



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



December

- Thursday 15th NHS Flu Immunisation
- Friday 16th – LAST DAY OF TERM 3:15 pick up

January

- Wednesday 4th Back to School
- Monday 9th Year 2 Gladstone Park
- Tuesday 10th Year 4 RAF Museum
- Thursday 12th Coffee Morning
- Monday 16th Height & Weight for Reception and Year 6
- Friday 20th Quiz Club (area heat)
- Monday 23rd Year 3 London Central Mosque

Message from the Head

Dear Parents/Carers,

Gosh, end of Autumn term already and what a chilli end it has been! I hope you are all managing to keep warm both outside and in. Remember, we have sent out information on how Brent can help you at home and, in addition, our first coffee morning will be giving information as well.

As the two week break approaches, many may be going away but do remember that children must be back on Wednesday 4 January 2023.

Too many families are taking extended holidays and the government is coming down hard on this with more fines than ever being issued – please do not become one of these families.

The children have had a fun filled couple of weeks, in between the work they have been doing, with pantos, Christmas fair, Christmas lunch, performances and end of term parties. The next two weeks are for you all to relax and enjoy.

Families with children on Free School Meals will be receiving their £30 voucher for each child – if you have not applied then please make sure you do. School can help. Hope you all have a lovely break.

Angela Anterkyi



Year 3 National History Museum Trip

On Wednesday 24 November Year 3 went to the Natural History Museum as part of their Science topic on Rocks and Soils. The children had a wonderful time exploring the museum's exhibits and observing the different rocks, minerals and fossils on display.



Nativity Concert

Reception and Year One worked hard in rehearsals to put on their fantastic take on The Nativity for family and carers.



ATTENDANCE

The ideal attendance at school is **100%**, but anything above **96%** is on the right track.

Classes where there has been 100% attendance in the previous week get a very special certificate presented to them at assembly, and teachers proudly put them on the classroom door.

Attendance



RIDDLE FUN!



If Santa's five elves can take five minutes to make five dolls, then how long will 100 elves need to make 100 dolls?

five minutes

Keep your child safe on WhatsApp



What are the risks?

- Bullying, particularly in group chats
- Seeing content of a sexual nature, or showing violence and hatred
- Settings that allow messages to disappear after 24 hours or 7 days. This could make it harder to track bullying, and your child might share things they wouldn't otherwise because it'll disappear
- Sharing their live location, particularly with people they don't know in person
- Spam or hoax messages
- Being exposed to strangers through group chats

WhatsApp says the **minimum age** to use it is **16**, but younger children can still use it easily.

6 steps to help your child use WhatsApp safely

1. Keep their personal information and location private

By default, WhatsApp shows profile photos, status and when you last used it to all users.

Encourage your child to only share this information with their contacts and be careful about who they talk to on the app, as anyone could pretend to be a child online.

To check and change these settings:

- On an **iPhone**, open settings in WhatsApp (the cog icon), then Account > Privacy. Tap the setting you want to change, then choose who it should be visible to
- On **Android**, tap the 3 dots in the top-right of the home screen, then > Settings > Account > Privacy. Tap the setting you want to change, then choose who it should be visible to

WhatsApp also has a feature that you can use to share your 'live location' with others. Tell your child to keep this turned off, or to only share their location with people they trust.

To check this:

- On an **iPhone**, go to phone Settings (the cog icon) > WhatsApp > Location, and tap to change if you need to
- On **Android**, go to privacy settings as above, then scroll down to 'Live location', and tap to change if you need to

2. Remind your child to be careful about what they share

It's easy to forward messages, photos, and videos to others on WhatsApp. Even if your child sets a message to automatically disappear or deletes it after sharing it, the person they send it to could still screenshot it, forward it to someone else, or save it.

So before they share anything, tell them to ask themselves: "Would I want others to see what I'm about to send?"

3. Remind your child they can leave group chats

If they see something they're not comfortable with in a group chat or are in a chat with someone they don't know and are uncomfortable with, they should leave the group. To do this:

- On an **iPhone**, go into the group chat, tap the group subject, then > Exit group > Exit group

- On **Android**, go into the group chat, tap the group subject, then > Exit group > Exit

4. Make sure your child knows how to report and block people

When they first receive a message from an unknown number, they'll have the option to report it.

If someone in your child's contacts is upsetting them or making them uncomfortable, they can report or block them at any point (WhatsApp won't tell the user they've been blocked/reported).

To do this:

- On an **iPhone**, open settings in WhatsApp, go to Account > Privacy > Blocked > Add New..., then find the contact they want to block, and tap the contact
- On **Android**, tap the 3 dots icon, then Settings, then tap Account > Privacy > Blocked contacts, tap the icon in the top right showing a person and a plus sign, search for the contact they want to block, then tap the contact to block them

To report issues like offensive or abusive content or spam:

- On an **iPhone**, open the chat with the user you want to report, tap the contact then then tap Report Contact > Report And Block
- On **Android**, open the chat with the user you want to report, then tap the 3 dots icon, then > More > Report

5. Encourage your child to watch out for spam and hoax messages

These can appear to come from contacts, as well as people they don't know. Tell your child to watch out for messages that:

- Ask them to tap on a link, or specifically to click on a link to activate a new feature
- Ask them to share personal information like bank account details, date of birth or passwords
- Ask them to forward the message
- Say they have to pay to use WhatsApp
- Have spelling or grammar errors

6. Tell our school about any bullying they experience

Look for signs they your child may be being bullied, like being afraid or reluctant to go to school, feeling nervous, losing confidence, or becoming distressed and withdrawn, or losing sleep.

Sources used in this factsheet

- [Bullying and cyberbullying, NSPCC](https://www.nspcc.org.uk/what-is-child-abuse/types-of-abuse/bullying-and-cyberbullying/)

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- [Help Centre, WhatsApp](https://faq.whatsapp.com/?locale=en_US)

https://faq.whatsapp.com/?locale=en_US

Holiday Activities and Food Programme

The next HAF programme will run during the Christmas school holidays (19 December to 2 January 2023). <https://www.brent.gov.uk/children-young-people-and-families/childcare-and-early-education/holiday-activities-and-food-programme#abouthaf>

The Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) Programme is funded by the [Department for Education](#) and provides free to access activities and healthy meals during the school holidays to eligible children and young people in Brent.

Eligible children and young people are able to access a minimum of 4 days of HAF programme activities over the Easter and Christmas holidays, and 16 days over the summer holidays.

The programme includes:

- a wide range of fun, physical and enriching activities
- education around healthy eating and preparing food
- a nutritious meal each day
- information, advice and workshops for parents, carers and families
- a safe space for children to interact with others.

[Visit GOV.UK](#) for more information about the Holiday Activities and Food Programme.

To be eligible for a free place, children and young people must be:

- in reception to Year 11 ; and
- resident in Brent or attending a Brent school; and
- getting benefits-related free school meals or have had their eligibility confirmed by a professional. If you think you might be eligible for free school meals and are not yet registered, please [visit free school meals page](#).