



**Southwold
Primary School**

HIGHLIGHTS

Friday 13th December 2019

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Dear Parents & Carers,

Thank you to all parents who have attended end of term events including the Winter Fayre and sing-alongs. Our three school choir has been performing at various events including a Hackney wide celebration at the Town Hall. We are very proud of the commitment to music in our school and the many talented musicians we have. A huge thank you to our music teacher, Ms Eskulics for her preparation and hard work. Instrumental lessons start again in the Spring Term and if you would like your child to gain from the many benefits of learning a musical instrument then please ask at our reception desk for an application form. Some lessons have a waiting list but learning an instrument not only brings a lot of pleasure, it helps develop concentration, listening skills, patience, social skills and memory. We subsidise all lessons with an even cheaper rate for those eligible for Pupil Premium Funding and loan instruments to allow practise at home.

Despite the many sweet treats around at this time of year, we continue to ask that if children bring a packed lunch to school their lunch boxes contain a healthy and nutritious meal that will help them retain concentration in the afternoon. We do not allow children to have fizzy drinks, chocolate bars or crisps in our dinner hall and ask that you provide healthy alternatives such as low sugar juice, chopped vegetables and dried fruit. From January 2020, we will be working with a new catering provider and a copy of the Spring Term menu will be sent to you early next week. If you think you may be eligible for free school meals, please visit our school office and the admin team will support you in checking.

At the end of this term, Ms Nelson will be moving to the Orchard School site. Ms Nelson has worked tirelessly for our children to ensure exceptional provision. While we will be sad to say goodbye, we are excited by the opportunity this presents to her moving to a larger school setting. Ms Gillham, a familiar face to established families and staff at Southwold, will be joining Mr O'Brien and Ms Larkman in leading the school in the next phase of the school journey to beyond 'outstanding'.

Please make sure that children continue to read and practise key maths and writing skills over the holidays, whether it is writing a letter to Santa or playing card games and adding up the scores.

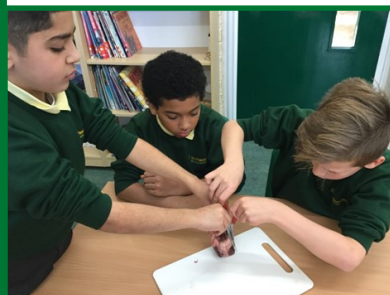
We wish you all a very safe and happy holiday.

Mr Stephen O'Brien
Headteacher

Ms Rachel Davie
Executive Headteacher

YEAR 6 HEART SURGEONS

Last week Year 6 were surgeons for the day, taking part in a heart dissection workshop. They learned all about the functions of a heart, the different anatomy of the heart and roles each part plays. They were also taught how to safely dissect a lamb's heart and identify the main structures.



TEETH WORKSHOP

Year 4 also had a Hands-On Science workshop and were looking at human teeth. They learned about the different teeth that they have and their function. They also learned about how to care for their teeth so that they stay strong and healthy e.g. brushing daily. Then they made moulds of their own teeth that they used to identify and classify the different types of teeth found in the human mouth!



COMMUNITY LITTER PICK

Last week our Eco-Team went on a litter pick of the area around the school. From old news papers to take-away boxes, the children managed to fill sacks full of rubbish. The children were disappointed to see areas around our school so littered, but glad they contributed to make our community a better place. You can also help keep our community tidy by making sure that you don't drop litter!



CHILDREN RETURN TO SCHOOL ON MONDAY 6TH JANUARY 2020 AT 8.55AM!

STEVE MCQUEEN EXHIBITION

This week Year 4 visited Tate Britain to see the Steve McQueen exhibition. When the children were in Year 3 they took part in a project with over 1500 other schools where children had their class photo taken. These class photos were then brought together into a single large-scale installation, capturing tens of thousands of Year 3 pupils in a milestone year of their development. You may also have seen the photos at tube stations. The exhibition is free to visit, so why not visit it at the weekend or over the Christmas holiday. Our class photos are located in Section 10 of the exhibition.



COFFEE MORNINGS

Thank you to all our parents who continue to attend our Friday morning reading sessions in Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2. Our coffee mornings take place each Friday at 9.15am in the bottom hall with a focus on different topics each week linked with our curriculum. Please come and join us!

Friday 10th January	Maths: Come and take away strategies to support your child with their maths learning
Friday 17th January	Writing: Find out how you can encourage your child to write creatively
Friday 24th January	Phonics (for EYFS, Y1 and Y2): A toolkit to help your children learn to read and write
Friday 31st January	Science: Learn how to create exciting experiments
Friday 7th February	Developing Enquiry Skills: Asking questions about the world around us
Friday 14th February	ICT Coding: Learn to code like your child (Children will be attending with their parents.)

Key Dates

Autumn Term 2019

Children Start Date:

Wednesday 4th September

Half Term Holiday:

Monday 21st to Friday 25th October

Children Start Date:

Monday 28th October

Parents Evening:

Thursday 28th November

End of Term Finish Date:
Thursday 19th December at 2pm

Spring Term 2020

Start Date:

Monday 6th January

Half Term Holiday:

Monday 17th to Friday 21st February

Staff Training Day:

Monday 24th February

Parents Evening:

Thursday 26th March

Finish Date: Friday 3rd April at 2pm

Summer Term 2020

Start Date:

Monday 20th April

Bank Holiday:

Friday 8th May

Half Term Holiday:

Monday 25th May to Friday 29th May

Parents Evening:

Thursday 2nd July

End of Term Finish Date:
Friday 17th July at 2pm

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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 **94.7%**. **Well done to Magpie and Osprey classes**, the weekly winners with **97%**.

