

# Southwold HIGHLIGHTS

Friday 12th March 2021

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Dear Parents and Carers,

We were delighted to open our doors again on Monday to all pupils. It has been a pleasure to see children adapt back quickly to the routines and structures of the school day and to see so many happy faces.

Our COVID19 risk assessment and action plan has been revised to take account of the Government guidance for re-opening safely. It sets out the decisions taken and measures in place to ensure the continued mitigation of risk against the virus within the school environment. You can find a copy on our school website.

A big thank you to our school community for following our systems at drop off and pick up time including only one adult on school site, the wearing of masks and phoning the school office rather than making physical visits. Punctuality is especially important at this time. Learning begins promptly at 8.55am for all pupils with key skills focus work in KS2 and phonics in Early Years and KS1. It is vital that children do not miss this part of the day in order that children build good recall of core knowledge over time.

Learning discrete reading skills is vital and research into reading shows that developing positive attitudes towards reading can also play a key role in children's development. We are constantly refreshing our home reader libraries so that children have fresh content to read. Please help us to build the enjoyment of reading by making sure that children read every night and record what has been read in the home school diary. Don't forget that there are also example questions that you can ask children when reading to help them to develop their understanding and comprehension skills.

Our school has a 'no debt' policy and uses an online service called ScoPay for payments. This system allows parents to make payments for school meals and after school club using the internet. Payments are made through WorldPay so they are secure and reliable. If you need more information about setting this up, please call the school office.

Thank you for your continued support.

Mr Stephen O'Brien Headteacher Ms Rachel Davie Executive Headteacher

## **YEAR 3 KEY SKILLS**



Year 3 got straight into the catch-up curriculum with their daily first key skills session on times tables on Monday. They are focusing on the 4 times table this week. There are many ways to practice times tables at home including chanting, making groups of items or using your fingers. You can also go on Timestable Rockstars!

## **EYFS BALLOON ART**



As the children in EYFS were learning about transport, they had a go at designing hot air balloons. The children practised their brush strokes when decorating the paper plate balloons and then added a hessian basket. If you were going to decorate a hot air balloon what design would you choose?

## **YEAR 2 DANCE**



Year 2 started their new PE unit of Dance this week. The children were moving around the hall pretending to be different sea creatures and were changing their bodies in controlled rhythms. Next the children will be creating sequences of their sea creature movements in order to make choreographed dance.



SMART BLACK SCHOOL SHOES FOR SCHOOL PLEASE!

#### **SOUTHWOLD LOVES READING!**

Last week Southwold celebrated World Book Day, thank you to everyone who dressed up and sent in their pictures. It was fabulous to see the variety in costumes and how much everyone got into the spirit of the day. We have also been receiving lots of pictures of children 'getting caught reading'.

Now that all children are back in school they will be having their daily reading lesson of Daily Supported Reader in KS1 and Destination Reader in KS2.













#### **COFFEE MORNINGS**

There are two coffee mornings left this term but all previous content can still be accessed via the coffee morning page on the school website.

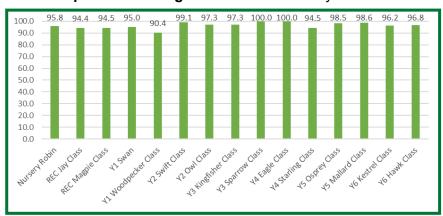
Date	Focus
Friday 19th March	Speech and Language: How to use stories to enhance language development (EYFS focus)
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> March	Homework: Strategies to support your child's homework routine

As a result of the continued partial closures, the high level of personal contact with individual families across the partial closure and the challenges of accurately measuring pupil progress as a result of children just returning to school, 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 or book an appointment time via the school office for a call back if a longer discussion is required about your child's learning.

#### **ATTENDANCE**

It is very important that children are in school every day and on time in order that they can close learning gaps and catch up quickly after the recent partial closure. Whole school attendance for this week was **96.5%** 

Well done to Sparrow and Eagle 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 to
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 to 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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