – Walton's very own arts festival.



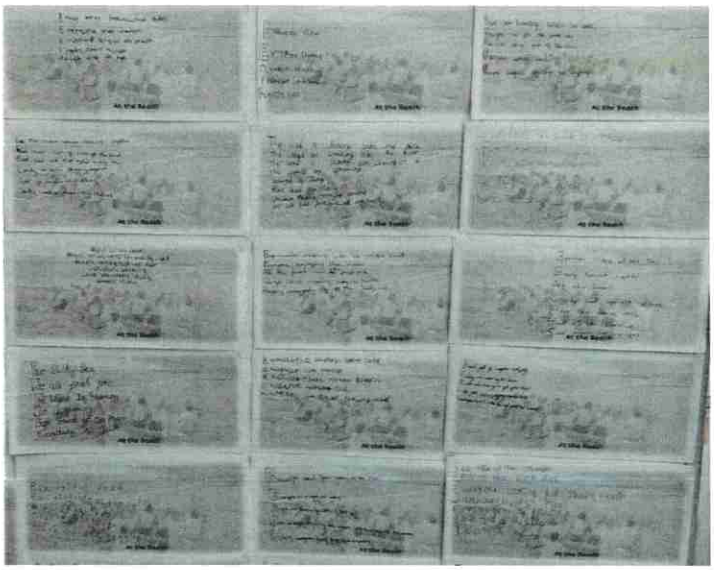


Firstly, we created the pine cone fish – using local collected pine cones.



After a visit to the beach to collect seaweed, we created these clay jellyfish.





Whilst at the beach, we looked for inspiration to write a beach poem, which we entered into the young writer's competition.



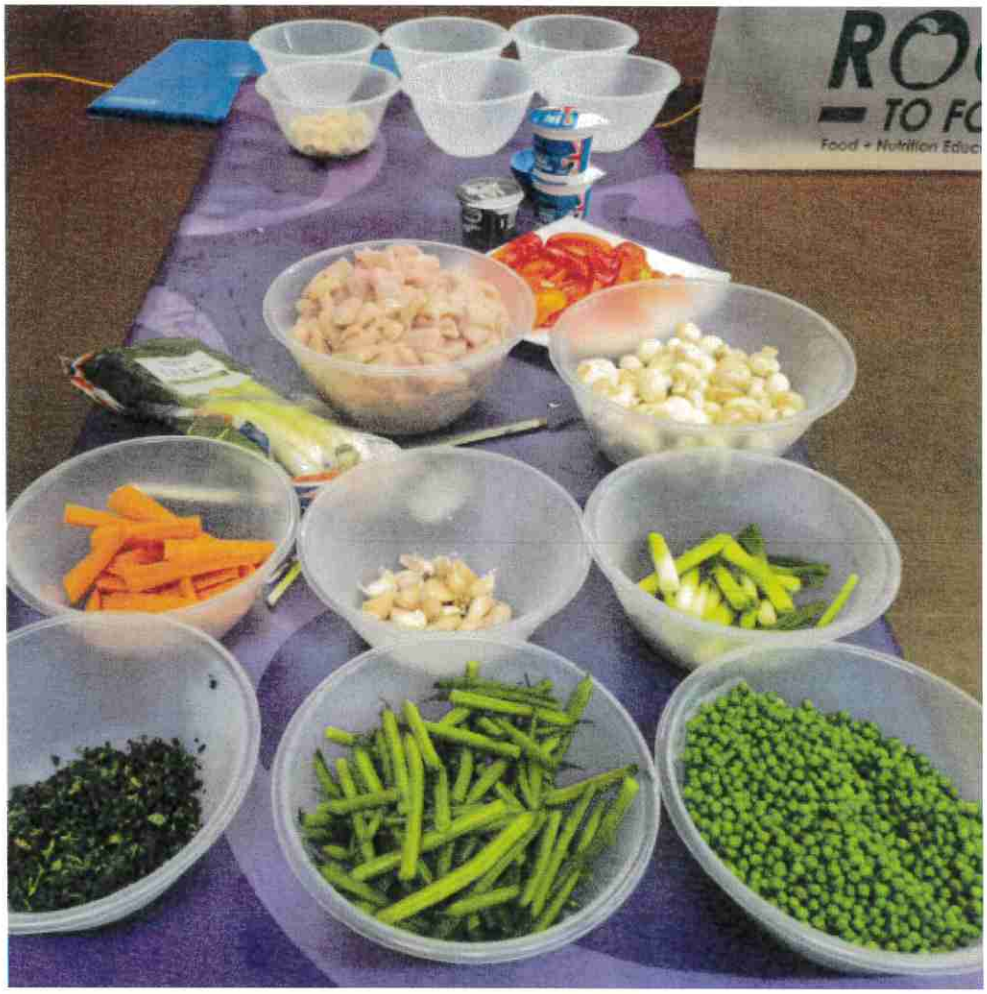
Six of us were shortlisted and got to meet children's author James Campbell.



Roots to Food experience

Year 3, 4, 5 & 6 had a lovely time at their cooking session – much laughter and shrieking, and delivious dishes made.

Before …..



During …..

















After ...









ROOTS TO FOOD

Active Education in Health & Wellbeing

Chicken and Vegetable Fricassee

INGREDIENTS

4 x Small Chicken Breast (Diced)

8 Closed Cup Mushrooms (Sliced)

100g Fine Green Beans (Cooked and sliced)

2 Cloves Fresh Garlic (Crushed)

1 Small Fresh Leek (Sliced)

1 Tbls Olive Oil

1 Small Red Pepper (Sliced)

1 Whole Carrot (Sliced)

100g Easy Cook Long Grain Rice (Cooked)

2 Tsp Dijon Mustard

1 x 300ml Half Fat Crème Fraiche

2 Tbls Fresh Parsley (Chopped)

4 Spring Onion (Sliced)

75g Cooked Petit Pois

Method

1. In a large bowl mix the diced chicken with the mustard and 1 tablespoon olive oil. This mix is best left to marinade for 1 hour.

2. Meanwhile in a wok or large saucepan heat 2tbls water with the crushed garlic clove and wait for the water to steam. Now place the chicken in the pan and seal. Add the sliced carrots and sliced leeks. Place 1 extra tablespoon of water in the pan, cover with a lid and steam for 2 minutes. Keep lifting the lid to check the chicken is kept moist, add more water if necessary 1 tablespoon at a time. Now gently add the sliced red peppers, sliced spring onion and sliced mushrooms into the chicken and stir cooking for one minute. Add the crème fraiche and bring to a gentle simmer. Now add the sliced green beans and petit pois.

3. Take out the garlic cloves before serving and season if required and stir in the chopped parsley.
4. Serve with the hot cooked rice. (Can also be served with mashed potato)