



Dear Parents / Carers,

## School closed to all students tomorrow ( Wednesday 1 February 2023)

Parents are reminded that WCHS will be closed to students tomorrow because of the impact of the national NEU strike.

The text of Friday's letter to you on the subject is copied in below for easy reference.

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We have been informed by the National Education Union (NEU) that they will be taking industrial action in the form of a strike on Wednesday 1 February 2023.

This action is not against the School itself but is part of national industrial action organised by this trade union about teachers' pay and its funding. We have not been informed by the union of which members of staff will take action, but believe that a significant proportion of teachers at Woodford will be involved.

Neither the governing body nor the Head are legally allowed to close the School 'in sympathy' with the strike and we will not do so. However, we are responsible for the safety of our students. A risk assessment has been completed. Supervision levels on the day of the strike will not be adequate to ensure the safety of our students on site and for this reason Woodford will be closed to all students on Wednesday 1 February 2023. Those teachers who are working on Wednesday will be setting work for their timetabled classes via Satchel One. Students should check communications there first thing and throughout the day. They are otherwise advised to use the time to catch up on any outstanding work, to review or revise recent learning and to read for pleasure. They need to take home any necessary resources on Tuesday afternoon.

For attendance purposes the absence of students will recorded as "exceptional circumstances" and therefore your child's attendance record will not be affected. Students entitled to free school meals will have access to their Wednesday meal allowance until Friday next week.

I write to you now to give you notice of this issue. I regret having to close the school but consider there to be no safe alternative. School will resume as normal for all students on Thursday 2 February 2023.

You will be aware that the NEU has published a schedule for strikes nationally if resolution is not reached in the interim. For this region the other notified strike days are

- Thursday 2 March (London, South East, South West)
- Wednesday 15 March 2023: England and Wales
- Thursday 16 March 2023: England and Wales

Risk assessments will be conducted nearer to the time with regard to these three dates and communicated to you. It is important to note that decisions will be made about each day affected by industrial action separately, arrangements and expectations may differ as we navigate a period which will be challenging for everyone.

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# **GALA INTERNATIONAL EVENING 2023**

**TUESDAY 28<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 6-9PM**

Woodford County High School, in association with its Parents & Friends Association, is hosting a Gala International Evening of music, dance, drama, poetry and food from across the world.



All girls, their parents and families are welcome to attend.

Dress code: traditional (optional).

Ticket prices are £5 for individuals, or £12 for families of 3 or more. The ticket will entitle you to entry and a free mocktail per ticket. Please bring along additional money to buy food.

All proceeds will go to the PFA, which funds school projects that benefit all of the girls.

Tickets can be purchased via Parentpay.

Please read on for further details

**Dear Parents,**

**Gala International Evening (28<sup>th</sup> February) – a fun evening of entertainment for the whole family.**

At Woodford County, the PFA are always looking to support the school with illustrating the diversity of talent, interest and aspirations within our school community. This has resulted in raising much needed funds to provide learning experiences and opportunities for all our girls.

In conjunction with the school, the PFA is hosting the **Gala International Evening**, which will be showcasing the talents of the girls. It will be a treat for those attending to watch some incredible performances, and a recognition of the hard work of the girls and supportive school staff.

Tickets for the event can be obtained via Parentpay. These are priced at £5 for individuals or £12 for a family of three or more. Remember, all funds go to the PFA and are used for the students' benefit (see below).

**WAYS TO SUPPORT THE CENTENARY FAMILY EVENT AND THE PFA RAISE MONEY FOR THE GIRLS**

We are looking to support the event by requesting something very close to many of our hearts, FOOD! To celebrate the amazing diversity at Woodford, we want to ask you for your generous donations that reflect every continent and all the girls! The evening will be an all family event where we will have food from all the continents to indulge and experience! Home-made or bought dishes, snacks, desserts - all contributions will be welcomed!

**This can only be successful if as a whole parent community, we contribute and donate**

**What Are We Fundraising For?**

The PFA raises funds that will be of benefit to all the girls, but which it would be difficult for the school to finance from its ordinary budget. Recent examples include instruments for the Music Department, tables and benches for the back terrace, the Centenary statues and redecoration of the school hall.

**Donate Food for the Event**

You may have a favourite dish you would like to cook and share! Or if you have a favourite food you buy, that is also great (but no nuts please)! To give you some ideas, please see examples below of some traditional foods that you could donate; it is not an exhaustive but we hope this will get your imagination (and taste buds!) going!

**Europe** – Paella, pizza, fish and chips, lasagne, risotto, stew, pierogi, bread/potato dumplings, strudel, pretzels, cinnamon rolls, bread and butter pudding, waffles

**Asia** – satay, chilli crab, kimchi, noodle dishes, dim sum, sushi, biryani, curries, tandoori chicken, samosas, spring rolls, onion bhaji's, egg custard tarts, coconut cakes, Turkish delight, ras malai, Asian sweets (mithai), baklava

**Africa**- Jollof rice, piri piri chicken, tagine, beyenatu, mandazi, plantain, doro wat, malva pudding, vitumbua, injeta,

**North America** – buffalo chicken wings, hamburger, hot dogs, poutine, meatloaf, fajitas, tacos, burritos, pozole, tortillas, apple pie, key lime pie, beaver tails, curros, cheesecake

**South America**- ceviche, empanadas, arepas, reineta fish, churros, alfajores, tres leche cake, Brazilian brigadeiros

**Oceania** – Australian pie, Sapasui, tim tans, chiko rolls, anzac

**If you would like to donate a dish, please email us at [SecretaryP@woodford.redbridge.sch.uk](mailto:SecretaryP@woodford.redbridge.sch.uk) by 20<sup>th</sup> February and we will be in touch with the further details. Please just remember that the school operates a no nuts policy.**

**Donate via Parent pay**

For those of you who may not have time to donate food, you can still contribute funds that will allow us to purchase food for the evening of put towards the projects listed above. Donations can be made via Parent pay, under the category Gala Centenary. Thank you in advance for your donations.

**Raffle prizes**

We will be holding a raffle on the day and it would be great if we could get some raffle prizes (any unused/unwanted/unloved Christmas gifts!); or if you are a parent with a business, we would welcome any vouchers/donations, and would advertise the businesses in all communications and literature we produce in relation to the event.

**Please email us at [SecretaryP@woodford.redbridge.sch.uk](mailto:SecretaryP@woodford.redbridge.sch.uk) by 20<sup>th</sup> February and we will be in touch regarding the collection of any donations and to discuss advertising.**

We are really looking forward to hearing from you and attending what will be the event of the year!

Yours faithfully,

C. Jenkins,  
Deputy Headteacher (on behalf of the PFA Committee)

# Galentine's Delivery Service - 6th February

All proceeds go to Haven House

## ROSE PACKAGE



£3.00

Card

Galentine's milk chocolate  
Single wrapped rose

## SWEET PACKAGE

£2.00



Card

Galentine's milk chocolate  
2 Lollipops  
2 hard boiled candies

Option to remain anonymous or write your name

Microsoft Forms to be sent out by email and SMHW

Payment to be made on ParentPay\*

Deadline to order: 3rd February

\*If you have any questions about allergies or wish to  
pay in person please email,  
[hhenterprise@woodford.redbridge.sch.uk](mailto:hhenterprise@woodford.redbridge.sch.uk)





# ***TEACHER VS STUDENTS***

**Thursday 2nd February**



***Challenge your  
teachers to a game of  
benchball***

**Time: 1:30 - 2:00**

**Price: £2.00 entry**

**Location: netball courts**

**Want to play? Arrive at 1:20  
and pay an extra £1.00 - first  
come, first serve**

***All proceeds go  
to Haven House***

Look out for posters  
in classrooms to see  
which teachers are  
participating





# The Internship programme 2023–24 is NOW OPEN!

Keep scrolling down below for up to  
30 different internship opportunities  
with closing dates from 25th  
January to 28th February!

Dear WCHS students,

“The Jack Petchey Foundation Internship Programme funds **12-month paid internships in youth organisations across London and Essex**, and this year we are funding 30 new roles! These roles are perfect for young people at the beginning of their career looking to take their first steps into working in the voluntary sector.

From youth theatre to youth work, marketing to refugee support and much more, there is a wide variety of roles for young people to apply to! The Jack Petchey Internship Programme is designed to **give young people a flying start in the youth sector** and to help youth organisations increase the support they provide for young people in London and Essex. It aims to support dynamic young individuals on their first step towards being the sector’s future leaders.”

Take a look for more information about their [INTERNSHIPS](#) or [APPRENTICESHIPS](#). You may be eligible to apply\* or you may simply want to have a look at opportunities that may be available to you in a few years’ time.

Mrs Hawks

Woodford County High School Jack Petchey Co-ordinator

\* For apprenticeship there are minimum GCSE grade requirements and you need to be available to work – therefore once you finished school!

Internships: <https://www.jackpetcheyfoundation.org.uk/opportunities/internships/>

Apprenticeship: <https://www.jackpetcheyfoundation.org.uk/about-us/work-for-us/>



# smallpeice

Dear Students,

The Smallpeice Trust is an educational charity that encourages young people into engineering careers, and we're delighted to tell you about three residential courses we're running for **Year 9 students in 2023.**

### **Cyber Security**

Students will explore the risks of cyberspace and the latest security measures protecting us from hackers, to see if they have what it takes to be a cyber-security expert. Located at Royal Holloway University London, this course takes place from 3-5 April.

<https://www.smallpeicetrust.org.uk/course-page/1d3b0c64-b670-ed11-81ac-0022481b5db9>

### **Engineering Experience – England**

An insight into three different disciplines: cyber security, electrical and space engineering. Students will get creative and improve teamwork, communication and leadership skills.

Based at the University of Hertfordshire from 4-6 April.

<https://www.smallpeicetrust.org.uk/course-page/48d3f685-0d6c-ed11-81ac-0022481b5e44>

### **Girls into Engineering**

For girls aged 12 to 14 who are keen to change the world, this residential course is an amazing opportunity to unlock your female students' potential as future engineers. Taking place at Loughborough University from 14-16 August, students will learn from top academics & engineers!

<https://www.smallpeicetrust.org.uk/course-page/54f6bbba-b870-ed11-81ac-0022481b5db9>

Our engineering courses enable 12 to 17-year-olds to fuel their passion for STEM, picture life beyond the classroom and meet industry leaders and top academics.

We are now accepting applications and places fill quickly, so please apply now to avoid disappointment. We hope to see you on our awesome engineering courses this year!

Kind regards,

Doug Nairn

Communications Manager, The Smallpeice Trust



# P.E. EXTRA-CURRICULAR TIMETABLE

	<u>Mon</u>	<u>Tues</u>	<u>Weds</u>	<u>Thurs</u>	<u>Fri</u>
<b><u>Before School</u></b> <b><u>7.50-8.20am</u></b>	All Years – Badminton <u>Sports Hall</u> KST	All Years – Volleyball Sports Hall VJA			Badminton for y12 & 13 ONLY STA <u>Sports hall</u>
<b><u>Lunchtime</u></b> <b><u>1.30-2pm</u></b>	Badminton <u>Sports Hall</u> VJA  Football for 10 & 11 only STA & TL <u>courts</u>  Cheerleading STA & KRU <u>studio</u>	Yr7 & 8 Netball Team Training VJA <u>sports hall</u>	Running Club – led by Rachael Yr13 student <u>field</u>	All Years – Athletics Sports Hall KRI <u>Sports hall</u>  Football for y7, 8 & 9, STA & TL <u>courts</u>  Alternative sporting games – All years KRU <u>Sports hall</u>	Y9 & 10 & 11 Netball team training KRU & KRI & STA <u>Sports hall</u>
<b><u>Afterschool</u></b> <b><u>3.30-4.20pm</u></b>	All years – Games (dodgeball / kick- ball etc.) <u>Sports hall</u> KST		<b><u>Fixtures</u></b>  Gymnastics – All Years <u>Sports Hall</u> KRU	Yr11 Tuition STA	Prisons - led by Lilla Yr11 student 3.45 – 4.10pm Supervised by Ms Gribble Years 9, 10 & 11  <b><u>Staff Badminton</u></b> <b><u>4.10pm</u></b>



# Music Extra-curricular Timetable: Spring 2023

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>Lunchtime</b>	<b>Junior Choir</b> (SF1) 13:30- 14:10  <b>Brass Ensemble</b> MTH (SF2) 13:45-2:15  <b>Kalimba Club</b> (Jubilee rooms) 13:45-14:20	<b>Junior Band</b> IBO (SF1) 13:30- 14:10  <b>Musical Theatre club</b> (TBC) 13:40-14:15	<b>Jazz Band</b> KHN (SF1) 13:40-14:15  <b>String orchestra</b> IBO (SF2) 13:40-14:15  <b>Carnatic Ensemble</b> (Jubilee Room 1) 13:40-2:15	<b>Senior Choir</b> KHA (SF1) 13:40- 14:15  <b>Theory</b> <b>GCSE/A-level support</b> IBO (SF2) 13:40-14:15  <b>Guitar Ensemble</b> (SG7) 13:30-14:15	<b>Orchestra</b> IBO (SF1) 13:40-14:15
<b>After school</b>		<b>Chamber groups</b> IBO (SF1/2) 15:45-16:30			



A short message from the music department below:

### **Junior and senior choir trip to the Royal Albert Hall in March:**

Letters have been sent to the parents of current choir members. The deadline for responses has been extended until Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> February.

If you were expecting a letter but have not received one via email, please contact

[MercerM@woodford.redbridge.sch.uk](mailto:MercerM@woodford.redbridge.sch.uk).

Please note that places on this trip are not allocated on a first come first serve basis. In the event that the trip is oversubscribed, places will be offered to the students who have the best attendance at choir rehearsals this term.



**£2.50**  
Per session

# **BOXFIT**

## **AT HAINAULT YOUTH CENTRE**

**Female only**

For 11-18 year olds

Also open to relatives  
(mother / guardian) wanting  
to attend with their  
teenage child

**Tuesday 6pm-7pm**

**Book your session here:**  
<https://vrcl.uk/boxfit>





DAVID SHEPHERD WILDLIFE FOUNDATION

# WILDLIFE ARTIST OF THE YEAR 2023



## Wildlife Artist of the Year 2023

### Entries now open!

We're delighted to announce that entries are now open for David Shepherd Wildlife Foundation (DSWF) [Wildlife Artist of the Year 2023](#) and that after three years away, we will be returning to an **in-person exhibition in September!**

Continuing the incredible legacy left behind by our founder, David Shepherd CBE, this internationally renowned competition celebrates the beauty and diversity of our natural world, whilst raising awareness for what could be lost if we do not take action to save it.

Every entry and artwork sold will help us in our fight to turn the tide on extinction and thanks to your generous support, an incredible £85,000 was raised during last year's competition and exhibition.

We are therefore asking our devoted community of wildlife artists to once again pick up their brushes, pencils and chisels to help us make this year bigger and better than ever before!

Please help to spread the word about this global competition by sharing our posts on [Instagram](#), [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#). You can also forward this email on to your friends and contacts in the art community. Thank you!

**Enter now!**

Entries are now open and **close at midnight on the 29th March 2023** (UK time).

DSWF Wildlife Artist of the Year 2023 is open to both professional and amateur artists alike, using any technique, medium or style (excluding photography and digitally produced artwork).

Participants must have reached 19 years old by the closing date for entries (29th March 2023), with the exception of our Youth Exclusive Award which is open to young artists aged 15 and over.

All artworks entered into the competition must be available for sale and by taking part, artists agree that, if shortlisted by our expert judging panel, they will show their piece in the finalists' exhibition at the **Mall Galleries** in London, between the 11-16th September 2023.

## PRIZES

£10,000\* OVERALL WINNER  
£2,000\* RUNNER UP

£500 Category Winner  
£500 Youth Exclusive Award  
£500 First Time Entrants Award  
£500 Elizabeth Hosking Prize  
for Watercolour

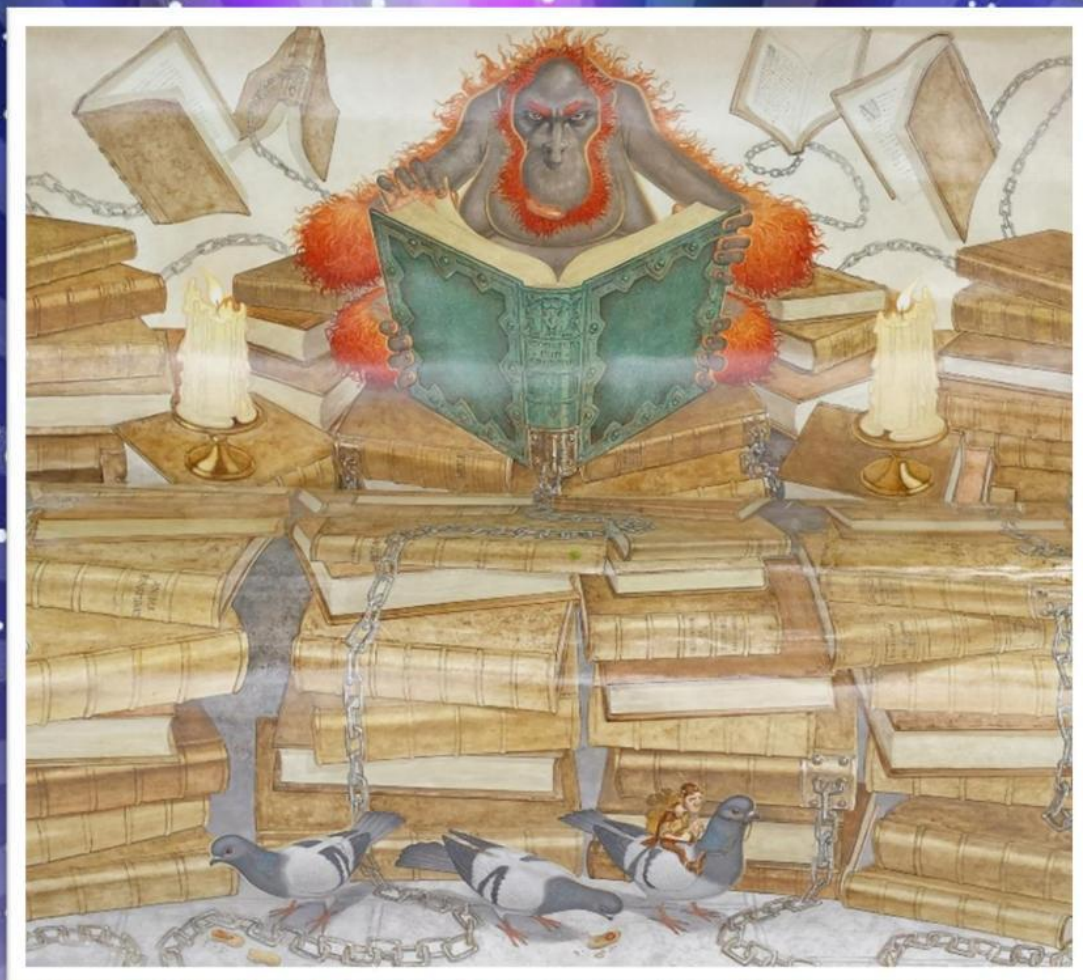


Artwork by Carla Grace



# Redbridge Children's Book Award 2023

## Poetry Competition



Write a poem (maximum 40 lines) on the following theme:

**I Wish I Could...**

The competition has two age categories **Junior (Years 6 and 7)** and **Teen (Years 8 upwards)**

**Closing Date: Friday 17 March 2023**

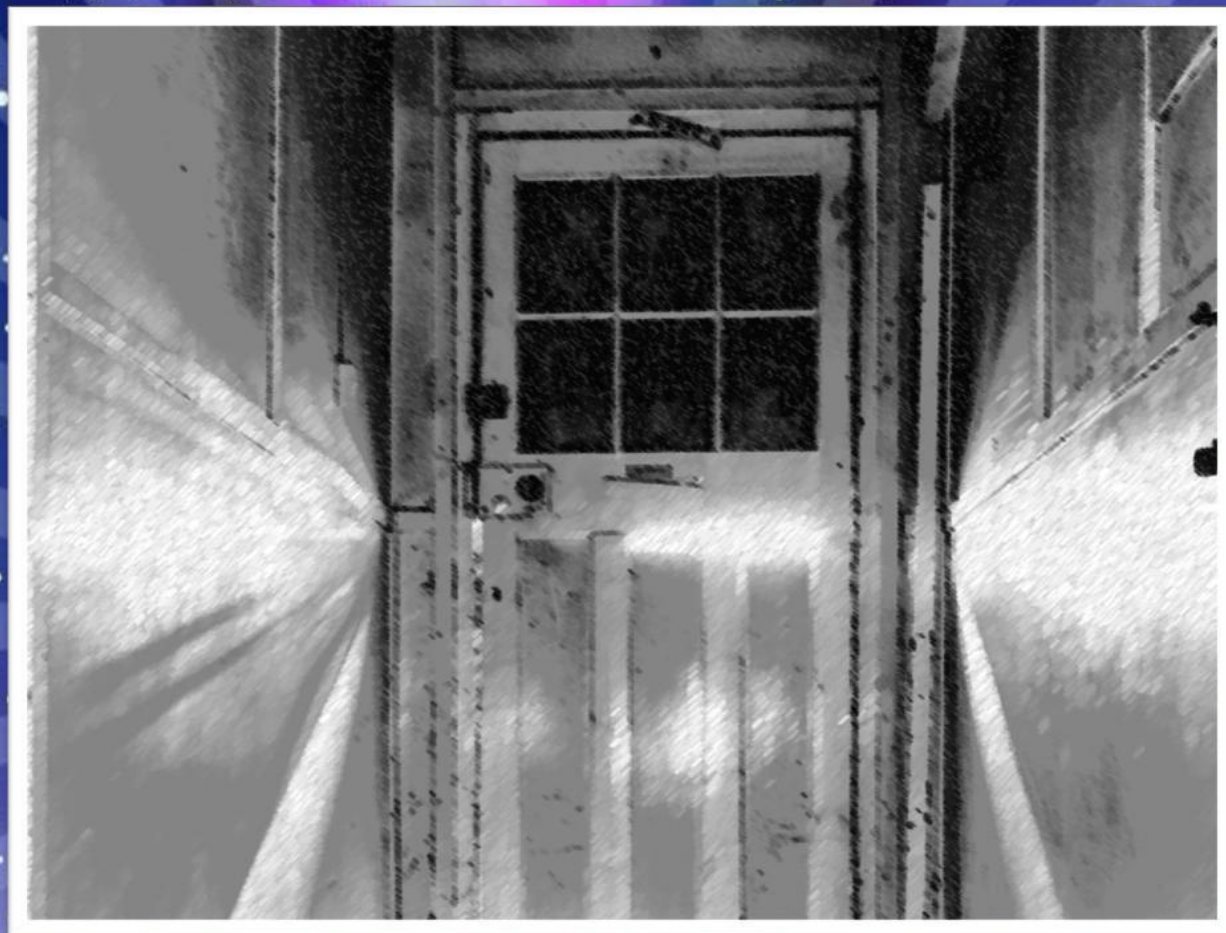
Poems should be in **WORD** and handed in to your school librarian or teacher who will select the **best five** to submit to the competition.

Please include your name, age, year group, address and school.



# Redbridge Children's Book Award 2023

## Short Story Competition



Write a short story, using the phrase:

**Lightning slashed the sky, revealing a wooden doorway hidden behind a pile of rubble**  
maximum length of story 1500 words)

The competition has two age categories **Junior (Years 6 and 7)** and **Teen (Years 8 upwards)**

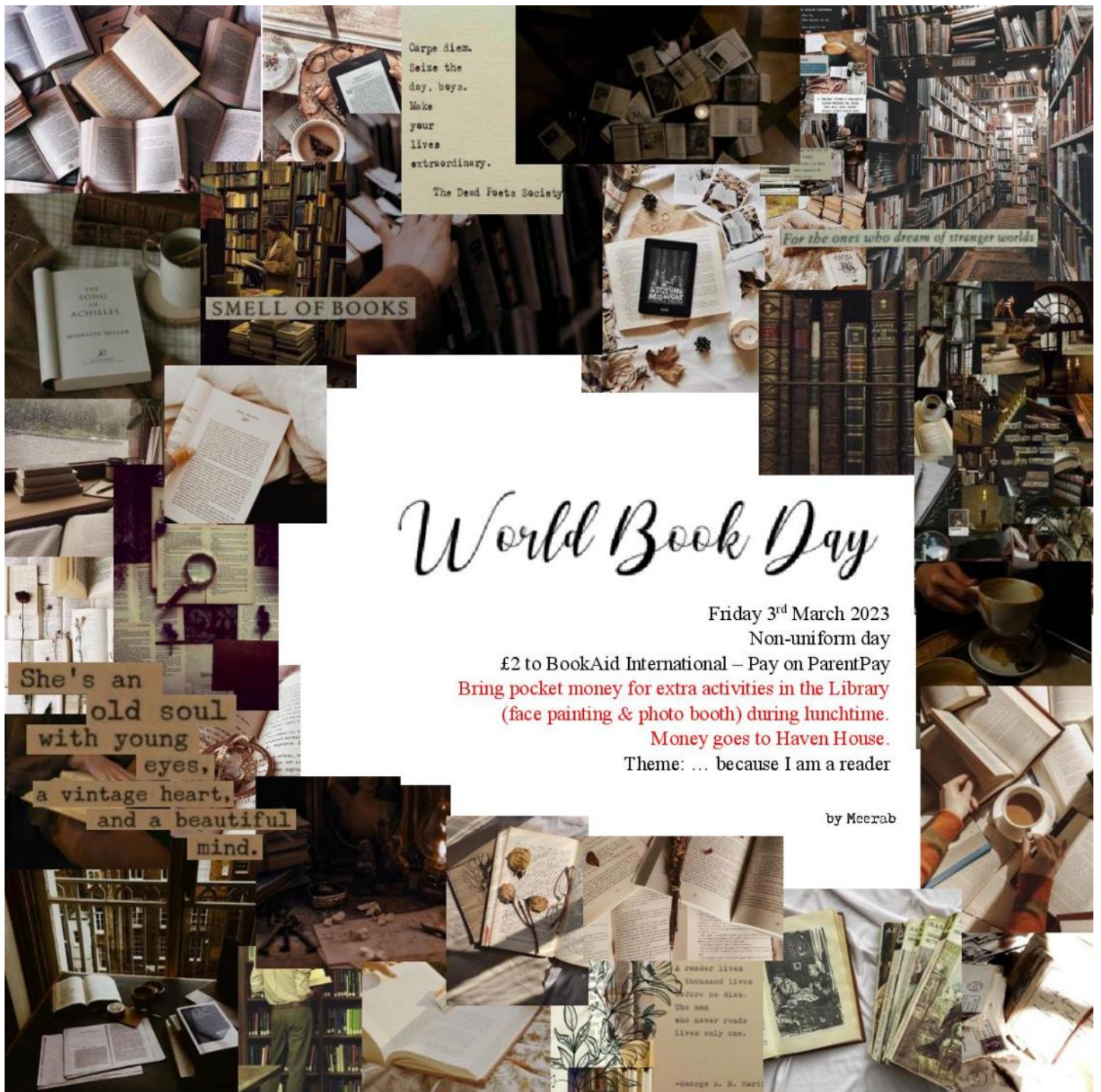
**Closing Date: Friday 17 March 2023**

Stories should be in **WORD** and handed in to your school librarian or teacher who will select the **best five** to submit to the competition.

Please include your name, age, year group, address and school.



**PLEASE NOTE - NEW DATE**



# World Book Day

Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2023

Non-uniform day

£2 to BookAid International – Pay on ParentPay

Bring pocket money for extra activities in the Library  
(face painting & photo booth) during lunchtime.

Money goes to Haven House.

Theme: ... because I am a reader

by Meerab



## REMINDER

Please do not forget to update the school on any new or existing medical conditions, or regular prescribed medication that your child takes at home or at school.

If you have any questions or need to update any information we currently hold, please email Mrs Kaye or Miss Bird at [medical@woodford.redbridge.sch.uk](mailto:medical@woodford.redbridge.sch.uk)



Tech Tips Live: YouTube Premier 31 January 2023, 4.30pm-5pm GMT

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RO6UApuPdaI>



Join us to learn more and get the most out of using TikTok as a family.

This **free live video session** will focus entirely on the popular platform. We will address the frequent questions we hear regarding how young people use TikTok and what parents need to know.



The session will include:

- What makes TikTok so popular
- The challenges for parents
- How to help your teen use the platform safely
- How we shape our algorithms

## Flu Vaccination Clinics

Has your child missed their  
Flu Vaccination at school?



We are running catch up clinics in your  
area for the following age groups:

**Flu Vaccinations: Reception - Year 9**

If you would like an appointment to attend,  
please email us at: [appointments@v-uk.co.uk](mailto:appointments@v-uk.co.uk)  
or call 0203 343 2400

Children and young people attending a Redbridge school will automatically be contacted through their schools with a link to consent when they are due for vaccinations for in-school offer. If your child has missed the school session and you would like to attend a clinic, please either email us at [appointments@v-uk.co.uk](mailto:appointments@v-uk.co.uk) or call on 0203 343 2400

- **Flu Vaccinations:** Reception – Year 9
- **HPV:** Year 8
- **DTP & MeningitisACWY:** Year 9

Date	Time	Venue
Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> January	3:30pm – 5.30pm	Rebridge Central Library
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> February	3:30pm – 5:30pm	Fullwell Cross Library
Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> February	10:00am – 2:00pm	Loxford Children's Centre
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> February	10:00am – 2:00pm	Fullwell Cross Library
Tuesday 28 <sup>th</sup> February	3:30pm – 5:30pm	Loxford Children's Centre
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> March	3:30pm – 5:30pm	Fullwell Cross Library
Tuesday 28 <sup>th</sup> March	3:30pm – 5:30pm	Loxford Children's Centre

Fullwell Cross Library 140 High Street Barkingside IG6 2EA	Redbridge Central Library Clements Road Ilford IG1 1EA
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# REDBRIDGE EDUCATION AWARDS

supported by Lead Sponsor **Parker Smith Inclusion**

**Celebrating individuals  
who are shaping  
extraordinary futures**

Dear Parent / Guardian,

As we settle into the new school year, I am thrilled to announce on behalf of Redbridge Council, the launch of the first ever Redbridge Education Awards! The awards are an amazing opportunity for you to say **thank you** to a teacher or member of staff who you think deserves to be recognised and celebrated for all that they do for young people in Redbridge.

With 14 award categories to choose from, there is something for everyone. If you can think of an individual or team who has made a positive impact on your child's learning, development, or extracurricular activities, now is the time to give them something back!

If the person or team you nominate are shortlisted, they will be invited to a spectacular awards ceremony to be held in Wanstead next April 2023 – it will be a night to remember!

Making a nomination couldn't be easier, simply head to [www.redbridge.gov.uk/redbridge-education-awards](http://www.redbridge.gov.uk/redbridge-education-awards) or scan the QR code at the top of the page. Please also encourage your child to make their own nomination!

If you have any questions or need assistance making a nomination, please speak to a member of staff, or contact [educationawards@redbridge.gov.uk](mailto:educationawards@redbridge.gov.uk).

Thank you.



## DATES FOR THE DIARY

SPRING 2023		
Term	Thursday 5 January 2023	Friday 10 February 2023
Half-term	Monday 13 February 2023	Friday 17 February 2023
Term	Monday 20 February 2023	Friday 31 March 2023
Non-Contact Day	Tuesday 7 March 2023	

SUMMER 2023		
Term	Monday 17 April 2023	Friday 26 May 2023
Half-term	Monday 29 May 2023	Friday 2 June 2023
Term	Monday 5 June 2023	Friday 21 July 2023
Non-Contact Day	Wednesday 28 June 2023	



### KEY DATES TO REMEMBER

**1 February—School is Closed**

**Week of 6 February—Highams House Charity Week**

**6 February—Year 9 Parents Evening**

**9 February—Music Recital Evening**

**10 February—Year 9 Options form completed**

**28 February—International Evening**

**3 March—World Book Day (Non-Uniform Day)**

**7 March—Inset Day**

**Week of 13 March—Newton House Charity Week**

**16 March—Year 8 Parents' Evening**

**21 March—HPV 2nd Dose—Year 8**

**23 March—Spring Concert**



### REMINDER

Please remind your daughter to bring in her lanyard, locker key and fob to school every day.

