

Essendine Primary School News - November 24

November 2024

Head of School Message

Dear Families of Essendine Primary,

As the year draws to an end, rehearsals are well underway for our Christmas Productions and we look forward to you joining us for the performances soon. Please do make note of the dates below and take the time to have a read of all the wonderful learning happening around the classes, read about the exciting trips classes have been on and of course visitors we have had in our school over this month. Thank you for your participation in our coffee mornings and joining us in reading and publishing events and supporting our successful bookfair.

Monthly updates, news and events in and around your school community

In this monthly article:

School Day

Medication

Attendance

Anti bulling week

Music

BFI Yr 5 Trip

Panathon

Treasure Chest

Lord Mayor Visit

2M visit to the Florence Nightingale museum

Nursery

Vikings

Year 4 Brisish Museum

Forest school

Coffee Mornings

Upcoming Dates

Christmas Productions Dates



Thurs 5th December (**9:30-10:30**)

EYFS Production to parents

Tues 10th December (**14:00-15:00**)

Y1&2 Production to parents

Fri 13th December (**14:00-15:00**)

Y3&4 Production to parents

Weds 18th December (**14:00-15:00**)

Y5&6 Production to parents





Our First Nativity

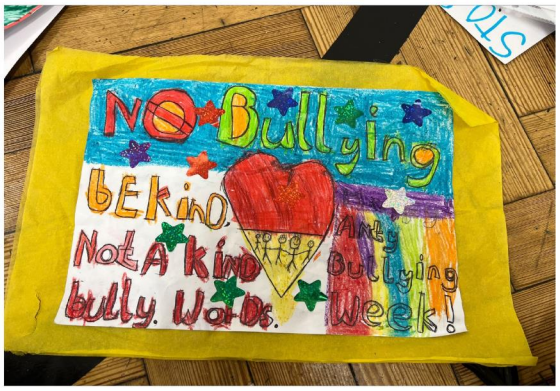


Anti-Bullying Week



To celebrate 'Anti Bullying Week' we did a range of activities. We made posters, a whole school paper chain with respectful words on it and we all wore blue to show we are united in preventing bullying! Congratulations to everyone who participated in the poster competition. We had over 100 entries! We are planning a gallery of all posters and look forward to inviting you in to take a look next term!


Anti-Bullying Week 2024
I show respect by ...sharing
the toys because sharing is caring
Saffia


NO Bullying
bE kinD.
Not A kind
bully. Words.
Anty
Bullying
Week!


CHOOSE KINDNESS
ANTI-BULLING WEEK
RESPECT
A Foundation for Friends & Understanding
WE STAND TOGETHER
SPREAD JOY
LABELS ARE FOR CANS NOT PEOPLE!

School Day

Drop off

At 8:45am the main school gate opens.

Nursery and Reception children are taken by their parents to their classrooms via the EYFS front gate on Essendine Rd.

Children in Years 1-6 go straight to their classroom through the main gates.

At 8:55am class starts and the gate closes and all parents/carers must be out so that we can secure the site.

Pick up

At 3:25pm the main gate opens to parents.

Nursery, Reception children collected from the EYFS classrooms via the EYFS Gate on Essendine Rd at 3.15pm .

Y1-Y6 children are escorted to the collection area in the playground where parents will be waiting.

You must collect your children or arrange for a responsible adult (over 16 years-old) to do so. If you are asking someone else to collect your children, the school needs to know. This is in the interest of your children's safety.

Only Year 5 and 6 children are allowed to go home by themselves, once written authorisation has been received.

The school gate closes at 3:40pm and any children not collected will be taken to the Front Office area. Late penalties are issued for lateness beyond this time.

Medication

We would like to remind parents/carers that any medication for children must be brought to the office, where you will be asked to complete a consent form. Do not give any

medication to class teachers or children. Please also remember to update the office with any changes regarding your child's medication and any changes in illness/medical conditions.

Attendance Guidelines

This term you were emailed about some important changes to the Federation attendance policy.

From this September, there is new statutory guidance, that schools have to follow now, in order to tackle the growing rise in absence in our schools: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/working-together-to-improve-school-attendance

You should also take time to read the attendance policy regarding penalty notices and fines for parents, as there are significant changes to this process. Information about school attendance can be found on our website:

www.essendine.org.uk **under the Parent tab.**

Attendance



Whole school attendance so far this term is currently at **93.2% This is below the national benchmark of good attendance at 96%.** Let's keep working on it together.

Music at Essendine



Cello



Students have started their music lessons very dynamically this year, learning a variety of instruments, like ukuleles, violins, guitars and recorders, that progress from one year to the next. Additionally, we have been continuing to offer violin and keyboard lessons in small groups, with the new addition of cello from October, due to a generous funding that allowed the school to purchase some new instruments.









Keyboard Club:

In keyboard club this term, students have had a fun time learning how to play pop chords along to the modern song 'Dance Monkey'. They have been working on how to play as a class band through listening, leadership, musical communication and grooving it out! We have also been working on fun musical games, which has improved pitch recognition and increasing students skills in recognising certain intervals in music.

Piano lessons:

In piano lessons this term, students have been progressing through their piano work book 'Piano Time No.1', all individually completing various new skills and techniques each week. Some students have finished this fast-progressing book and are now preparing to move on

to piano grades, where they will work towards playing in an exam and being awarded an official piano grade.

Year 5 BFI Trip

After reading (and enjoying) the Michael Morpurgo book Kensuke's Kingdom, we in Year 5 rounded off the unit with a trip to see the film adaptation screened at the BFI Southbank with a Q&Q with the director afterwards. Little did we know that we would actually get to meet Michael Morpurgo himself and ask questions! We had a fantastic time and had some very pertinent questions for the author himself.









Panathlon

A small select team of sportspeople from Essendine recently went to Moberley Sports Centre to compete in the Panathlon- an event designed for children with SEN to compete in sporting events. As usual, our children did us proud, demonstrating the sportsmanship and competitive spirit you'd expect from Essendine children. After a hard-fought contest, we came out in second place out of ten schools. Not only that, we received our trophy from

another silver medallist- Paralympic silver medal cyclist Daphne Schrager- a truly inspiring individual! A huge well done to all our brilliant sportspeople.











Treasure Chest



Year 5 and 6 were visited by 'The Treasure Chest Company' who brought with them a wide range of historical sources from WW2 and beyond. The children were challenged to become detectives and spot the clues from the sources to identify their purpose and what time period they were from. All the adults were blown away by the questions and ideas the children came up with. Well done Year 5 and 6!


English











December Library Dates



Our children love visiting our local library.

Next month's library visit dates are as follows:

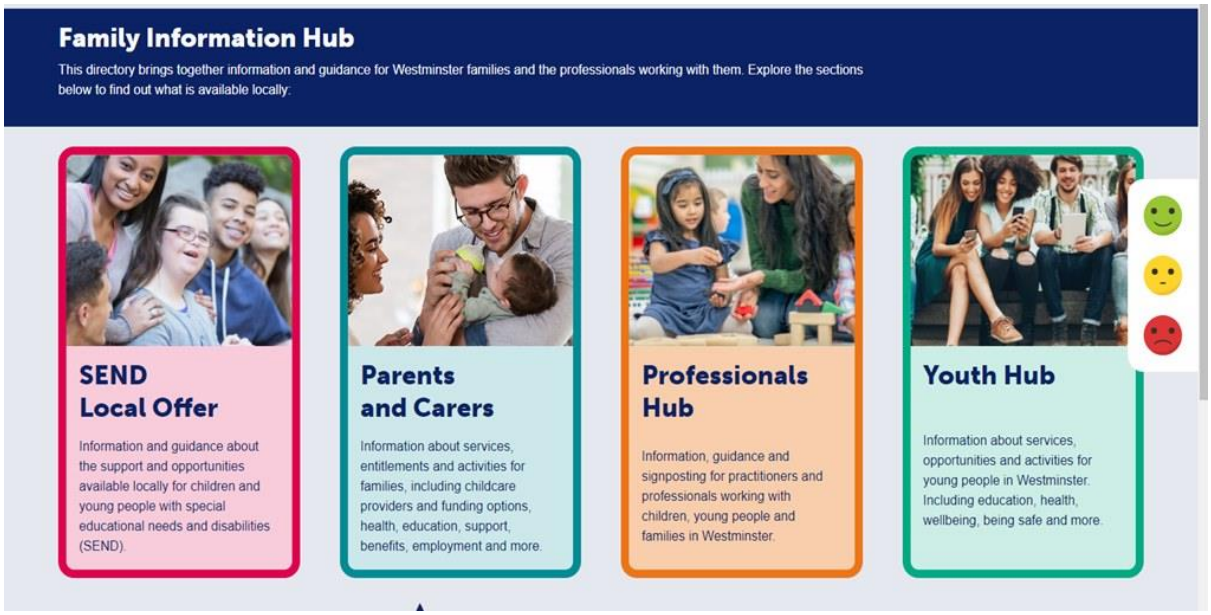
December:

Thursday 5th AM – 3R

Friday 6th PM – 5/6T

Thursday 12th PM – 4B

Help for Families in Westminster



Music Opportunities

Nucleo is an immersive, ensemble-based, community music programme currently running six days a week in Essendine School! We work with students aged 0 to 20 who attend our sessions several times a week, learning to play orchestral instruments together (violin, viola, cello, double bass, flute, oboe, clarinet, bassoon, French horn, trumpet, trombone, tuba and percussion). If you would be interested in adding your child's name to our waitlist, you can do so by filling out this form: **https://forms.office.com/r/283BkM2pdz**

Lord Mayor Visit

This term we were treated to a very special visit from the Lord Mayor, in which he introduced his role and his passion for sports-particularly running! The Year 6s participated in 'The Daily Mile' with huge smiles on their faces as they got to run around the track with the Lord Mayor himself! Later in the morning, the Lord Mayor officially opened our new Calming Room and took a tour with our Head Boy, Head Girl and members of our Council. It was an exciting morning! Take a look on our website in the News/Events tab for a video where the Lord Mayor describes his visit to us.





Florence Nightingale Museum Trip-Year 2M

Class 2M visited **The Florence Nightingale Museum** as part of their learning of the topic 'Our Changing Healthcare'. Children thoroughly enjoyed 'meeting' Florence Nightingale and learning about her fascinating life. They were then able to explore the museum to find out more about how she helped to improve standards in hospitals and nursing.



life talk



nurse or soldier dress up



finding out facts

Nursery

In Nursery our topic this term is Nursery Rhymes. We learned about “Humpty Dumpty” and “Incy Wincey Spider”.

We used hand puppets to recite them, we drew pictures of the characters.

We also made our own handprint spider and designed hand puppets. We were able to sequence the pictures of the nursery rhyme.

We learned about the Bonfire Night and painted shiny fireworks. We also painted observational pictures of pumpkins and explored the inside of a pumpkin.

Our new role-play is a puppet theatre, we have hand puppets and finger puppets to represent made-up stories.

We made a poppy flower for Remembrance Day.

We celebrated anti-bullying week by making posters, paper chains, wearing odd socks and blue clothes.


Can you make
a poppy
flower?






Puppet Theatre


ESSENDINE






Can you paint fireworks?









Forest School

Years 3 and 4 visited Forest School, which is located in Paddington Rec, for the second time this week. For this session the children hunted for buried nuts like squirrels, searched for fungi, and made leaf mobiles using some of the leaves that had fallen. They had a fantastic time and can't wait for their next trip!























After School Care January

Dear Families of Essendine and Hallfield,

We know lots of parents require wraparound care for their child/Children before and at the end of the school day.

Both schools have long established breakfasts clubs that many children attend.

However, I'm excited to let you know, that we have been able to secure funding from the Department of Education to develop after school care for our pupils in both schools.

From 8th January 2025, after the Christmas holidays, Junior Adventure Groups (JAG) will providing this wraparound care from the end of the school day until 6pm, everyday at each school site called 'Stay and Play'.

The funding we have received, will allow us to offer the wrap around care at a reduced rate for a short while to establish the provision.

Attached to this newsletter is a flyer which tells you a little bit more about JAG and the wrapround they provide.

We will be emailing you in the next week with information for each school, about how you access a free trial 'Stay and Play' session with JAG, and also booking information for the future.

Thank you for your ongoing support.



Vikings at Essendine

At the start of the term, Year 4 were visited by a Norse Viking. He shared what his life was like as a Viking and how he made his armour, tools and weapons. We got to re-enact a battle, see how hearty their weapons and armour were, and find out how they lived their lives. The Viking showed us the runes on some of the swords. That is what their alphabet is called. We also saw how they cared for themselves with hygiene tools, combs made out of antler and the furs they used for clothing.























Year 4 Trip to the British Museum

A wonderful day at the British Museum for the Year 4s.





Family Film Screenings at The Garden Cinema



The Garden Cinema, in Covent Garden, hosts family film screenings on Saturday and Sunday mornings and on weekdays during the school holidays. The screenings are 'Pay What You Can' and on Sundays there is also a free post-film activity. Upcoming highlights include Paddington in Peru, The Chronicles of Narnia, The Muppet's Christmas Carol, The Polar Express, Wonka, and Beauty & The Beast.

The full programme can be found here: https://www.thegardencinema.co.uk/season/films-for-the-family

Contact details:

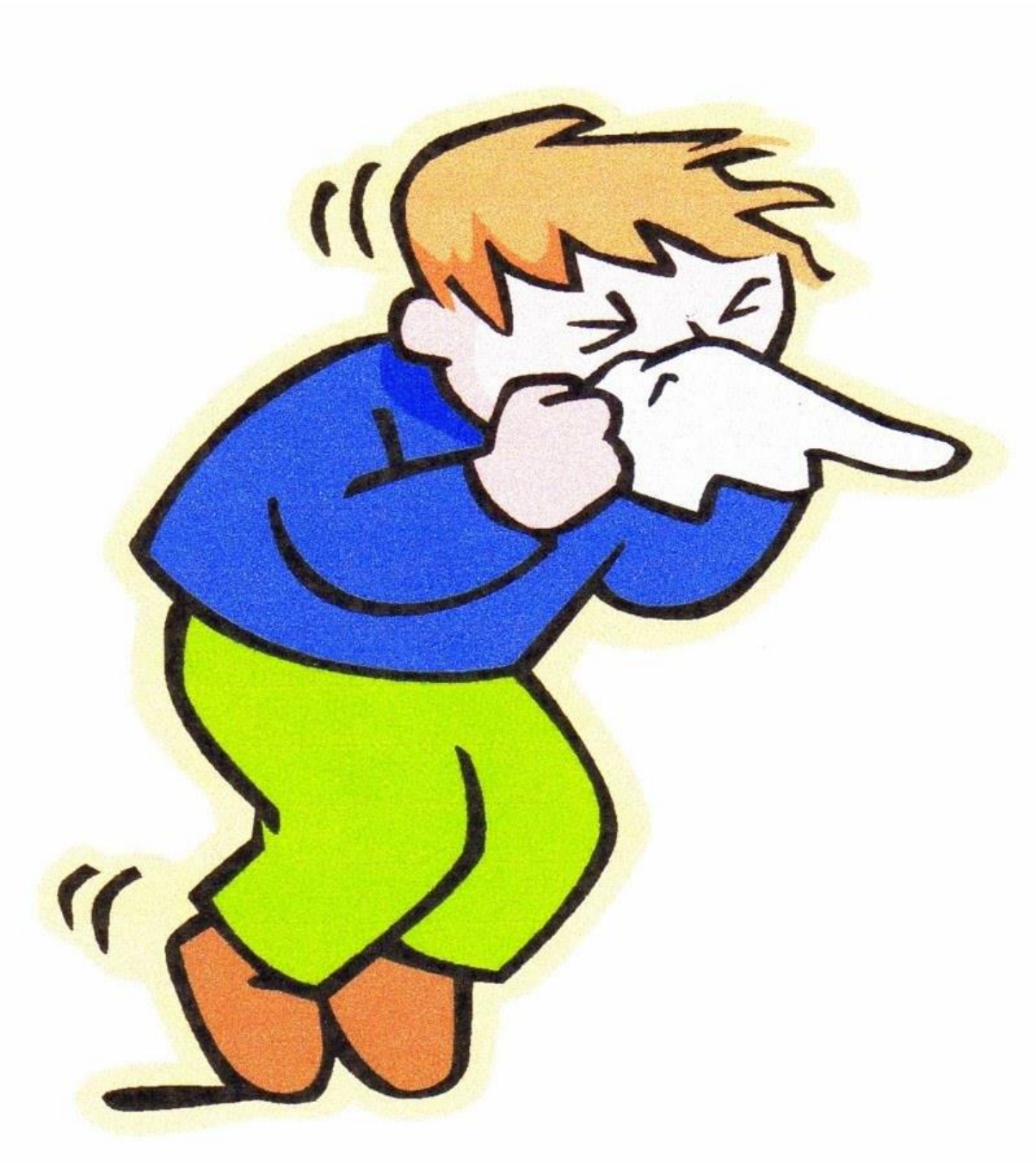
Molly Cowderoy, The Garden Cinema

Email: molly@thegardencinema.co.uk

Website: www.thegardencinema.co.uk

Parking around Essendine Primary

We have had a number of complaints recently from our neighbours regarding double parking and idling on Essendine Road, particularly during pick up and drop off times. Please be considerate of our neighbours. We will be working with WCC parking to enforce restrictions to parking in line with local regulations. Thank you.



Winter Health Advice for Parents

There are simple steps all parents can take this winter to keep their children well and reduce the spread of stomach bugs and winter illnesses.

- Teaching good hygiene habits – handwashing and good respiratory hygiene
- Knowing when to keep your child at home and when to send them to school
- Stopping the spread of stomach bugs
- Getting vaccinated – flu vaccination and checking they are up to date with their routine vaccinations

Please can you share the link to these tips with your parents: UKHSA issues health advice following the half-term break - GOV.UK Parents may also find these other resources useful:

- UKHSA's e-bug resources for all ages can help you to explain and discuss hygiene habits and their importance, to your child or teenager.
- NHS UK also provides easily accessible guidance for parents to help manage winter illness at home.
- UKHSA's A to Z list of how to manage specific diseases is aimed at schools and local authorities but can also be used by parents and carers.

Thank you as always for your support in keeping our school communities safe and well.

Uniform

The school uniform varies depending on your child's age. For health and safety reasons jewellery, other than a wrist watch, is not allowed. Hijabs should be plain navy blue or white. The essential uniform, which your child needs to have, is in BOLD and can be found on our website too.

EYFS Pupils (Nursery - Reception):

- **Navy blue Essendine jogging pants or shorts**
- **White Essendine T-shirt**
- **White or black socks**
- **Black shoes (no trainers)**

Key Stage 1 Pupils (Year 1-2):

- **Essendine navy blue polo shirt**

- **Essendine sweat shirt or cardigan**
- **Black, navy blue or grey trousers with white or black socks**
- **A navy blue and white check dress with navy, grey or white tights**
- **Black shoes (no boots or trainers if possible)**

Key Stage 2 Pupils (Year 3-6):

- **Black Blazer**
- **White smart shirt (not a polo shirt)**
- **Dark Grey V Neck Jumper or Dark Grey Cardigan**
- **Tie in House colours**
- **(Kilburn Park = Green / Elgin = Red / Shirland = Blue / Morshead = Yellow)**
- **Black smart Trousers with white or black socks**
- **Black smart Skirt with navy, grey or white Tights**
- **Black shoes (no boots or trainers if possible)**

The PE uniform for all children consists of:

- **Navy blue Essendine jogging pants**
- **White Essendine T-shirt**
- **Black pumps or Trainers**

Ordering

Essendine School Uniform can be ordered online from Stitch Design where you can register for an account using the schools postcode (W92LR). Place your order, pay online and receive items within 2-5 working days:

Uniform swap

Ask at the office about uniform swapping events, which we will organise throughout the school year.

Alternatively, please contact the reception desk for a current price list and hard copy of the order form.

Free School Meals Application

All children in full-time education are given universal free school meals at school but they may be entitled to food vouchers during school holidays. You can apply for free school meals if you receive any of the following benefits:

• Universal Credit (provided you have an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400 as assessed by earnings from up to three of your most recent assessment periods)

• Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)

• Income Support

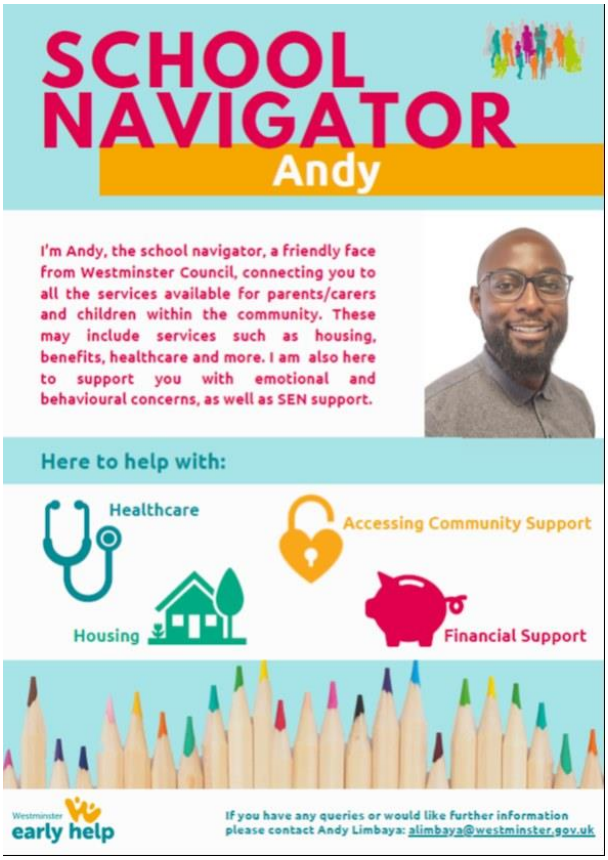
• Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance

• Income-related Employment and Support Allowance

• Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999 • The guarantee element of State Pension Credit

If you think you are entitled to Free School Meals please make an online application via www.westminster.gov.uk/education/free-school-meals or otherwise speak to Anne in the office. Thank you

Meet our New Family Navigator



1 - Andy is with us now on Monday afternoons, please speak to Nairuz if you'd like any further information.

Coffee Mornings at Essendine



Coffee Morning Timetable- September/ December 2024

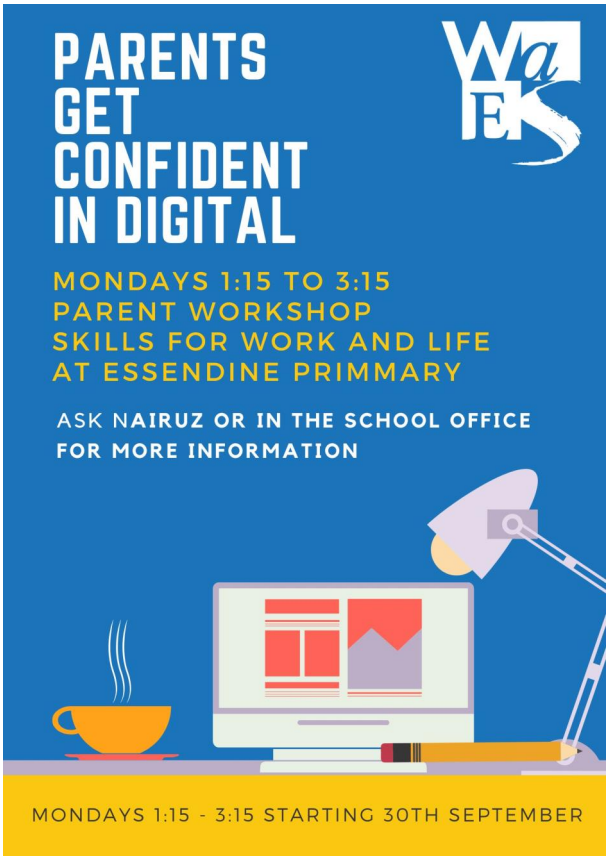
We are delighted to offer coffee mornings every Tuesday morning. Please take a close look on what is on offer and join-we would love to see you there! We are in the process of developing a parent resource room to facilitate all these events and more. Please speak to Nairuz for any information.

Date/ Time	Title	Agency	Focus Group
Tuesday 10/09/2024 9:00-10:00am	Attendance at Essendine	Essendine Primary School+ Westminster Schools Attendance Team	All
Tuesday 17/09/2024 9:00-10:00am	Introduction to Family Information Services	Bi-Borough Education Services	All
Tuesday 24/09/2024 9:00-10:00am	Applying for Secondary Schools (1)	Westminster Admissions Team + Marylebone Boys School	Year 6
Tuesday 01/10/2024 9:00-10:00am	Curriculum at Essendine	Essendine Primary School Mr Seymour – Deputy Headteacher	All
Tuesday 08/10/2024 9:00-10:00am	About our school Trips	Essendine Primary School Miss Robinson- Inclusion Manager	All
Tuesday 15/10/2024 9:00-10:00am	Behaviour at home and visuals support	Essendine Primary School Miss Robinson- Inclusion Manager	All
Tuesday 22/10/2024 9:00-10:00am	Applying for Secondary Schools (2)	Essendine Primary School	Year 6
Tuesday 05/11/2024 9:00-10:00am	Behaviour Policy	Essendine Primary School Mr Clarridge – Assistant Headteacher	All
Tuesday 12/11/2024 9:00-10:00am	Phonics and Early Reading	Essendine Primary School	EYFS Years 1&2
Tuesday 19/11/2024 9:00-10:00am	Self-care and relaxation techniques	Westminster MIND Services Essendine Primary School Mr Seymour- Deputy Headteacher	All
Tuesday 26/11/2024 9:00-10:00am	Mobile phone use and Online safety	Westminster Adult Education Services	All
Tuesday 03/12/2024 9:00-10:00am	Writing Skills	Essendine Primary School Miss Tracy – KS2 Leader of Learning	Years 3&4
Tuesday 10/12/2024 9:00-10:00am	Children's University	Essendine Primary School Miss Mossman – Class Teacher	All
Tuesday 17/12/2024 9:00-10:00am	Holidays Activities and Food	Westminster HAF Services	All

Digital Lessons at Essendine



Westminster **A**dult **E**ducation **S**ervices will be running digital lessons for Essendine parents to help with computer skills. They will be held on Monday afternoons. Please see the main office if you are interested.



Office

Opening Times:

8:00 AM TO 11:30 AM.

1:15 PM TO 4:30 PM

Access outside these times is by ***appointment only/emergency***.

Breakfast club starts at 8am please arrive before 8.20am

IMPORTANT: Please inform the office if your contact details have changed, so that the details are up to date. This includes any changes of address of phone numbers, including emergency contacts.

Packed Lunch

It is easy to create an appetising packed lunch every day for your child. You should try to give them nourishing foods that are good for them. ***Sweets, biscuits, crisps, chocolate and fizzy drinks or any food high in sugar are not allowed as part of a healthy packed lunch. Fast***

food is also not suitable for packed lunch. *Nuts are not allowed in school. The only hot meals served are school meals from the school kitchen. Water is available at mealtime.*

Our school is a nut free zone no nut based food/May contain nuts items allowed for packed lunch.











Maida Vale Library-Homework Club

Homework Club at Maida Vale Library, Sutherland Avenue, W9 2QT

Do you need help with your homework? If so come to our Homework Club for help from our team of dedicated volunteers. It runs every Tuesday in term time from 4.00 until 5.30 pm.



Drama Buzz for Children - Mayfair Library

Back by popular demand following the huge success of its first run, Drama Buzz returns to Mayfair Library for another 10 exciting weeks/ This is a **free** 10-week programme for ages 5-11, where creativity blooms and confidence grows.

Over the programme, children will embark on a creative journey jam packed with music, songwriting, theatre inspired by nature and wellbeing techniques to support your child's emotional development.

Delivered by Finn Kebbe from Little Wild Theatre, a professional actor/musician and facilitator, children will have the chance to learn from an expert in the field whilst they devise their own stories, write original songs, and collaborate to create a final performance that they will share with family and friends at the end of the program.

Participants will be welcomed to the beautiful Mayfair Library Rooms, overlooking the lovely Mount Street Gardens - the perfect setting for children to unwind after school and make new friends.

Venue: Mayfair Library – 25 South Audley Street London W1K 2PB

Dates/ Times: Weekly on Monday | 4.30-6pm Starting 4 November

To book or for further information please use this Eventbrite link:

https://Drama-Buzz-MayfairLibrary.eventbrite.co.uk

Contact details:

Mayfair library

Tel: 0207 641 4908/4505

Local Library information

Children and Young People's Library Service



There's more. Here's a snippet of the support which is also available to your school.

Local Library Support

- An allocated Children and Young People Librarian
- Children's Library card sign-up - 20 libraries and Archives available to visit
- Collection of inclusive and diverse children's fiction and non-fiction books and other information resources
- Study spaces, PCs and WIFI access
- Digital resources for children
- Literacy and cultural activities
- School readiness support for Under 5s
- After school activities - Homework clubs / study support

School and Class Support

- Institution library cards for classes to borrow items each term
- School class visits each term (including introduction to libraries, activities linked to curriculum and preparation for school transition)
- School Archives visits and takeover days
- Volunteering and work experience opportunities for children 13 and over, and young adults

Reading Programmes

- Annual Summer Reading Challenge programme
- Annual Teacher's Reading Challenge programme

Get in contact now at schoolslibraryservice@westminster.gov.uk

City of Westminster

THE ROYAL BOROUGH OF KENSINGTON AND CHELSEA

Get in contact now at schoolslibraryservice@westminster.gov.uk



Schools Library Service

The Schools Library Service supports the bi-borough libraries and archives' purpose to help people to Read, Learn and Connect. It does this by supporting schools' library collections and encouraging a culture of reading for pleasure, in order to improve children's educational and life prospects.

What does our service offer?

Our professional Schools Library Service librarians offer the following to schools in Westminster, Kensington and Chelsea, and other boroughs.

- Advice service by Schools Library Service lead adviser
- General book audit and library refresh
- Diversity audit of school library and classroom collections
- Collection development of school library and classroom books
- Schools Library Service CPD programme
- Specialist programmes to promote reading and learning for pleasure

Get in contact now at schoolslibraryservice@westminster.gov.uk

To find out more, visit our website

How do we do this?

By placing children and young people's education at the heart of our service.

City of Westminster

THE ROYAL BOROUGH OF KENSINGTON AND CHELSEA

Get in contact now at schoolslibraryservice@westminster.gov.uk

Upcoming Dates/Reminders



Week commencing 2nd December- last week of clubs

Thursday 5th December E.Y.F.S Christmas performance to parents 9.30am -10.30am

Tuesday 10th December Years 1 and 2 Christmas performance to parents 2.00pm -3.00pm

Friday 13th December Years 3 and 4 Christmas performance to parents 2.00pm -3.00pm

Wednesday 18th December Years 5 and 6 Christmas performance to parents 2.00pm - 3.00pm

Friday 20th December-last day of Autumn Term: **2pm finish**

Monday 6th January 2025-school closed for children

Tuesday 7th January 2025- first day back for children