

Thursday 21st December 2023



www.jameswolfe.greenwich.sch.uk

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At James Wolfe, we are constantly striving to further enrich the opportunities and experiences for our pupils -- this may include playground improvements, extracurricular activities, development of indoor spaces (e.g. libraries), special provision, inspirational visitors and experiences. If you would like to make a contribution to our fundraising efforts, please go to our Go Fund Me page at <https://aofund.me/3f7ee947>. We will share updates on how we spend these donations in The Wolfe. Thank you for your contributions.





Welcome to the second edition of The Wolfe!

What a term it has been! It has been jam-packed full of learning and exciting experiences across our school. All of this has been rounded off by some sensational Christmas performances, both inside school with our Nursery and Reception Christmas performances, and outside, with our concert for Years 1-6 at St Alfege Church - accompanied by our professional-sounding James Wolfe orchestra.

Thank you so much to those of you who filled in our parent survey earlier this half of term. The feedback was overwhelmingly positive and we have picked out some common threads to continue to improve. One thing that you asked for is more information about what the children are learning in order to support your child. We hope that this new-format newsletter aids you in this.

In order to improve our school further, we would like to invite you in to meet with Ms Gallagher and I in the New Year. This will be your opportunity to have an informal chat about school life, provide some feedback and help us to continue to improve our school further. This will take place at 9:15am on Friday 2nd February 2024 at Randall Place.

Starting in January, we are going to be working with OPAL (Outdoor Play and Learning) to develop play across our entire school, with the Friends funding this for us. We would like to say a huge thank you to the Friends of James Wolfe for their support with this project, along with their organisation of the very successful Winter Fair this year. Please see our OPAL learning section in this edition of The Wolfe below for further information.

Important dates and some polite reminders are enclosed in this newsletter and we thank you in anticipation of your support for our high standards and encouraging your child to follow our school PROUD values.

We wish you and your family a peaceful holiday, a very merry Christmas to all who are celebrating and a happy 2024 ahead.

We look forward to welcoming the children back on Tuesday 9th January.

Cheryl Raithby and Victoria Gallagher

Key Dates

Important
DATE!

December 2023	January 2024
<p>Thursday 21st December – Class Parties, with party outfits allowed!</p> <p>Thursday 21st December – Last Day of Term</p>	<p>Monday 8th January – INSET day, children do not attend school</p> <p>Tuesday 9th January – Children return to school</p> <p>Thursday 11th January – 6M WW2 trip to St Alfege Church crypt</p> <p>Thursday 11th January – Boys’ Football ‘A’ League Fixture Day (Meridian Sports Ground)</p> <p>Friday 12th January – 6S WW2 trip to St Alfege Church crypt</p> <p>Friday 12th January – 3A & 3C trip to Chislehurst Caves</p> <p>Friday 12th January – Boys’ Football ‘B’ League Fixture Day (Meridian Sports Ground)</p> <p>Monday 15th to Friday 26th January -- One class Intensive Swimming (TBC)</p> <p>Monday 15th January – 6G WW2 trip to St Alfege Church crypt</p> <p>Monday 15th January – After-School Activities start</p> <p>Wednesday 17th January – 3O & 3P trip to Chislehurst Caves</p> <p>Thursday 18th January – Year 5 Rugby Festival (Hervey Road Sports Field)</p> <p>Friday 19th January – Year 5 Biscuits & Books (RH 8:45am)</p> <p>Friday 19th January – Year 4 Choir out at Young Voices</p> <p>Friday 19th January – Boys’ Football ‘B’ League Fixture Day (Meridian Sports Ground)</p> <p>Monday 22nd January – 6U WW2 trip to St Alfege Church crypt</p> <p>Tuesday 23rd January – Year 4 Parents Meeting RE Multiplication Tables Check</p> <p>Wednesday 24th January – Centre Coffee Morning (RP 9:00am)</p> <p>Friday 26th January – 1W & 1S trip to the National Maritime Museum and Cutty Sark</p> <p>Friday 26th January – Boys’ Football ‘B’ League Fixture Day (Meridian Sports Ground)</p> <p>Monday 29th January to Friday 9th February -- One class Intensive Swimming (TBC)</p> <p>Wednesday 31st January – Year 6 trip to Chislehurst Caves</p> <p>Friday 9th February – 1H & 1F trip to the National Maritime Museum and Cutty Sark</p>

Later in the Year

Week of 5th February - Parents’ Evenings

Friday 2nd February – Parent forum to meet the Senior Leadership Team

Monday 12th to Friday 16th February – Half-term holiday

Friday 29th March to Friday 12th April – Easter holiday

Monday 13th to Thursday 16th May – Year 6 SATS

Monday 6th May – Bank Holiday

Monday 27th to Friday 31st May – Half-term holiday

Friday 28th June – INSET day

Wednesday 24th July 2024 – Last day of term/year



Year 6

Ms Bedding, Ms Cope, Ms Edgington & Ms Britton

Year 6 Celebration

This half of term, Year 6 have amazed their teachers with their incredible diary entries. They have pushed themselves to use higher level verbs and shown empathy for historical figures through drama. We explored World War Two resources to learn more about the period, whilst using our investigation skills to uncover more about the time period.



Reminders

PE continues to be on Thursdays. For morning sessions (6S and 6U), children should come to school in PE kit but change into their uniform at the end of the session. For afternoon sessions (6G and 6M), the children must wear uniform to school and change into their PE kits during the day.

Upcoming Events

First Day Spring Term: Tue 9th January

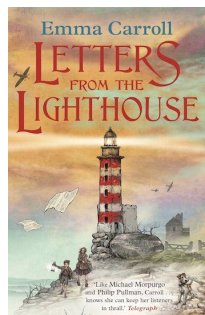
Visits to St Alfege Church (classes will be confirmed in the new year):
12th/15th/22nd January 2024

Visit to Chislehurst Caves: 31st January 2024

Reading Book(s)

This half term we were reading Letters from the Lighthouse by Emma Carroll.

We also read extracts from Once by Morris Gleitzman and Great Expectations by Charles Dickens.



Future Learning

In the final week of this half of term, Year 6 learned all about electricity. We conducted an investigation, built circuits and designed a festive, light-up Christmas card.

Next half term, we will continue our World War Two studies, turning our attention to the key battles. We will use our knowledge of these events to create a piece of writing about Dunkirk.



Year 5

Mr Cowley, Miss McKenna, Mrs Cameron & Ms Brinkman

Year 5 Celebration

Year 5 have had a fantastic few weeks of learning! Highlights have included visiting Leake Street to explore whether graffiti is art or vandalism, tag rugby coaching in Greenwich Park and making our own amazing graffiti art.



Reminders

P.E. is on Friday each week. When sessions are in the morning (5J & 5N), children may come to school ready in kit but should bring uniform to change into afterwards. For afternoon sessions (5E & 5M), children must come in wearing uniform but may travel home in PE kit.

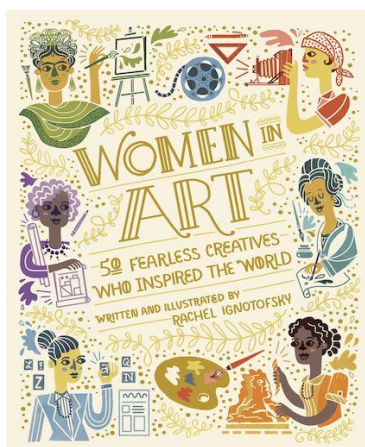
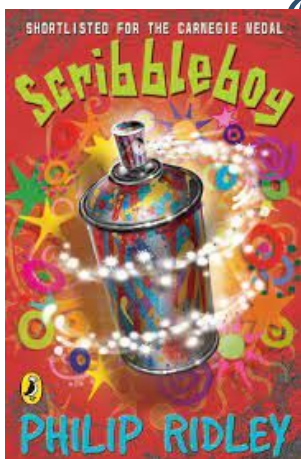
Upcoming Events

First Day Spring Term: Tue 9th January

Biscuits & Books: Fri 19th January 8:45am at Royal Hill

Maritime Museum visits linked to our Polar Exploration topic will also happen in January - more information to follow.

Reading Book(s)



Future Learning

We are currently considering our views on graffiti and forming opinions regarding: art for or vandalism! You will hopefully be asked to share your personal views. In maths, we have progressed to the four operations of calculation and work on fractions. Maths Week focussed on time. Children are excited in their engagement in the 'Space' science topic.



Year 4

Ms Burnett, Mr Phillips, Miss Parry, Ms Fagg & Ms Bell



Year 4 Celebration



What a busy term: from bringing opinions and emotions into diary writing and investigating the founding of Rome. History had us amazed that the Romans founded London! DT had us designing & creating prototypes, and making Roman sandals. England Rocks and Time learning in Maths Week seems an age ago but Year 4 led the school in competition entries. In science we have explored solids, liquids and gases and have designed new activities to make this learning fun and relevant for the Science Museum!

Last but not least, there was our incredible signing and singing in church and at the Queen Elizabeth Almshouses (4V&4M). What generous Christmas spirit Year 4 have shared with everyone!

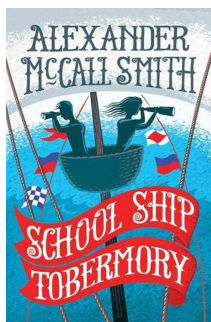
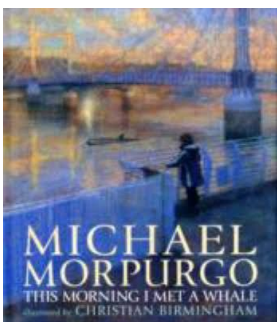
Reminders

- PE days: Please remember we have a uniform for PE and it is not hygienic to stay in your PE clothes after a full morning of exercise.
- Reading records should be written in 5x weekly and signed by parents too.
- Upload home learning to Google Classroom or hand in your home learning book on a Wednesday to be returned on Friday.

Upcoming Events

- First Day Spring Term: Tue 9th January
- 10th Jan - Michael Rosen author event.
- Week starting 15th - Baseline Times Table test for Spring.
- Parent meeting - Multiplication Times Table Check - 23/01/2024. 9:15 - 9:45 am RH Hall.
- River Thames including St Magnus The Martyr, London Bridge tip linked to our topic will also happen in January - more information to follow.

Reading Book(s)



Future Learning

We are very excited to be carrying out a local study of the River Thames in History - exploring sources from the Museum of London back to the 16th & 17th Century. This will support our Geography learning of the stages of a river (source, tributary, mouth etc.). Our core text is by Michael Morpurgo, 'This Morning I Met a Whale'. We will be debating the issues raised and writing a letter, plus linking the incredible illustrations to our own chalk pastels and silhouettes of the bridges over the Thames, with a focus on perspective and vanishing points.



Year 3

Miss Ablett, Ms Mistry, Miss Thompson & Miss Khorami

Year 3 Celebration



Year 3 have been rewriting fairy tales with their own twist! We have taken the story of Cinderella and changed elements of the traditional story. In some stories, Cinderella has become a boy called Cinders. Thank you to all the parents that attended the Biscuits and Books event, it was lovely to see everyone reading and enjoying a biscuit or two! We have kick-started Christmas celebrations with a Panto; the children rehearsed a song to sing along to and it was lovely to see everyone join in.

Reminders

PE is on Mondays. If your child has PE in the morning (3P and 3C) then they will need to come in wearing their PE kit and change into their school clothes after. 3A and 3O will need to bring in their PE to change into as they have PE in the afternoon.

Upcoming Events

- INSET - 8th January 2024

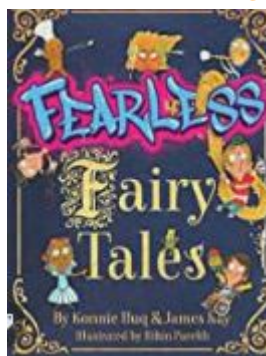
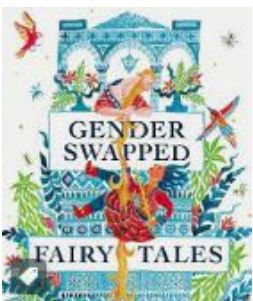
Chislehurst Cave trip:

3A and 3C on the 12th January 2024

3P and 3O on the 17th January 2024

Reading Book(s)

This half of term we have been reading twisted fairy tales.



Future Learning

In the Spring Term, the children will be learning to write a non-chronological report.

In maths, we will be studying numbers up to 1000.

In Science, we will be learning about animals, including humans. The children will be learning about Charles Darwin and learning to sketch animals.



Year 2

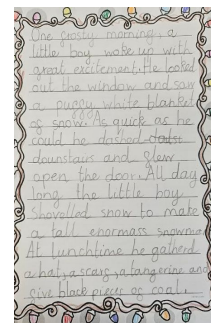
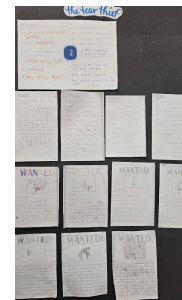
Miss Nutley, Mr Cooke, Mrs Richardson & Miss Cambridge

Year 2 Celebration

Year 2 have had a fantastic term. The children thoroughly enjoyed the story of The Tear Thief and wrote fantastic wanted posters using their detailed character descriptions. We spent time embedding strategies on how to add and subtract two 2-digit numbers, using drawings to solve. We really enjoyed creating lots of codes and moving pictures in Scratch Junior.

In RE, we studied Buddhism and then participated in the Christian Christmas Journey at St Alfege.

Well done, Year 2!



Reminders

Children must read three times per week with their adult to develop their fluency. Spellings are available on spelling shed to improve spelling.

All clothes should be labelled.

Wednesday - PE days.

Thursday - Homework and reading returned.

Friday - Spellings and reading given out.

Upcoming Events

9th January - Fire safety workshop

Greenwich walk

Biscuits and Books

Reading Book



Future Learning

Reading: Superhero hotel and reading groups.

Writing: Persuasive language and adverts

Maths: Multiplication and Division

History: Our local history

Religion: Buddhism

Computing: Word processing

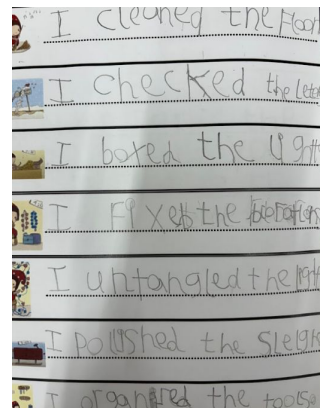
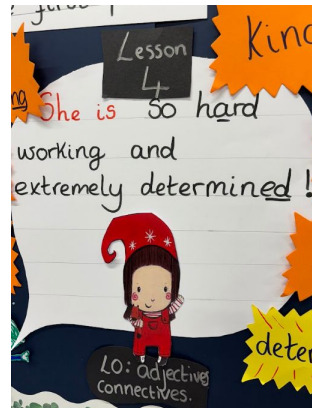
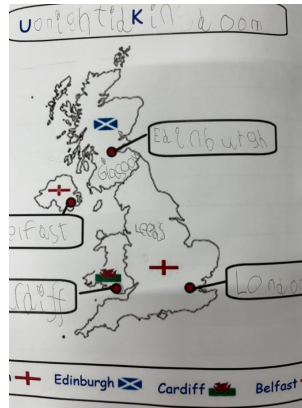
Music: Introducing glockenspiels



Year 1

Mr Chaplin, Miss Smith, Miss McGuire & Miss Addae-Ankomah

Year 1 Celebration



Reminders

PE day is a Tuesday.

BSL is a Friday.

Reading records and books returned by Friday each week to be changed.

Upcoming Events

Friday 26th January: 1S and 1W school trip to National Maritime Museum and the Cutty Sark

Friday 9th February: 1F and 1H school trip to the National Maritime Museum and the Cutty Sark

Reading Book(s)



Future Learning

We will be starting 2024 off in 'Pirate Style'!

Writing: Creating Pirate stories

Maths: Half-termly focus on addition

Science: Materials and their properties

History: The history of pirates

Geography: Using maps

RE: The foundations of Islam

Art: Using materials to create art pieces

Music: Exploring Pirate music and songs



Reception

Mrs Griffin, Mrs Price, Mrs Renouf, Miss Seruti, Miss Syrocki & Miss Lind

Reception Celebration

We have had a wonderful half-term in Reception. The children are making excellent progress in their phonics lessons and they are beginning to read and write words independently. They have been busy learning about seasonal change and have had lots of opportunities to apply their learning in their Forest School sessions. We have also learnt about different religious celebrations, such as Diwali and Christmas. The children blew us away with their amazing performance of Shine Star Shine! We are so proud of them.



Reminders

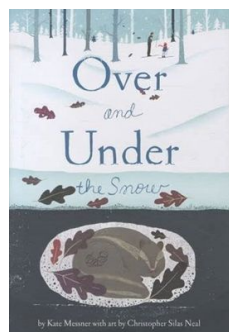
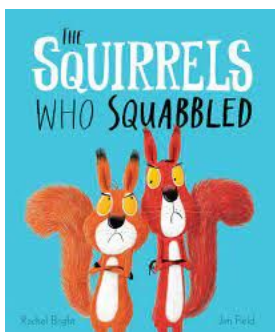
Please ensure that you are reading your child's Little Wandle reading practice book at least three times a week. Your child will have read this book at school and should be able to read it with fluency. Please return books to school every Thursday so that they can be changed.

Upcoming Events

Inset Day: Monday 8th January
Children return: Tuesday 9th January

Reading Mornings will continue to be on Fridays.

Reading Book(s)



Future Learning

Next half term, our topic will be 'Where in the World is Greenwich?'. We will be learning about the history of Greenwich and visiting some local landmarks. We will be making comparisons between transport now and in the past. In phonics, the children will begin to learn their Phase 3 digraphs. In maths, we will be learning about numbers 5-8.

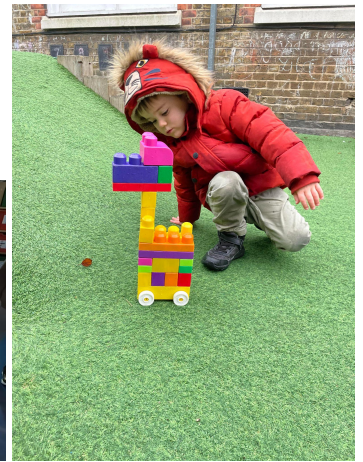


Nursery

Miss Clipsham

Nursery Celebration

Apple Tree have continued to develop our understanding of important life celebrations! We have been enjoying learning how our friends celebrate their birthdays, and having a whole-class birthday party too!



Reminders

A reminder of the gate times:
Drop off: 0845 - 0900
AM collection: 1130 - 1145
PM collection: 1530-1545
If you arrive after those times, the gate will be closed and you will have to go through the main office

**PLEASE RETURN BOOK BAGS
EVERY FRIDAY**

Upcoming Events

PRIMARY SCHOOL APPLICATIONS

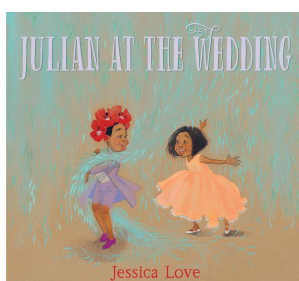
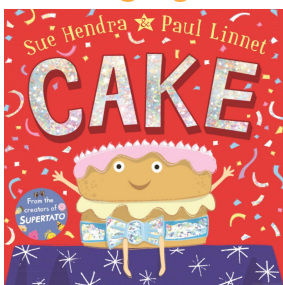
Please apply for your child's primary school place NOW.

[LINK HERE](#)

The deadline for applications is 15th JANUARY 2024

Reading Books

Two of our key texts this half term are *Cake* by Sue Hendra and Paul Linnet and *Julian at the Wedding* by Jessica Love.



Future Learning

Whatever you get up to over the school holiday, please share pictures on Tapestry!

We will be beginning 'show and talk' later in the new year (there will be a letter beforehand, don't worry!), so will be practising by talking about our break with our friends!



Deaf Centre

Ms Yeranossian & Ms Gray

Centre Celebration

We had a lot of fun in deaf studies this term focusing on different celebrations, such as Guy Fawkes night, Hanukkah and Christmas. The children designed their own Christmas cards and helped each other to write messages in the card.



Reminders

- Please remember to read with your child every day at home and record it either in their reading record or on Google Classroom.
- Take lots of pictures of your holidays and upload these onto Google Classroom before the start of term.

Upcoming Events

- Tuesday 9th January 2024 - First day back to school.
- Wednesday 24th January 2024 - Centre Coffee morning.

Future Learning

Next term, we will be starting with a workshop about *The Witches* by Roald Dahl. We will explore the story and watch a performance by the National Theatre, which will be signed in BSL.

Inspired by the story, we will use our imagination to create our own BSL stories.

Reading Book(s)

Lizzie & Lucky is series of books written by Megan Rix. Lizzie is a deaf girl from a deaf family. We have started reading 'The Mystery of the Missing Puppies'.





Friends of James Wolfe School



Thank you to all those who attended our Christmas Fair on Friday 1st December! What a fab time we all had, especially with the Christmas karaoke! You will be pleased to know that we raised a whopping £1019.45! Every penny goes back into the school and we have always have exciting projects coming up. If you would like to get involved in the new year and/or have some great fundraising ideas, we would love to hear from you.

If you still have last minute Christmas shopping to do, please can we once again remind you that you can donate to the FJWS when doing your shopping at no extra cost to yourself!

When you shop online, please access your accounts via their associated charity portals. If you visit your Amazon account via <http://smile.amazon.co.uk> and assign 'Friends of James Wolfe School' as your chosen charity, Amazon will then make a donation to us for every purchase you make! For online shopping with thousands of other retailers (such as Argos, John Lewis, Sainsbury's and many more), please begin via <http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk> and follow the directions to link the FJWS, so that each retailer will make a donation.

These are both fantastic ways to fund school projects with very little effort required, so please remember to set them up next time you go online -- and a massive thank you to everyone who has done so already!

Have a safe break and we will see you all in the new year.

Please follow us on X/Twitter or Facebook to find out more about what we do, as well as about upcoming social/fundraising events. All are welcome!

Email: friendsofJWS@gmail.com

Facebook: <https://en-gb.facebook.com/FJWSGreenwich>

X/Twitter: <https://twitter.com/fjwsgreenwich>





Sporting Update



Year 5 are coming to the end of their very successful swimming sessions at Wavelengths in Deptford, Year 4 will begin their sessions after Christmas. Basketball and Gymnastics are the main focus across much of the school. In gymnastics, developing flexibility, balance and strength. In basketball: dribbling, passing and space-invasion! Year 5 are again participating in a tag-rugby course in conjunction with Blackheath Rugby Club and will take part in a Rugby Festival in January, where we hope to retain the trophy we won last year!





We are really excited to share with you the news that we have become an OPAL school. OPAL stands for Outdoor Play and Learning and we are excited to work with them to develop our play offer to all our children at James Wolfe! This has been funded by the Friends of James Wolfe, so we want to say a massive thank you to them and for all your generous donations.

Mr Armson, Ms Barrett and Ms Collins will all be leading this project and we hope that you will slowly see a transformation to our children's playground experience. To find out more information about OPAL, you can visit their website [here](#).

Wanted!

To help us get started, we are looking for a number of items. If you have any of the following that you are willing to donate, please bring them to the school office:

Sheets & blankets / Old clothes (to be used for dressing up!) / Cardboard boxes / Dolls / Old suitcases / Old prams / Toy cars / Play kitchens / Plastic food

Parent Survey

In order for us to gather feedback and measure progress, we are asking you to complete a survey. Please click on the link [here](#) to complete.





Notices



Photo Competition

The Art Team and the Arts Ambassadors at Randall Place had a really hard job choosing the winning snaps for our Autumn Photography Competition. We are pleased to announce the winners are as follows:

1st: Wael Saqqa (4S)



2nd: Alice James (3P)



3rd: Esme Whitham (6U)



The photos will be displayed at Randall Place with the winning shot being displayed in both campuses. Well done to everyone who took part - your entries were outstanding!

Free Online Courses

Greenwich Family Hubs are offering free Solihull Approach online courses to all parents, parents-to-be, carers, grandparents and teens in the borough. The courses are all evidence based and have received a lot of encouraging feedback from those who have completed them. A leaflet with more information is [here](#) and Instructions on how to book are [here](#).





Notices

Rocksteady

After a successful trial in Years 4 & 5 throughout the Autumn term, the children performed in a fantastic end of term concert! Now, all children in Years 4 & 5 have the option to be enrolled with Rocksteady for 2024 via their [website](#), though please note that places will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis.

After-School Activities

The letter regarding this term's after-school activities, with details of how to set up your account and book, was emailed to parents last Friday and can be found at <https://tinyurl.com/4bkavefd>.

Activities commence the week of Monday 15th January and will run for ten weeks, ending on Thursday 28th March. Bookings are now open. Activities have a limited availability, with prices from £5.00 to £9.00 per session. Places are booked on a first-come, first served basis.

Parents of children eligible for the benefit Free School Meals, who are entitled to one free activity, should contact the school office after setting up their account.

Free Holiday Meals

Any child in Royal Greenwich can get a free lunch this Christmas, as the Council's holiday meal scheme returns to libraries and leisure centres. Grab a healthy, nutritious packed lunch throughout the week, with no forms or fuss -- just turn up and tuck in! Serving times vary, so please check their website for details at <http://www.royalgreenwich.gov.uk/holidaymeals>.

Winter Funds

Funds will once again be provided over the holiday by Royal Greenwich to FSM families. If parents are not in receipt of the benefit Free School Meals for their child but feel they would qualify, they should apply at <https://www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals>. Should you find you are not eligible but are experiencing hardship, please contact the school.





Notices

Dinners

A swap from packed lunches to school dinners, or vice versa, can only be made on the first days back after a holiday. If you wish to make a change, please ensure we are informed on the first day back -- and remember, all dinners are free to all children (except Nursery) this year.

Raring2go!

The latest issue of Lewisham and Greenwich Raring2Go can be found [here](#).

Royal Greenwich Together
**HOLIDAY
FOOD and FUN**

Your child may be eligible for
a free holiday club place!

Fun activities and good food available throughout the Christmas holidays.

Find out more at
[Royalgreenwich.gov.uk/HolidayFoodAndFun](https://royalgreenwich.gov.uk/HolidayFoodAndFun)

ROYAL borough of
GREENWICH

Greenwich Music School

The Greenwich Music School Spring 2024 course guide for music lessons & classes is now available [here](#). They offer a range of first-access and follow-on courses for pupils aged 4 to 11 and beyond, with classes led by experts and catering to all skill levels, teaching over 650 children and adults every week. They provide access to music education through means-tested bursary support and work with Young Greenwich and other organisations to sponsor free places.

For more details and to book, call 020 8305 1286 or visit <https://greenwichmusicschool.org.uk/>.

