



**Southwold  
Primary School**

# HIGHLIGHTS

Friday 11th December 2020

In this issue: Welcome/Year 2 Science/Reception Gardening/Year 4 Workshop/Year 6 Into University/Feeling Festive/Coffee Mornings/Attendance/Key Dates

## Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you to all parents who have returned the parent questionnaire so far. We highly value your opinion on all aspects of school life and we would be very grateful to those who have not yet done so to spare 10 minutes completing and returning this to us. All questionnaires are anonymous and cannot be traced back to you or your child. On return, you will be issued a raffle ticket and entered into the prize draw to win one of three holiday hampers for you and your family. The deadline for return is the 14th December 2020.

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. Over the upcoming holiday period, the Government have allocated funding to support families entitled to free school meals in recognition of the continued challenges faced as a result of COVID 19. All qualifying families will be contacted with instructions of how to access vouchers with a value of £15 per week per child the week beginning the 14th December 2020. If you think you may be eligible for free school meals, please call our school office and the admin team will support you in checking.

School will finish for children on the 18th December 2020 and we will welcome everyone back on the 5th January 2021. Holiday homework will be set to support children in continuing to read and practise key maths and writing skills over the holidays. Examples of the creative project outcomes to undertake will also be in the holiday homework pack. Working on these together supports children in developing an understanding of their upcoming half termly topic learning and will support lots of opportunities for parents, grandparents and the wider family to talk about school learning over the upcoming half term. Don't forget, there are many 'fun' ways to incorporate reading, writing and maths into the holiday period too from calculating scores in games to following instructions in recipes!

We wish you all a very safe and happy holiday.

Mr Stephen O'Brien  
Headteacher

Ms Rachel Davie  
Executive Headteacher

## YEAR 2 SCIENCE



In Science Year 2 have been learning about sound. In order to investigate how sound travels and how pitch can be changed the children had a go at making their own pan pipes. They were able to learn how the smaller pan pipe makes a higher sound because the sound vibrations are quicker.

## RECEPTION GARDENING

Last week Reception had their half termly lesson with Alice the gardener. The children were about seeds and bulbs and how plants grow. They learnt that in order to grow plants need: light, air, water, and nutrients. Then the children planted bulbs; one for the school garden and one to take home and care for.



## YEAR 4 WORKSHOP



Last week the children in Year 4 had a hands on workshop all about teeth. The children learnt about the different types of teeth and why it is so important to keep our mouths healthy. The children each made their own mould of a set of teeth to take home. They really enjoyed this hands on lesson!

**TERM ENDS ON FRIDAY 18TH DECEMBER 2020 (SEE POSTERS FOR FINISH TIMES)  
CHILDREN RETURN TO SCHOOL ON TUESDAY 5TH JANUARY 2021 (STAGGERED START TIMES WILL CONTINUE)**

## YEAR 6 INTO UNIVERSITY

This half term both Year 6 classes took part in Into University workshops. Into University is a charity that aims to help young people gain a place within a higher education establishment e.g. college or university. The pupils had an online workshop on Rosa Parks and the work of the Red Cross. At the end of the week the children had their own university style graduation ceremony, complete with mortarboards!



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## FEELING FESTIVE



This week members of the school council decorated the Christmas tree in the middle hall, and the Christmas hoops were hung as normal. As well as making a tree decoration, all children will also be making a seasonal calendar. Although we won't be having sing-along concerts this year, we will be making a festive video, so please do check the website!

## COFFEE MORNINGS AND DROP INS

**Coffee Morning** sessions will be every 2 weeks in the Spring Term, with Nursery and Reception holding specific Coffee Morning sessions twice a half term. All sessions will be video presentations that will be shared on the school website. A text alert with a link will be sent so that you can easily access the session!

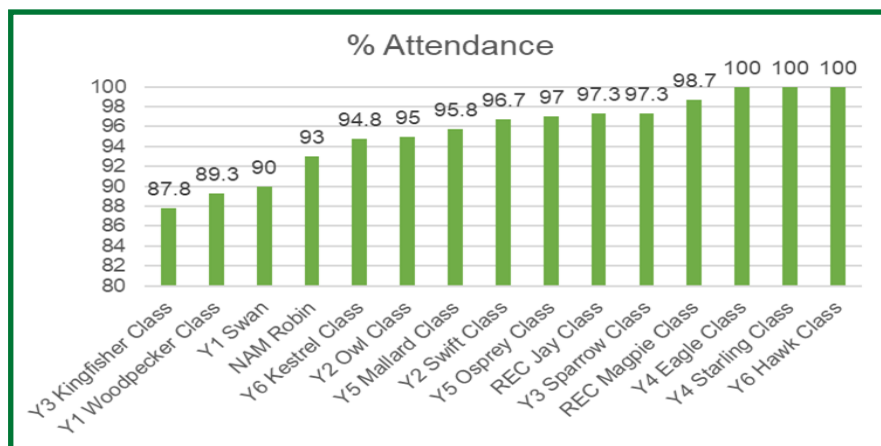
Date	Focus
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> January	<b>Science:</b> Learn how to create exciting experiments at home
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> January	<b>Wellbeing:</b> How to support your child's well-being through conversation
Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> February	<b>Writing:</b> Find out how you can encourage your child to write creatively
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> February	<b>Maths:</b> What is fluency, reasoning and problem solving?
Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> March	<b>Speech and Language:</b> Using stories to develop vocabulary
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> March	<b>Homework:</b> Strategies to support your child's homework routine

**Parent Drop In** sessions will be held every second Friday. Although we will not be able to meet in groups, we will be able to offer you an opportunity to meet with a member of the inclusion team to answer any questions you may have or sign post you to any community resources or services that might be helpful to you. Please call the school office to book an appointment.

## 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 **96.04%**

Well done to **Eagle, Starling and Hawk Classes**, the weekly winners with **100%**



## Key Dates

### Spring Term 2021

#### Staff Training Day:

Monday 4th January

#### Children's Start Date:

Tuesday 5th January

**Work & Enterprise Week:** Week beginning 18th January

#### Half Term Holiday:

Monday 15th February – Friday 19th February

#### Children's Start Date:

Monday 22nd February

**Science & Technology Day (with Science Fair):** Friday 19th March

#### Parents Evening:

Thursday 25th March

**End of Term Finish Date:** Thursday 1st April at 2pm

### Summer Term 2021

#### Children's Start Date:

Monday 19th April 2021

#### Families' Week:

Starts Monday 26th April 2021

#### Bank Holiday:

Monday 3rd May 2021

#### Half Term Holiday:

Monday 31 May 2021 – Friday 4 June 2021

#### Children Start Date:

Monday 7th June 2021

#### Staff Training Day:

Friday 25th June 2021

**Keeping Healthy Week (including sports day):**

Starts Monday 28th June 2021

#### Parents Evening:

Thursday 8th July 2021

#### End of Term Finish Date:

Thursday 22nd July at 2pm

**Staff Training Day:** Friday 23rd July 2021

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