

Thames View Infants




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20th October 2023

Dear Parents / Carers;

Autumn Term Newsletter

The children have made a wonderful start to the new term and have settled back into school life brilliantly. October and November are always an exciting and busy time here at TVI, so I wanted to share a guide to what's coming up and a little summary of all of the fantastic activities and events we have planned for the children over the next few months.



Black History Month

Throughout October we will be celebrating **Black History Month**.

Across the month, Teachers will be leading special assemblies and sharing stories of Black and Mixed Heritage people who've inspired them. They may be famous inspirational figures, lesser-known heroes, or even family and friends who have made a difference in their lives.

We'll be having special lessons that lend themselves to learning about Black History. Each class will work together on a project centred around a key individual from the Black Community.

We'd love for you to see what we've been learning about and we'll be inviting you into school to see our Black History Month Exhibition in November – Keep an eye out on ParentMail for this invite!





Mental Health Day – Hello Yellow – Friday 10th October – Non-Uniform Day – £1

We will be taking part in ‘**Hello Yellow**’ in support of Young Minds on **Friday 10th October 2025**, which is World Mental Health Day. To take part, children can wear yellow to school, and we’d like to ask parents and carers to donate to help Young Minds keep fighting for young people’s mental health. Our suggested donation is **£1** which can be given to your child’s class teacher. However, any donation would be appreciated.



Cultural Shared Lunch – Friday 10th October – Parent Event



We’re excited to be hosting our first Shared Lunch of the year on **Friday 10th October!**

Across the world, sharing food is a meaningful tradition and this much-loved event is going to be a wonderful opportunity for our School community to come together and enjoy a variety of delicious, home-cooked meals.



You’re invited into school at your allocated time slot to enjoy lunch with your child and their friends. **Please remember to bring a home cooked meal to share with others, and ensure you arrive at the correct time for your child’s year group.** Each lunch slot will last for 30 minutes.



Because we have a variety of allergies and food restrictions in School, please can we kindly ask that you clearly label the dish/es that you bring in to share with all of the ingredients used to make them. Please could we also ask that any dishes brought in be 100% nut free – including the use of any nut oils.

We’re going to make the hall look a bit like a wedding buffet and we’re looking forward to a meaningful afternoon of food, fun, and togetherness!!

Please make a note of the times below:

Shared Lunch on Friday 10th October at:

11:15am for Reception

12:15pm for Years 1 & 2

Cultural Dress-Up Day – Friday 17th October – Non-Uniform Day



On Friday 17th October, we’ll be celebrating our very own Cultural Day! It will be a non-uniform day, and we’d love for all children to come dressed in traditional clothing that represents their home community. If a cultural outfit isn’t available, party clothes are absolutely fine—bright and colourful is the theme of the day (which will also coincide with Diwali)!

Diwali – Friday 17th October – Parent Event

We are excited to let you know that we'll also be celebrating **Diwali** with the children on this day! On **Friday 17th October**, we'll enjoy a special themed lunch and a dedicated assembly where the children will learn about the meaning, traditions, and joy of the festival of light.



In the lead-up to the celebration, the children will be creating their very own Diwali candle holders, called Diwa lamps, using clay. To make this extra special, we'd love to invite you into School on the **afternoon of Friday 17th October** to help your child decorate their lamp. We'll provide all the paint, glitter, sequins, and glue—so all you need to bring is your creativity!

If you're able to join us, please come into school at **2:30pm** and head to your child's classroom for a **Diwali Golden Time**. Together, you'll add the finishing touches to their beautiful Diwa lamps.

Hallowe'en – Monday 3rd November

We'd love it if the children could take part in our annual **Pumpkin Lantern Competition**.



The idea is that you make a pumpkin at home with your child over half term and bring it in on **Monday 3rd November** (clearly labelled with your child's name). We'll display the lanterns all around our School for the day and we'll be posting up pictures of the best on BlueSky!

In celebration of Hallowe'en, this day will also be a non-uniform, dress-up day for the children.

Monday 3rd, Tuesday 4th, Wednesday 5th and Thursday 6th November – Parent/Teacher Meetings

On these days, after school, our Teachers will be hosting the first set of Parent Meetings for our families. These meetings are extremely important since they'll let you know how your child has settled into their new class here at TVI. **Bookings will open for these meetings from 13th October and will only be bookable only via ParentMail.**



School Photo Day - Friday 7th November



It'll be school photo day on **Friday 7th November**. These photos make lovely keepsakes to look back on in future years, so please make a special effort to send your child in suitably dressed and wearing the correct school uniform on this day.



Guy Fawkes / Bonfire Night – Wednesday 5th November



To celebrate Guy Fawkes / Bonfire Night at School we'll be holding a special Assembly on this day all about the story of Guy Fawkes and his famous Gunpowder Plot. We'll also be having a special Bonfire Night themed lunch.



COME ALONG TO OUR
OPEN DAY

Open Day – Monday 10th November – Parent Event

From **8:45am on Monday 10th November** the School will be yours to explore for the morning. We want to show you what happens in School on an everyday, day to day basis. You'll have the chance to come in and observe a variety of lessons from Nursery up to and including Year 2 on our Open Day – not just your own child's class.

We'd love to see you all there and showcase for you what Learning looks like throughout the School.

Thursday 13th November – Reading Meetings for Reception Parents



For our Reception Parents, there's a special **Reading meeting** after school on Thursday **13th November**. We're going to be starting our phonics lessons with the children after the Half Term break and this meeting will let you know how we teach Phonics / Reading here at TVI and what you can do at home to help. Please note that this meeting is for Reception parents *only*. A crèche facility will be available at the first meeting if needed and we'll be repeating the meeting at 4:30pm via TEAMS.



Friday 14th November – Children in Need Day – Non-Uniform - £1

This year we'll be celebrating **Children in Need** at school on **Friday 14th November**. We'll be having a special joint Harvest / Children in Need coffee morning on this day and we'd love it if you could come along.



For a donation of **£1** the children can also wear their own clothes to school on this day. All money raised will be donated to the Children in Need charity.



Harvest Shared Lunch – Friday 14th November – Parent Event

Many religions and cultures have special celebrations to say "thank you" for all that they have. Often, at these times, people share their good fortune with others. For many people times are tight, jobs are scarce and even finding a safe place to live is becoming harder and harder. Despite this, every year families and the community at Thames View Infants gather together and help those that need support the most.



This year's focus for Harvest Festival continues in the spirit of helping our local community and we will be passing on the items that are donated to the Barking "Food Bank". This is a really good cause that has helped many of our families in their time of need.

We would like to invite you to attend our Harvest festivities in school on **Friday 14th November**, including our second shared lunch event of the year.

Like the Cultural shared lunch above, you're invited into school at your allocated time slot to enjoy lunch with your child and their friends. **Please remember to bring a home cooked meal to share with others, and ensure you arrive at the correct time for your child's year group.** Each lunch slot will last for 30 minutes.



Because we have a variety of allergies and food restrictions in School, please can we kindly ask that you clearly label the dish/es that you bring in to share with all of the ingredients used to make them. Please could we also ask that any dishes brought in be 100% nut free – including the use of any nut oils.



Shared Lunch on Friday 14th October at:

11:15am for Reception Parents

12:15pm for Years 1 & 2 Parents



Tuesday 18th November – Phonics Together for KS1 Parents – Parent Event

On **Tuesday 18th November** it's **Phonics Together** for our **Year 1 and 2 parents**. This is going to be an informative morning where KS1 parents can come into school with their children and see how we teach Literacy / Phonics alongside the children. This is going to be particularly beneficial given that Year 1 children will be undertaking their Phonics Screening tests at the end of this year and Year 2 children will be assessed before they transition up to the Juniors.

We'd love to see you there, so please do come into school with your child on this day and join the session. Please note that there will be no-admission for parents after 8:45am.



Phonics Together for Reception will take place in January.

Educational School Visits

We have some lovely school visits coming up after the Half Term break...Our Year 1 children are going to [Stepney Farm](#) and our Year 2 children will be going to the [Ragged School Museum](#). Please keep an eye out on ParentMail for all of the information about these visits and make sure that you **complete the consent forms / make your payments in good time.**

And finally, some important reminders!

- All children should now be wearing **full school uniform**. Our school-branded polos, jumpers, cardigans, bags, and PE kits are available to purchase easily through ParentMail.

- If you haven't already downloaded the **ParentMail App**, please do so today! Our school app is essential for staying up to date with important messages, events, and information – it's the easiest way to stay connected with us.
- Below you'll find an 'at a glance' calendar for the rest of this term. Don't forget – by visiting our website, you can sync our school calendar directly to your phone or tablet. This means you'll always have all key dates, including those for the remainder of the academic year, right at your fingertips in your own personal calendar. We always aim to keep to these dates, but occasionally, due to unforeseen circumstances, we may need to reschedule. If this happens, we're sorry for any inconvenience and will let you know straight away via ParentMail



So, as you can see, we really do have a jam-packed Autumn ahead of us! I've not listed everything and we still have all of our Cooking Together sessions happening too. Closer to Christmas I'll be writing again with all of our plans for the month of December...so please do still keep an eye on your ParentMail so that you don't miss out on anything exciting going on here at TVI over the coming weeks.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "P. Jordan".

Paul Jordan
Headteacher



When?	Event	Non-Uniform?	Parent Event?
October			
Monday 6th	School Nurse Drop In		
Tuesday 7th			
Wednesday 8th			
Thursday 9th			
Friday 10th	Cooking Together in Gorillas Black History Month – Shared Lunch 'Hello Yellow' Mental Health Day	Yes – Wear Yellow £1 Donation	Yes Yes
Monday 13th	Year 2 Children will be selling cakes in the hall before school every day this week!		
Tuesday 14th			
Wednesday 15th			
Thursday 16th			
Friday 17th	Cultural Dress Up Day Cooking Together in Foxes Diwali Celebrations – including special lunch / assembly and special Golden Time	Yes – Wear Cultural Clothes	Yes Yes
School Closed for Half Term 20th October to 31st October Inclusive Premier Education are running a Holiday Camp @TVI – click here for more info.			
November			
Monday 3rd	Parent Meetings After School – All Year Groups Halloween Celebrations @TVI	Yes – Dress Up Day	
Tuesday 4th	Parent Meetings After School – All Year Groups		
Wednesday 5th	Parent Meetings After School – All Year Groups Guy Fawkes / Bonfire Night Special Assembly and Lunch Year 2 children have London Fire Brigade Workshops		
Thursday 6th	Parent Meetings After School – All Year Groups		
Friday 7th	Cooking Together in Giraffes School Photo Day	Strictly Full School Uniform Today!	Yes
Monday 10th	Open Day @TVI For All Parents		Yes
Tuesday 11th			
Wednesday 12th	Foxes – Year 2 – Ragged School Museum Visit		
Thursday 13th	Cooking Together in Zebras Squirrels – Year 2 – Ragged School Museum Visit Literacy Meeting for Reception Parents – After School		Yes Yes
Friday 14th	Cooking Together in Tigers Children In Need Coffee Morning Harvest / Helping Hands - Shared Lunch	Yes – Dress Up Day for Children	Yes Yes Yes

		in Need £1 Donation	
Monday 17th	School Nurse Drop In Zebras & Tigers – Year 1 – Stepney Farm Visit		
Tuesday 18th	Phonics Together in KS1		Yes
Wednesday 19th			
Thursday 20th	Giraffes & Gorillas – Year 1 – Stepney Farm Visit Cooking Together in Pandas Snakes – Year 2 – Ragged School Museum Visit		Yes
Friday 21st	Cooking Together in Lions Owls – Year 2 – Ragged School Museum Visit		Yes
Monday 24th			
Tuesday 25th			
Wednesday 26th	Reception Parents – Stay and Read Session		Yes
Thursday 27th	Cooking Together in Hippos		Yes
Friday 28th	Cooking Together in Koalas Christmas Bazaar @TVI		Yes

December

Monday 1st			
Tuesday 2nd			
Wednesday 3rd			
Thursday 4th	Cooking Together in Bumble Bees		Yes
Friday 5th	Christmas Fun Day		
Monday 8th	Year 1 Children will be selling cakes in the hall before school every day this week!		
Tuesday 9th			
Wednesday 10th			
Thursday 11th	Christmas Jumper Day	Wear your Christmas jumper over your uniform today £1 Donation for Charity	
Friday 12th	Cooking Together in Nursery		Yes
Monday 15th	Christmas Lunch Day		
Tuesday 16th	Christmas Concert – Day 1 – Afternoon Concert – Reception Families		Yes
Wednesday 17th	Christmas Concert – Day 2 – Morning Concert – Year 1 and Morning Nursery Families		Yes
Thursday 18th	Christmas Concert – Day 3 – Afternoon Concert – Year 2 and Afternoon Nursery Families		Yes
Friday 19th	Christmas Concert – Day 1 – Morning Concert – Full Time Nursery Families & Anyone Who Missed Their Day! Half Day – School Closes at 1:30pm for the Christmas Holidays Today		Yes