

Dates for your diary

Friday, 19th October
Break up for half term

22nd-26th October
Half term holiday

Monday, 29th Oct.
School starts again

Tuesday, 30th Oct.
Key Stage 1 Learning Review Meetings for parents to meet teachers

Thursday, 8th Nov.
Year 5 Assembly on Remembrance Day (parents welcome)

Wednesday, 14th Nov.
Year 4 Diwali Assembly (parents welcome)

Friday, 16th Nov.
Children in Need

Friday, 21st Dec
Last day of term before the Christmas holiday

Tuesday, 8th Jan. 2019
First day of the spring term for pupils

Please remember...

- Pupils are not permitted to take holiday in term time.
- Pupils who are sick should not come to school – but if your child just has a sniffly cold, they are well enough to come to school. If they feel poorly during the day, we will look after them until you can collect them – but don't let them miss school if at all possible.
- With your help, we can keep our attendance figures up!

Our attendance target is:

96%

How are you doing?

WOOLMORE NEWS

18th October 2018



Woolmore
Primary School

Congratulations on an exciting half term!

We have made a great start to the new school year

Well done to our splendid staff, our wonderful parents and, most of all, to our amazing pupils – all of whom have worked hard to give us a good start to the year.

Over this first half term our teachers have been concentrating on finding out how we can help each child to do their best: what are their particular needs, and how can school fulfil them?

As the half-term began, parents came along to our Year Group Welcome meetings, and as the half-term comes to a close we have been organising Learning Review meetings where parents can meet their child's teachers and talk about how their child is doing. Parents of children in Years 3 to 6 have had Learning Review meetings already. Parents of children in Years 1 and 2 have been invited to meet teachers on 30th October. If your child is in Early Years, we will be inviting you into school on 6th November.

We hope it's been a good half term for you too – do let us know what you think as we really appreciate feedback. Have a wonderful half term holiday next week and we look forward to seeing you again on Monday, 29th October.

Going places – in and out of school

Getting out and about is essential for keeping active and having new experiences

We have had great fun this term on our outings and organising some special activities in school including:

- **Year 1 went to Greenwich Park** to look at the wildlife, nature and see the beautiful traditional buildings in their spacious setting.
- Our **Year 6** pupils went **to Down House**, the former home of the English naturalist Charles Darwin and his family. It was in this house and garden that Darwin worked on his theories of evolution
- **Year 4 visited the London Aquarium** and saw lots of famous London landmarks
- **The NSPCC** visited Woolmore to talk to children about keeping safe and sharing worries. This work is being followed up in class. We see this as vital support for children's wellbeing.



Please talk to your child about their trips – and maybe go out with them in half term?

← **Year 5 Sequoia** had a great day in school when a Viking came to visit. They captured their teacher and had to decide whether to sell her into slavery or worse... Poor Mary! I can confirm that she survived!

Quick Quiz:

What do you know about The Vikings?

Where did they come from?
What was the Viking symbol of responsibility?
Who was Thor?

Keeping children safe is everyone's responsibility



Did you know...?

●Woolmore School has a free **Breakfast Club**. It's open to all pupils from 8am. As well as fuelling up our children for the day, it also makes sure they arrive on time.

Why not give it a try?

●**Stay and Play** – every Tuesday morning, little ones who haven't started school yet can come into the nursery and play with our educational toys from 9-11am. Sessions end with a snack and singing time.

As well as being a fun highlight of the week, it helps the tinies get used to coming in to school. Sessions are run in conjunction with Poplar Children's Centre and there is no charge to attend.

●After-School Clubs. We run a range of Clubs to help our children catch up or explore their interests and find new skills. A full list can be found on our website.

There is a small charge for the Clubs.

●After School Care Children can stay at school after home time and are looked after by school staff. We make a small charge for this service.

For more information about these services, ask at the school office.

The Woolmore-Parent Partnership

Working together to support our children to live and learn well

There are many ways in which parents can work with Woolmore to help their children achieve success.

●Start with **half term**. Next week may see the last of the autumn weather before winter sets in – don't spend the week cooped up indoors. One of our priorities this year is **Healthier Living** – and this includes becoming more physically active as well as eating well. Most of our children walk to school – so a daily walk over half term can keep up their activity. An apple a day keeps the doctor away – but so does an autumn pear or an orange. A healthy body helps us learn.

●Another of our School Priorities this year is **Reading**. We know our children love to read to mums and dads, big brothers and sisters, aunties, grannies and family friends. Your children are on holiday, but their books aren't. Help your child to keep reading every day. If you finish all the books they have brought home, Chrisp Street Idea store has a good selection.

●We have a vacancy for a parent governor. If you are interested, please see Headteacher Tracy Argent or Chair of Governors Samantha Rashid (make an appointment via the school office).

●Our new Family Support Workers have enjoyed meeting and supporting parents over the last half term – so much so that we have re-branded them as the **Family Services Team**. Lorraine and Susan can help parents with problems (such as attendance) but they can also help with a range of positive opportunities too. At the moment, they are running a weekly course on "How Parents Can Volunteer in School". It's a proper accredited course, with tea and biscuits – and so popular that this term's course is full. To put your name down for the next course, or to find out about learning opportunities in the area (things you can do for yourself during school hours), please speak to Lorraine or Susan.

Woolmore Charity Day

Woolmore parents really are the best!

Thank you everyone for a terrific Charity Day for MacMillan Cancer. With lots of cake baking, selling and eating, a non-uniform day and a raffle we were able to raise

£1,110.50 for charity. Well done everyone and thank you – this is terrific!



And finally...

I have just watched an amazing assembly by our three Year 1 classes (Banyan, Fig and Holly) for Black History Month. They told the story of Rosa Parks with clarity and compassion and sang a song called 'Storm' beautifully. Thank you to the many parents who attended and shared such positive comments about the assembly messages and Woolmore School. We really appreciate it.

Have a great half term holiday!
Ms Argent, Headteacher