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WELCOME TO OUR SCHOOL!



Welcome to Walnut Tree Walk Primary School – a unique school with a child-centred approach to learning. We pride ourselves on our family ethos and creative curriculum which gives every child an opportunity to reach their full potential and nurture their individual talents. We offer a very broad and balanced curriculum so that children not only leave with high standards in Reading, Writing and Maths, but also experience outstanding arts provision.

Our mission is for all children to 'be the best they can be' and to leave primary school in Year 6 as well-rounded children with a love of learning, ready for the next stage of their lives, and saying, "I know who I am."

We are a happy and harmonious school where children settle quickly and become part of the Walnut Tree Walk family. Being a relatively small school means that every child is known by everyone and individual successes are acknowledged and celebrated.

I welcome you to come and visit Walnut Tree Walk to meet the wonderful children we have here and to see the work that we do.

Andrew Chaplin, Headteacher

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AT WALNUT TREE WALK YOUR CHILD WILL:

Be engaged in a broad, balanced and creative curriculum relevant to the world of today and tomorrow.

Be taught by a team of experienced and dedicated staff who have your child's best interests at the forefront at all times.

Have access to a range of rich learning experiences from both within the school and outside experiences in the vibrant area in which we are based

Receive high quality teaching that promotes challenge and excellence resulting in high academic success.

What I love most about Walnut Tree Walk is how unique it is as you can be whatever you want to be and achieve it.

Michael Year 6

AS PARENTS AND CARERS YOU WILL:

Know that your child's potential will be nurtured and encouraged to ensure they achieve their individual successes.

Be offered the very best of pastoral care for your children from a caring and sensitive staff.

Be in an environment where your role in your child's education is valued and where communication between home and school is essential.

Be confident that your child is learning in a safe, secure and positive setting.



PROGRESS AND STANDARDS

I love Walnut Tree Walk because every year I move up, I start to learn more independently. Also every single teacher is very creative and gives us a great education.

Ayesha, Year 6

We consistently achieve attainment that is in line with or above the national average at the end of Key Stage 2 (Year 6) for Reading, Writing and Maths.

We are very proud of the progress each and every child makes during their time at Walnut Tree Walk. Children make excellent progress from the time they enter Nursery or Reception to the time they leave Year 6, with our progress being in the top 20% of schools nationally. The broad and balanced creative curriculum complements the high standards of teaching in English and Maths, meaning that children leave with both strong academic skills as well as achieving success in creative subjects.

Our high standards of attainment and progress are due to the quality of teaching and learning within the classroom in addition to the wide range of interventions and staff who are there to offer targeted support to children who need it, be it academically or emotionally.



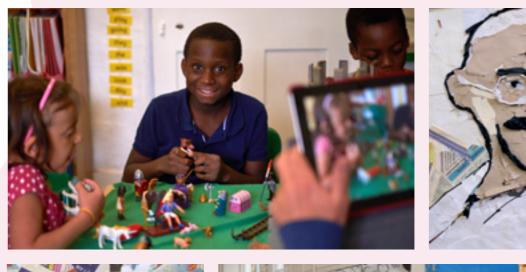
You're free to be yourself!

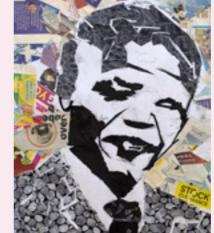
Ruari, Year 4



We pride ourselves on being an inclusive school in every sense of the word. We are made up of a diverse community with a range of strengths and needs. We feel it is important to work with families to identify the nature of any barriers to learning and support each child in a way that is tailored to their unique profile.

We use the experience and knowledge from staff within the school to support each child and ensure they have access to the curriculum. This includes a Children and Family Support Worker, Drama Therapist, Specialist Support Teachers as well as a team of experienced Learning Support Assistants and Teaching Assistants. In addition to this, there are a large number of outside professionals who complement the work of the school staff offering expertise in their areas, such as Speech and Language Therapy, Educational Psychology, Larkhall Autism Outreach and Occupational Therapy.





There is a strong emphasis at Walnut Tree Walk on challenging all children to reach their full potential. This includes ensuring that the most able children are stretched and offered a curriculum that furthers their strengths. Once the needs of the more able children are identified, teachers build a programme of work into their classroom teaching so that learning remains stimulating and motivating. Most of the provision for more able children is embedded into our daily classroom practice. However, additional support is also provided outside of the classroom at times such as targeted after-school clubs. We also work together with our local cluster of schools on specific projects that will extend the learning of groups of children.

PUPIL VOICE AND SCHOOL COUNCIL

This school is unique and children are treated how they're supposed to be – with care and love. The teachers are very funny! Valentina, Year 6

School Council elections being held in the Year 4 class. We encourage children to think for themselves, to question things and to develop as individuals. Relationships between staff and pupils are based on mutual respect, meaning that children feel confident to approach adults and know that they will be listened to.

Every school year, children are elected to serve on the School Council. The job of the School Council is to meet regularly with the Headteacher to discuss important matters in the life and work of the school. School Council members are expected to listen to the views of other children and represent them in meetings. It is important that we get to hear the views of the children – after all, it's the children we are here for.



PARTNERSHIP WITH PARENTS

We encourage parents and carers to join us for class assemblies, end of term productions and school fundraising events. Parents are always welcome in our school, and teachers and the Headteacher are always happy to see you and discuss your children's progress. We have an open door policy so you do not need to make an appointment to see us. All teachers are in the playground at the start of the day along with the Headteacher. However, if you need to talk in more detail or privately, let us know and we will arrange a time to suit us both.

Twice a year, we invite parents to the school in the day or the evening to look at children's work and review their progress with the teachers. The aim of this is to involve everyone concerned in the process that advances the child's learning and development.

We have a newly established PTFA (Parents, Teachers and Friends Association) who support the school with fundraising and organising events for the whole school community, as well as providing a social network for parents and carers. All parents and carers are welcome at the meetings which are informal and friendly.

















Examples of our cross-curricular assemblies and classwork.













TOPIC-BASED LEARNING

l like the learning here because we do a lot of fun learning.

Rudi, Year 1

Our topic-based curriculum allows children to get fully absorbed into their learning and make links between subjects, topics and themes. We constantly review our curriculum in order for it to be relevant and of interest to the children, providing them with the knowledge and skills they need for the next stages of their lives after primary school.

We have families from many parts of the world, speaking many languages, with a tremendous diversity of cultural, religious, historical and geographical experience. We aim to ensure that our curriculum draws on all this richness.

Our class assemblies are an opportunity for each class to pull together all of their learning on a topic in a performance to the whole school.

JOURNEYS: EDUCATIONAL AND FUN

l love this school because you get to go on trips to amazing places. Zi Yi, Year 4



Children often learn a great deal out of the classroom. However good the classroom environment, there is nothing like the first-hand experience for effective teaching.

We are very keen to give children regular trips out. We are fortunate to be close to places of great historical interest, not to mention some of the leading galleries, museums and theatres in the country. Examples of trips children experience at Walnut Tree Walk include: the Imperial War Museum, Tate Modern, Royal Albert Hall, Benjamin Franklin House, London Zoo, Godstone Farm, National Theatre, Hampton Court and the National Portrait Gallery, amongst many others.

Each year, Years 5 and 6 take part in workshops at Into University, an organisation that encourages children from a young age to have aspirations about going to university. This culminates in a graduation ceremony at a real London university.

In Year 6 the children go on a school journey for five days. Here they learn about getting on with other people and understanding themselves in relation to others, lessons that are important in life both in school and beyond.

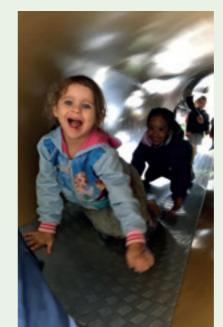


































CLUBS: BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL

What I love about the school is the friendly staff and students as well as the numerous clubs you can attend after school.

Anissa, Year 6

Breakfast Club runs from 8am and After School Club finishes at 5:45pm. In addition to these clubs, we also offer an extensive range of activity clubs from 3:30 – 4:30pm so that children can pursue specific interests to them. These include football, multi sports, hockey, cooking, computing, design technology, art, Spanish and gardening.

Some of these clubs lead to projects in our local community, such as Football Club participating in the Lambeth league, Art Club producing a mural to go on hoardings for a local building development, and Gardening Club selling their produce.



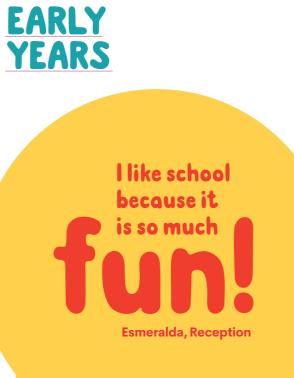














which all children are given the very best start to their primary education. We have a stimulating Nursery offering part-time and full-time places for children from three years old. Our Nursery is staffed by happy, hardworking and welcoming professionals who want your children to enjoy learning from the very beginning.

> Our Reception team provide both a welcoming setting for children new to the school and a natural continuation for those children who have attended our Nursery.

At Walnut Tree Walk we create

an Early Years environment in

The Nursery and Reception curriculum is based on the Early Years Outcomes, the Development Matters, and the 17 areas of learning they include. Children engage with this curriculum through a range of different learning experiences; through access to exciting, stimulating and practical activities both in the classroom and in the well-resourced outdoor learning areas.

From the very beginning, children are offered an education that gives them a strong foundation for the academic learning ahead as well as the values needed to be part of any community. These values are fully embedded in our Early Years curriculum resulting in good relationships, positive attitudes and a celebration of the uniqueness of each child.

Indoor and outdoor learning in the Early Years.













ENGLISH

In Literacy the teachers give you tasks to do that let you use your imagination and be creative.

Cassidy, Year 6

The more children are encouraged to talk about their thoughts and ideas, and the more we take these seriously, the greater their intellectual development will be. And obviously their talking will have a positive impact on the development of their language generally – the way they create their sentences and the words that they use. This, in turn, will have positive effects on their reading and writing.

Our English curriculum revolves around key texts so that the valuable experience of learning through real books and high quality literature is deeply embedded in the way children learn to read and write. Throughout the school, teachers plan a wide range of activities linked to these books to ensure that the decoding and comprehension skills needed for reading, and the technical skills needed for writing are given a purpose. Spelling, punctuation, grammar and phonics are taught explicitly as well as through texts. Children are encouraged to write creatively, often inspired by the texts they are reading in class, and the quality of writing produced is a real strength of the school.

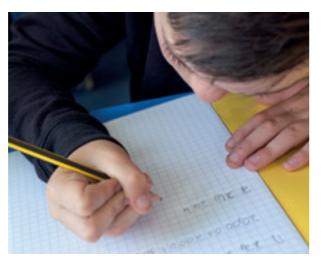


I like maths because I like to learn different ways to make numbers.

Jessica, Year 2

Maths is an essential skill to have in everyday life and it is a subject that is given high importance. Children receive daily maths lessons that focus on developing their confidence working with numbers, but also covering areas such as shape, space, measures and data handling.

A recent focus for our school has been to develop the children's higher level thinking skills and ability to tackle challenging problems. In each lesson, once the children have shown that they have mastered the skill or method they are working on, they are given time to tackle a 'Next Step Challenge' which aims to apply their learning in a meaningful context often requiring complex reasoning skills and more open-ended tasks.





A range of











SCIENCE

We painted our tongues blue to see how taste buds worked. I liked this the most because I learnt something about me.

In school we set out to help children to engage with the world in a scientific way, to develop their natural curiosity and their desire to experiment. In their everyday lives they commonly ask 'Why?', 'How?', and Sobia, Year 4 'What if...?'. We harness this natural curiosity and urge to experiment into the more disciplined processes of Science like hypothesising, testing, collecting evidence and forming deductions and conclusions.

> Science learning has enormous potential for developing children's broad intellectual capabilities the ability to analyse, to be logical, and to think things through. These essential skills are then transferable to other parts of the curriculum.





COMPUTING

I get to learn how to code so that when I am older I can then create my own games for other children to play with - and me!

Temi, Year 5

We have recently invested a lot into resourcing the school to ensure that we are able to teach and deliver the new computing curriculum. We have a well-equipped computing suite that includes PCs, iPads, green screening and programming equipment, in addition to the in-class computers and interactive whiteboards. Children are naturally technically very able even more so than adults at times! The emphasis in school now is on developing programming and coding skills to equip them for an everchanging technological world, as well as securing their digital literacy skills which they will need in the next steps of their lives.





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Practical science investigations involving



I love this school because every Friday it is like a theatre. It is so magical!

Leyla, Year 4

Music and the Performing Arts play a very important and valued part of life at Walnut Tree Walk and the outstanding provision here enables children to explore a range of ways to express themselves.

We have two specialist music teachers who teach the children singing and instrumental work. In the Early Years the lessons focus on singing and use of percussion instruments and then as they move into Years 1 and 2, they start to learn to play the violin. In Key Stage 2 the children choose between playing the saxophone, flute, clarinet, violin, keyboard or cello. We also have a school choir that sings at events in and out of the school.

Our Friday morning assemblies take pride of place in the life of the school. Each class in turn performs usually three assemblies a year. They may be based on current work or on a topical issue. We really welcome parents, carers and friends of the school to these important events and view the process of working towards these performances as crucial to our children's social, emotional and educational development.





























ART



The greater the variety of activities children experience, the better they do in all subjects across the curriculum. A child who is encouraged to develop confidence and selfexpression will clearly be one who is better equipped to learn generally. We believe in educating the whole child and we encourage children to use art as their own expressive language. From the moment children join our school, they begin to develop their artistic and expressive skills through a variety of media and techniques.





What I love about Walnut Tree Walk is their dedication to sport. Luca, Year 6

We have excellent sports provision at Walnut Tree Walk, benefiting from a number of experienced teachers and coaches. Our Physical Education curriculum aims to teach and develop skills across a range of sports and games as well as encouraging children to lead more active lifestyles and to develop a sense of fair play and sportsmanship.

We have two sports coaches: one that focuses on Key Stage 2 and another who works mainly with Key Stage 1 and the Early Years. These two coaches work on developing skills across a number of different individual, team, co-



operative and competitive sports throughout the year including football, tag rugby, cricket, athletics and gymnastics. In addition to this, each class from Year 2 up to Year 6 will go swimming at the pool in Elephant and Castle for a number of sessions each year. The Key Stage 2 children also have weekly dance lessons with our dance teacher, Emanuela, and this is something the children really enjoy.

We regularly take part in sports competitions across the borough. Our football team play games most weeks and in 2017 won the Lambeth league.







WHAT THE CHILDREN SAY ABOUT WALNUT TREE WALK

Everyone looks out for each other and it is like a big family.

Leyla, Year 4

The teachers are really nice. I also feel really safe inside Walnut Tree Walk; it's like a family.

Isabella, Year 6

l like learning new things. Ryan, Year 1 l like the school because l have lots of friends. Jean Paul, Year 2

The school is glorious because you can dance and do music!

Latycha, Year 4

All the children are welcoming and the teachers are really kind. Gracie, Year 6

> The teachers are nice and they are always thinking of us instead of them. Isaac, Year 5

there are lovely people here and everyone is nice. I love this school! Ada, Year 2

school because

I like this

l love Walnut Tree Walk because they allow me to be me by believing in me and letting me explore what I can do.

Faith, Year 5

Everyone is kind to each other.

Wyn, Year 6



WALNUT TREE WALK PRIMARY SCHOOL



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