



Southwold Primary School

HIGHLIGHTS

14th October 2022

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Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you to all of the fathers, uncles, grandads and significant male family members who came to spend a morning in school last week. We had an amazing 136 family members attending. The children were very proud to show off their learning and the feedback from adults who attended was very positive. Please don't forget that a family member is welcome to join their Nursery, Reception, Year 1 or Year 2 child at the short Friday morning reading session from 8.55am - 9.15am. As reading at home is so important we regularly restock our home reading books and make sure that there is enough choice for children. Please help us to stock enough books in the school by making sure that home readers are returned and by checking under beds, sofas and bedrooms to check that none are left behind.

During the first few weeks of the school year, we have been focusing on rehearsing key skills such as reading confidently and with understanding, as well as building writing stamina. We have also been developing our knowledge of times tables and key maths skills such as pairs of numbers that add to 10,100,1000. Please support us by making sure that children practise skills at home too including the use of Mathletics and Times Tables Rockstars. There are some tips in home reading diaries on how you can help or speak to the class teacher who will also be happy to help!

The month of October is Black History Month which has historically focused on events and achievements of the past. This year, however, the focus is on looking forward and making positive change for the better through action. During October, our school is running a series of assemblies and workshops to celebrate Black History Month. We will be exploring this year's theme, looking at key figures who are making an impact today and hearing from a guest speaker who will be talking about how their culture has influenced decisions they have made. The final week of the half term will be World Week, where we will again celebrate the culture and heritage of all pupils, providing further opportunity to discuss ideas covered and to make links across our school community. We hope you will be able to join us for our annual International Evening on Wednesday 19th October.

With the cost of living continuing to rise, these are extremely difficult and uncertain times for everyone. Trying to get the correct information about which services are available to you is important. Hackney Council have created a booklet which identifies the local support available. [Please click here or scan the QR code on the next page to access the guide.](#)

Ms Rachael Carr - Headteacher | Ms Rachel Davie - Executive Headteacher



Reminder



**SCHOOL STARTS AT 8:55AM
AND LEARNING STARTS
STRAIGHT AWAY.
BE ON TIME
AT FIVE TO NINE!**



**PLEASE MAKE SURE THAT
CHILDREN COME TO SCHOOL
PREPARED!
ALL CHILDREN NEED
A PE KIT OF A PLAIN WHITE
T-SHIRT, BLACK SHORTS OR
JOGGING BOTTOMS AND
PLIMSOLLS**

Stanley's Stick

In Reception this week, the children have been reading 'Stanley's Stick' which has sparked an interest in inspirational creativity in their classrooms. Using their arts and crafts resources, they have been making fantastic play-dough creatures with features such as eyes and arms.



Building Key Maths Skills

Year 1 have been developing their key mathematical skills, such as size ordering, problem-solving, and logical thinking by using 'sorting hoops'. They spent an afternoon in the hall organising themselves into separate parts based on different characteristics and then joining together to form the whole.



WWII Classroom Experience

Year 6 took part in a WWII classroom workshop where they experienced what it would have been like to be at school during this era. They role-played by hiding under their desks when an air raid siren started and had to write with ink from a pot. They then got to look at all the fascinating WWII artefacts.



Pupil Voice Fayre

Pupils from years 1 to 6 visited stalls at our annual Pupil Voice Fayre last week, where Ambassadors from Year 6 explained what each role entailed and answered questions from interested students. The children then completed application forms for the role they would most like to fulfill. Appointed ambassadors will be announced soon.



Visit from Councillor Rathbone

Some of our Year 6 students who have applied for the role of Head Boy and Head Girl met with Cllr Rathbone to discuss his role within the council. They were able to ask questions about how he entered politics and ask for his advice on setting up their own manifesto and entering the election process. We are looking forward to the School Council Election!



Key Dates

AUTUMN TERM 2022

Staff Training Days:
Thursday 1st and Friday 2nd September

Children's Start Date:
Monday 5th September

Meet the Teacher Days:
Monday 12th September - Years 1 & 2
Tuesday 13th September - Years 3 & 4
Friday 16th September - Years 5 & 6

Pupils and Siblings Photographs:
Wednesday 14th September

Queen Elizabeth II Funeral (SCHOOL CLOSED):
Monday 19th September

Bring a Dad/Significant Male to School Day:
Wednesday 28th September

World Week
Monday 17th October - Friday 21st October

Traditional Dress Day / International Evening:
Wednesday 19th October

Democracy Day & School Council Elections (pupils only):
Friday 21st October

Half Term Holiday:
Monday 24th October - Friday 28th October

Children's Start Date:
Monday 31st October

Parents' Evening:
Thursday 8th December

Last Day of Autumn Term:
Friday 16th December (SCHOOL CLOSING 2PM)

Christmas Holiday:
Monday 19th December - Monday 2nd January 2023

Staff Training Day (SCHOOL CLOSED):
Tuesday 3rd January 2023

Children's Start Date:
Wednesday 4th January 2023

Coffee Mornings

Parents/Carers are invited to drop into our coffee morning sessions on various themes which are held in Raven Room at 9:15am on a Friday morning. 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.

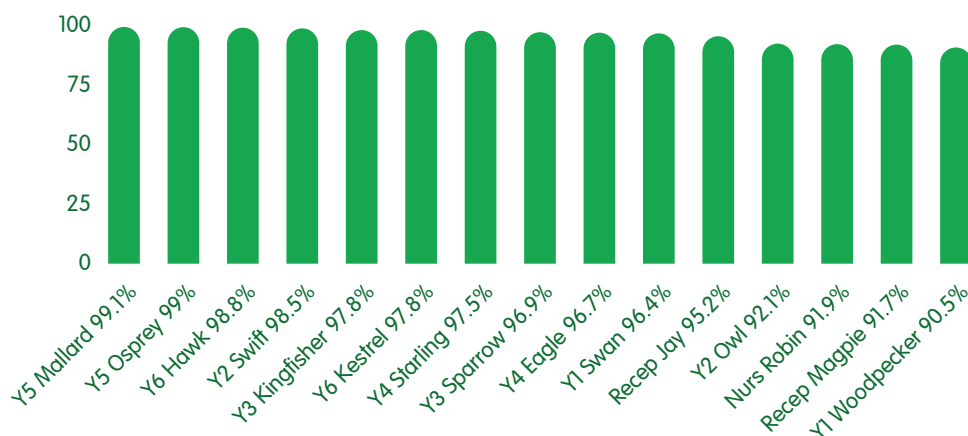
Date	Focus
Friday 21st October	<u>Homework Support</u> : How can I set a routine and help my child with their homework?
EYFS Coffee Mornings	
Thursday 24th November	<u>Language Walks</u> : How can I develop my child's listening and vocabulary skills whilst exploring the outdoors?

Attendance

Regular attendance at school promotes pupils' well-being, maximises progress in learning and helps pupils reach their potential. We are very proud of the achievements and progress of our pupils and are passionate about a child's right to an education. Attendance for all children is monitored weekly with the school seeking to work in partnership with parents to achieve above 97%.

Whole school attendance for last week was 95.9%.

Well done to Year 5 Mallard Class, the weekly winners with 99.1%.



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www.southwold.hackney.sch.uk

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