

## Dear Parents & Carers,

Welcome back! We hope that you enjoyed the half term break. Thank you again to parents who supported their children with the homework projects that will support their learning this term. Each year group will have now started new themes in all subjects including a new science, art and humanities theme. Look out for the curriculum newsletter which is being sent home in book bags, and which are also on our websites. Each year group has its own page on the website which contains photos and updates on what they have been up to as well as the content of our regular Twitter and Facebook posts.

This half term you will receive your child's termly report at parents evening on the **Thursday 29th November** which will give more information about their achievements so far, as well as learning targets for the coming term. Letters inviting you to parents evening, with details of the online booking system, will be sent home in the coming two weeks. We are keen to make sure that all parents meet with classteachers and discuss their child's progress as well as take up the opportunity to look through their workbooks and celebrate their hard work, so please call the school office if you are finding it difficult to make an appointment.

We work very hard to be a smart school where children can feel proud. An important part of this is our school uniform. As the weather gets colder please remember that children are expected to wear black school shoes and not boots as these are not safe when they are moving around the school and in the playground. If you would like your children to wear boots when travelling to and from school then they must also bring their school shoes to change into when they arrive. A number of parents have complained that lost school jumpers are not being returned even if they have a name written on the label. As well as making sure all uniform has your child's full name, please can you also check that items belong to your child and have not been picked up by accident? We ask that any items which are not yours are returned to class and their rightful owners the next school day.

Thank you for all of your support

Mr Stephen O'Brien  
Headteacher

Mr Stephen Hall  
Executive Headteacher

## PETER & THE WOLF



Following their music lessons singing, performing and looking at different instrumentation, children from Year 2 visited the Barbican to watch London Symphony Orchestra perform. They watched "Peter and the wolf" by the great Russian composer Prokofiev. They got to sing songs with the orchestra and had a great time.



## PEER MEDIATORS



Peer mediators from Southwold, Orchard and Hoxton Garden got together at Orchard School for a group training session. They practised their skills at solving disputes, supporting with games and making sure that everyone is happy and safe in our playground by role playing and trying out scenarios in small groups. They are now out and about in the playgrounds, easily spotted in their high visibility vests.

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**BE ON TIME AT FIVE TO NINE! PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU ARE ON TIME SO THAT CLASSES ARE NOT INTERRUPTED.**

## OTHER CURRICULUM NEWS & EVENTS



Our newly elected **school council** visited the Speakers chambers at Hackney Town Hall. They had the opportunity to ask questions to the Hackney Speaker about what the council does. Then had a tour of some special parts of Hackney Town Hall.

**Year 1** have been learning about Florence Nightingale and the importance of clean hospitals and hygiene. Here we are role playing Florence and her work during the Crimean War! During World Week,

**Year 3** took part in an African dance workshop. Their dance moves were inspired by some of the animals from The Lion King. The children practiced making different shapes with their bodies and moving in different ways. They then danced like giraffes, snakes, monkeys and birds and thoroughly enjoyed it. We also had an amazing array of national dress on **International Day**, and lots of parents to share food from around the world. Thank you to everyone who came!



## DROP IN SESSIONS FOR PARENTS

As well as our **Friday morning stay and read** sessions for Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2, all parents are invited to drop into our sessions on various themes which are held in the flexi space on the ground floor at 9:15am. These are an opportunity to meet with other parents as well as learn more about what the school does and get some practical tips on how to support your child with their learning from home.

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| <b>Friday 9<sup>th</sup> November</b>  | <b>Spelling Strategies:</b> How to support your child                                      |
| <b>Friday 16<sup>th</sup> November</b> | <b>Celebrating Life Experiences:</b> Create a scrap book to document special time together |
| <b>Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> November</b> | <b>Science:</b> Exciting experiments in the home   |
| <b>Friday 30<sup>th</sup> November</b> | <b>ESafety:</b> Keep your children happy and safe online                                   |
| <b>Friday 7<sup>th</sup> December</b>  | <b>Music:</b> Learn to play an instrument with your child!                                 |

## Key dates

### Autumn Term 2018

#### Parents Evening:

Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> November

#### End of Term Finish Date:

Friday 21<sup>st</sup> December at 2pm

### Spring Term 2019

#### Start Date:

Monday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2019

#### Half Term Holiday:

Monday 18<sup>th</sup> to Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> February

#### Staff Training Day:

Monday 25<sup>th</sup> February

#### Children Return

Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> February

#### Parents Evening:

Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> November

#### End of Term Finish Date:

Friday 21<sup>st</sup> December at 2pm

### Summer Term 2019

#### Start Date:

Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April

#### Half Term Holiday:

Monday 27<sup>th</sup> May (Bank Holiday) to Friday 31<sup>st</sup> May

#### Keeping Healthy Week

(including sports day):

Starts Monday 24<sup>th</sup> June

#### Parents Evening:

Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> July

#### End of Term Finish Date:

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> July at 2pm

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 **97%**

**Well done to Jay, Magpie & Starling Classes**, the weekly winners with 100%

