



**Southwold
Primary School**

HIGHLIGHTS

Friday 26th February 2021

In this issue: Welcome / Holiday Homework / Debate Mate / Year 5 Bake-Off / Get Caught Reading / Coffee Mornings / Healthy Bodies / Key Dates

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope that you enjoyed the half term break and are well rested as we start the second half of the year. Thank you to all parents and carers who supported the half term holiday homework projects, there were some fantastic examples of research presented in very creative ways and shared to our home learning email account.

Our recent 'caught reading' campaign has been a huge success with many wonderful videos and photographs sent in celebrating reading for pleasure. World Book Day will be taking place on Thursday 4th March and children, whether learning at home or attending school, are encouraged to dress up as their favourite book character. The aim of the day is to encourage children to delve into the world of fiction, explore different genres and share our passion for reading. We will be sharing resources closer to the time on the home learning pages of our website.

As a result of the continued partial closures, the high level of personal contact with individual families weekly and the challenges of accurately measuring pupil progress until all children are back in school full time, Spring Term reports and the parent consultation evening due to take place on the 25th March will not go ahead. This means that the next parents evening consultation and report date will be the 8th July. We encourage you to speak to the class teacher during the partial closure weekly calls or book an appointment time via the school office for a call back if a longer discussion is required.

As you will be aware, the government has announced that schools will reopen to all pupils on **8th March 2021**. We are very much looking forward to welcoming back all pupils to face-to-face education. School attendance will be mandatory which will mean that our usual attendance systems and rules will once again apply, including parents' duty to secure their child's regular attendance at school the ability to issue sanctions, including fixed penalty notices in line with Hackney Education's codes of conduct, non-attendance without due reason will result in unauthorised absence. Any absences should to be reported by calling the school office before 8.55am. First day calling will take place to ensure the safeguarding of all pupils. Further information about re-opening will be shared at the start of next week.

Thank you for your continued support at this time.

Mr Stephen O'Brien
Headteacher

Ms Rachel Davie
Executive Headteacher

HOLIDAY HOMEWORK

Thank you to everyone who sent in photos of their holiday homework at the start of the half term. As usual, children were set the task of using some of their half term break to make a model or write a project in order to find out more about their new topic. It looks like the children were very busy over the break finding out lots about their new topics!



DEBATE MATE



Children in the Year 5 and Year 6 learning bubble have been taking part in weekly Debate Mate sessions. Just before the half term they enjoyed a lively and thought-provoking debating session, where they discussed a range of topics and practised their PEEL (point, explanation, evidence and link) skills.

YEAR 5 BAKE-OFF

The children in Year 5 had their very own bake-off competition before the half term break. Whether it's developing reading skills when following the recipe, or improving mathematic language when weighing out all the ingredients. There are definitely many educational benefits to baking and cooking!



SLEEP PLAYS A CRUCIAL ROLE IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF YOUNG MINDS. IN ADDITION TO HAVING A DIRECT EFFECT ON HAPPINESS, RESEARCH SHOWS THAT SLEEP IMPACTS ALERTNESS, ATTENTION, LEARNING, MOOD, RESILIENCE, VOCABULARY AND MEMORY!

GET CAUGHT READING!



A big thank you to everyone that shared their 'get caught reading' photos with us. From reading to a pet iguana, to catching up on a favourite book by the canal, we have seen some fabulous snaps of children reading. Please keep sending in your photos and don't forget to take a photo in your work book day outfits on Thursday 4th March, we look forward to seeing your costumes!



COFFEE MORNINGS

A huge thank you to everyone who has stopped by to watch our coffee morning videos on our website and for the feedback about how helpful these have been. As always, we are keen to ensure content is relevant and interesting so if there are themes that you would like to see in the summer term, please let us know by emailing the school admin account or putting a request in the parent comment box in the school office.

Date	Focus
Friday 5th March	Friday 5th March: Writing: How to support your child to write for pleasure at home (EYFS focus)
Friday 12 th March	Speech and Language: Using stories to develop vocabulary
Friday 19th March	<i>Speech and Language:</i> How to use stories to enhance language development (EYFS focus)
Friday 26 th March	Homework: Strategies to support your child's homework routine

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

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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HEALTHY BODIES!

With lockdown and social distancing measures still in place we are all spending more time at home, which is why physical activity is more important than ever. The NHS states that to be healthy children should:

Have 60 minutes of exercise per day.

Develop strong muscles, bones and good movement skills by doing a variety of physical activity every week.

Do exercises at different intensity levels, the best is the kind that makes you breath faster and feel warmer.

Aim to spread activity throughout the day and break up long periods of not moving with some activity. Try creating a timetable of different activities each day and adding something new each week. Have you tried: jogging, cycling, ball games in the park, a nature hunt? Send your pictures of activity to the home learning email account for a chance to be featured on our social media accounts!