

## Dear Parents & Carers,

Welcome back to the Spring Term. Thank you to all the parents who supported with holiday homework projects and in getting children prepared for the new term. Each week in Years 1 to 6 we send home a literacy and maths task as well as some tricky spellings. We encourage children to *look, say, cover, write, check* when practising spellings and there is a list of common words that children should know in their homework diaries. Please also look for opportunities to encourage children to spell words out loud at home. The more practice the better!

Next week is work and enterprise week at Southwold. During the week children will be finding out all sorts of things about the world of work. Some year groups will be finding out what it's like to work in the community, while others will be thinking about how people can realise their ambitions. Children will be encouraged to think about what they are good at and what they might like to do as a job when they are older. All classes will go on a visit to a place of work or have a visitor from someone who works in the community. Work and enterprise week forms part of our personal, social and health curriculum which encompasses life skills and ways to be safe, healthy and happy. If you are interested in knowing more about our curriculum themes there is more information, including a full topic map on our website. We also run regular drop-in sessions for parents which are listed on the back of this newsletter to which all parents are invited to come in and learn more about how we teach and what children learn whilst in school.

We have listed our term dates on the back of this newsletter. Please make sure you take note of our holiday dates, as we will not authorise absences outside of the 3 months that children have as holiday each year. We monitor attendance very closely with the aim that all pupils get their full 190 day educational entitlement each year.

Thank you for your support

Mr Stephen O'Brien  
Headteacher

Mr Stephen Hall  
Executive Headteacher

## DIGITAL LEADERS



Digital leaders from Orchard, Southwold and Hoxton Garden also met with education officers from Childnet to plan interactive activities for Safer Internet Day. These will be related to the very current issue of consent online. The pupils had lots of interesting ideas to help adults and peers to think about how to make the internet a safer place by learning to ask for permission before sharing online. These activities will be presented by a group of digital leaders at the BT Centre on 5th February.

## SPORTING SOUTHWOLD



School council members in Key Stage 2 asked for more variety in the activities on offer in the Year 5 and 6 playground. So this half term we have changed from football and tennis to hockey and cricket. Mr Mulvany and the sports ambassadors have been on hand to help the children learn the rules of these new games. Fortunately Mr Storey was also on hand to test out the cricket equipment!

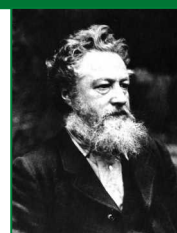


## SMART BLACK SCHOOL SHOES TO SCHOOL PLEASE!

## WINTER GARDENING AND SNAIL HUNTING



Although it is winter there is still much to do outside and Year 2 have taken advantage of the winter sunshine and been up and about in our rooftop garden. They created textile printing using flowers linking to the work of the famous Victorian decorative artist William Morris (pictured).



Our award winning garden has also been the home to the strangest shaped carrot to have ever grown in Hackney! This one didn't end up in the school cooking pot as it was well past the season and very tricky to peel.

Nursery went to the garden on a hunt for snails, trying to follow the snails' trails. The children learned that snail trail slime contains 97% water, that means that it is almost entirely H<sub>2</sub>O. They had a tricky job because the snails were busy hiding from the cold!



## SPRING TERM COFFEE MORNINGS

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 on the ground floor at 9:15am. We have organised new themes for Spring 2019. Tea and coffee are provided!

<b>Friday 25<sup>th</sup> January</b>	<b>Speech and Language:</b> Find out how to improve your child's speech and language skills
<b>Friday 1<sup>st</sup> February</b>	<b>Road safety</b>
<b>Friday 8<sup>th</sup> February</b>	<b>Family team building:</b> Games to play at home to develop resilience and confidence
<b>Friday 15<sup>th</sup> February</b>	<b>ICT Coding:</b> Learn to code like your child (Children will be attending this morning with their parents.)
<b>Friday 1<sup>st</sup> March</b>	<b>Healthy Eating:</b> Find out how to provide a well-balanced diet at home and for packed lunches

### Key dates

#### Spring Term 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 28<sup>th</sup> March

##### End of Term Finish Date:

Friday 5<sup>th</sup> April at 2pm

##### Easter Holiday

Monday 8<sup>th</sup> April to Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> April (Bank Holiday)

#### 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

#### Autumn Term 2019

##### Start Date:

Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> September

##### Half Term Holiday:

Monday 21<sup>st</sup> to Friday 25<sup>th</sup> October

##### Children Start Date:

Monday 28<sup>th</sup> October

Parents Evening: Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> November

##### End of Term Finish Date:

Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December



For more news you can also



## 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 **95.6%**

**Well done to Jay and Osprey Classes,** the weekly winners with ??%

