



**Southwold
Primary School**

HIGHLIGHTS

Friday 7th February 2020

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Dear Parents & Carers,

Since the last newsletter, children have had the opportunity to take part in a range of enterprise events to develop their understanding of the world of work. As part of our annual enrichment programme. We are keen that all our pupils receive a wide and rich curriculum offer which inspires wider learning opportunity and teaches a range of life skills in addition to reading, writing and maths.

Thank you to all the parents who completed our school survey last term. We had 115 responses from parents of children in all year groups. We are very pleased that 98% of the responses agreed or strongly agreed with the statement 'my child likes school' and 98% felt that they were happy with the progress their child was making. We will use your feedback to continue to make sure we are providing the highest quality education and care.

We have been reviewing the impact of the new school dinner provider by talking to children about their dinner experiences. The salad bar which is available for all children taking a school dinner to choose some vegetables or freshly made salad to go with their meal is a popular feature as well as the yoghurt station from which children can choose different toppings, including fresh fruit! If your child brings packed lunches we ask that you help us by making sure that you do not send crisps, chocolate bars or fizzy drinks into school as we do not allow children to eat or drink these in our dinner hall. Instead please consider raisins, carrot sticks or other healthy alternatives. These release important energy over a longer period of time and help children to maintain concentration in the afternoon.

If you have moved or changed your telephone number recently please make sure you have let the school office know. It is essential that we can contact you quickly in case of an emergency and also have a second number to call if we can't get hold of you. The number and email for our office is on the back of this newsletter.

Thank you for all of your support!

Mr Stephen O'Brien
Headteacher

Ms Rachel Davie
Executive Headteacher

DEBATING TEAM

Children in Year 5 at Southwold have the opportunity to be part of the school debating team and attend debatemate club each week. This week the debatemate team competed at a school in Bethnal Green against other debating teams from London schools. The children were in two teams and really rose to the challenge. Southwold won one and lost one, which a very admirable result!



HACKNEY PANATHLON

This term a group of children took part in the Hackney Panathlon. In the picture below the children are taking part in Boccia which is a competitive sport similar to bowls and pétanque.



We were delighted that the Southwold team won and brought home another trophy for our cabinet in the main school office. A huge well done to the children!

PEN LICENCES

It has been a busy half term for Mr O'Brien receiving visits from many children ready for their pen licence. We expect all children to be using joined up cursive handwriting by the end of Year 4. Those that can demonstrate excellent presentation over 5 consecutive pieces of work are awarded with a pen licence and brand new handwriting pen! Have you got your pen licence yet?



READING FOR 20 MINUTES EACH DAY EXPOSES CHILDREN TO 1.8 MILLION WORDS A YEAR!

POSTAL MUSEUM TRIP

Last week Year 4 visited the Postal Museum in Mount Pleasant, Clerkenwell. The children got to handle interesting postal objects from across the decades, as well as being able to dress up as post people from the past. However, the most exciting part of the day was when the children got to put on helmets and ride the Postal Train which



was used for many years to transport post across the city underground!

SCIENCE COFFEE MORNING

A big thank you to everyone that joined us for our very well attended Science coffee morning led by Ms Warrington. The children and parents/carers had lots of fun. They tried out the skittle and dancing corn experiment. They also made lava lamps and their own snow. Some



children even managed to make a snow men from the 'snow' that they made! For the full list of upcoming coffee mornings please see below or the school website for details!

COFFEE MORNINGS

Thank you to all our families who are joining us regularly on a Friday morning for coffee mornings, straight after parent reading. We continue to listen to feedback from parents and we have planned coffee mornings based on your suggestions. We hope to see you at our next event on Friday 14th February in the Lower Hall at 9.15am.

Date	Focus
Friday 14 th February	ICT Coding: Learn to code like your child
Friday 28 th February	Safer community: (including preventing gang violence)
Friday 6 th March	Music: Learn to play an instrument with your child!
Friday 13 th March	Speech and Language: Find out how to improve your child's speech and language skills
Friday 20 th March	Road safety: Responsible passengers, pedestrians and cyclists.
Friday 27 th March	Easter Holiday activities Children will be attending this morning with their parents.
Friday 3 rd April	Parent Reading Assembly for EYFS

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 **96.3%**
Well done to Year 5 Osprey Class, the weekly winners with **100%**.

