



SOUTHWOLD HIGHLIGHTS

Week ending **Friday 27th April 2018**

In this issue: Welcome/Snakes Alive! Other Curriculum News/UCL Research/SCP/University Visit/Parent Sessions/Attendance/Key Dates

Dear Parents & Carers,

It has been a busy two weeks since we returned from the Easter break. This week classes across the school have been celebrating families and it was fantastic to see grandparents and other family members joining us. We have been looking at the different types of families and the fact that not all families are made up of a mum and a dad but that each family is as important and valuable as each other. We have linked this with themes of love, respect and tolerance.

Pupil voice is a key feature of our school and, as you have seen from previous newsletters, we think it is very important that children are given a platform to know how to raise their issues. A particular success has been joining up our pupil teams for meetings across our three school sites and three Hackney post codes including our school councils, action research team, federation choir, peer mediators and Eco Committees. Our Eco Committee and school council are taking a particular interest in the air quality around our school, which like many in London, is not good as it should be, mostly because of traffic fumes. Please help by avoiding driving to school, or if you have to, then turning your engine off whilst stationary outside.

During the next month children are being assessed to inform an year end standard and any areas which need to be taught further in grammar, spelling & punctuation, reading, writing and maths. We will use these checks to inform the final 8 weeks of teaching this academic year. This includes Year 2 and Year 6 who will be completing Government standardised tests. We will of course let you know how they get on later in the year and do everything we can to make sure that children feel confident, happy and ready to show off everything that they know. Individual achievements will be reported back to you in July at our final parents evening of the academic year which is on Thursday 5th July and also at our celebration assemblies in the last two weeks of term.

Thank you for your support

Mr Stephen O'Brien
Headteacher

Mr Stephen Hall
Executive Headteacher

SNAKES ALIVE!

Last week **Year 4** went out to search for local wildlife as part of their Science topic 'all living things.' They found lots of different minibeasts such as centipedes and woodlice. They discovered that their habitats were mainly dark, damp places



and that they like to be hidden.

Mr Bradley also brought in his pet snake and Year 4 were able to see what makes a snake a reptile and were even allowed to touch it! Did you know that snakes have flexible jaws which allow them to eat prey bigger than their own head?

Fortunately no one was eaten this time.

OTHER CURRICULUM NEWS

Thank you for your help and support and help with our annual **Easter bonnet** competition. We had some beautiful and very creative entries as well as some proud winners!



Kingfisher and Sparrow classes have been learning Egyptian drumming and dance, learning from an expert during a special workshop.



Year 6 have been learning about the

London Blitz and how children would have to practice an air raid drill when hearing the siren, closing all blinds and curtains, seeking shelter away from the windows and finally waiting for the 'all clear'. They then wrote instructions on what to do in the event of an air raid.



**WE ARE A SMART SCHOOL
BLACK SCHOOL SHOES NOT TRAINERS TO SCHOOL PLEASE!**

RESEARCH OPPORTUNITY



A researcher at University College London has asked for interested families to take part in a study looking at how the streets and the community where families live, affect where children go and how they get there. Participants will be asked some questions about where children go, and they will also carry out some activities; using pictures & maps. The information that you and your child (ren) can give will help to improve the streets. All the information you provide would be confidential. If you wish to participate in the study please contact Natan Waintrub by email: ucesnwa@ucl.ac.uk or by telephone/ WhatsApp: [07521 787 022](tel:07521787022)

SCHOOL CROSSING PATROL

Hackney Council are currently advertising for new officers to join the School Crossing Patrol service in Hackney and they have asked if any parents or carers may be interested in applying. You can find more information at www.jobsgopublic.com



UNIVERSITY WORKSHOP

Year 5 went to a workshop to learn about the benefits and advantages of going to University in the future.



They learned about the many fields they could study and about what life is like for University students during a carousel of activities.

SUMMER TERM COFFEE MORNINGS

Coffee mornings run in the bottom hall at 9:15am on Friday mornings. We hope that you can make time to drop in and join us.

Tea, coffee and biscuits are all provided!

Date	Focus
Friday 4 th May	Healthy Lifestyle (including alcohol, smoking and drug misuse)
Friday 11 th May	Strategies to help your child learn and apply their spellings
Friday 25 th May	Mindfulness. How to use creative ways to deal with your emotions in a healthy way
Friday 8 th June	Speech and Language How to support the development of your child's speech and language skills
Friday 15 th June	Gardening with your child
Friday 22 nd June	PE. Take away knowledge about how we teach children to stay fit and healthy

Key dates

Summer Term 2018

Start Date:

Monday 16th April

Families Week

Starts Monday 23rd April

Bank Holiday

Monday 7th May

Half Term Holiday

Monday 28th May to

Friday 1st June

Keeping Healthy Week

Starts Monday 25th June

Parents Evening

Thursday 5th July

Staff INSET Day

Friday 6th July

End of Term Finish Date

Friday 20th July at 2pm

Autumn Term 2018

Start Date:

Wednesday 5th September

Half Term Holiday

Monday 22nd to

Friday 26th October

Children Return

Monday 29th October

Parents Evening:

Thursday 29th November

End of Term Finish Date:

Friday 21st December at 2pm

Spring Term 2019

Start Date:

Monday 7th January 2019

Half Term Holiday:

Monday 18th to Friday 22nd

February

Staff Training Day:

Monday 25th February

Children Return

Tuesday 26th February

For more news you can also follow us on Facebook & Twitter!



ATTENDANCE

Children have only 190 school days in a year so coming to school everyday makes a real difference! Whole school attendance for last week was **93%**

Well done to Eagle Class, the weekly winners with **100%**

16th-20th April

