



# Southwold Primary School

## HIGHLIGHTS

17th November 2023

### Dear Parents and Carers,

As we move towards the month of December, we have a range of seasonal events and concerts lined up. We have listed some of these on the back of this newsletter but please also look out for posters and information on our website. Each year group will be performing a selection of themed songs to which parents are invited. Nursery and Reception classes will undertake a traditional performance which is always very popular so please make sure you arrive in good time. We will of course be teaching a full timetable until the holidays to ensure no day is wasted. Children are expected to attend school every day until we break up on Wednesday 20th December 2023.

You will receive your child's termly report at our Parents' Evening on Thursday 7th December 2023. This will give more information about their achievements so far, as well as learning targets for the coming term. A letter inviting you to parents' evening along with details of the online booking system will have been sent home to you, if you have not seen it, please check in your child's book bag. We are keen to make sure that all parents meet with teachers and discuss their child's progress as well as take up the opportunity to look through their workbooks and celebrate their hard work. Therefore, if you have not seen the letter, or are finding it difficult to make an appointment please call the school office so that we can help. Contact details are on the back of this newsletter.

Reception places are allocated in a cross London scheme which is organised by our local authority, Hackney Education, not the school. This admissions process is for children aged 3 and 4 (born between 1st September 2019 and 31st August 2020) who will start reception class at primary school in September 2024. All parents should apply by 15th January 2024, even if your child is already in the nursery class. You can access the application form at [www.eadmissions.org.uk](http://www.eadmissions.org.uk).

As the weather gets colder children will be bringing more items to school including hats, gloves and scarves. To help us, please make sure all items are named. We currently have a number of lost property items that we cannot return to children because their names are not written on them. If you have an item missing, please come to the school office to view the lost property storage.

The Children's Commissioner for England, Dame Rachel De Souza has an important role in looking out for children and making sure their voices are heard. Ahead of the General Election, 'The Big Ambition' project is giving children in England a chance to speak up and share what matters most to them. Please scan the QR code on the back of this newsletter for you or your child to submit your views. The Commissioner will then pass on their thoughts to the government, ensuring their views are fairly represented and heard by the most senior members of England.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

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

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### Reminders

#### Curriculum Newsletters

Don't forget, curriculum information can be found on the school website year group pages!



#### Scooters and Bicycle Parking

Please park scooters and bikes in the allocated parking areas taking care to store them safely and securely.



### Constructing Photo Frames

For DT Day, EYFS practiced their fine motor skills by making photo frames alongside their grown-ups. Through teamwork, they explored different materials and design ideas to construct these special frames. Each child's unique artistic expression shone through, turning each frame into a wonderful reflection of their imagination and skills.



### Animal Workshop

Year 1 had an incredible opportunity to enhance their science learning through an engaging animal workshop. This hands-on experience allowed them to explore and interact with a diverse range of animals, from adorable meerkats to fascinating Australian tree frogs and even skunks, providing valuable insights into different species around the world.



### Scientists for a Day

Year 3 enjoyed an amazing visit to the Science Museum where they engaged in hands-on experiments at the 'Wonder Lab'. This wonderful experience not only enhanced their scientific classroom learning but also showcased the beauty and relevance of science in our every day lives, leaving them more inspired and excited about future science lessons.



## Values Award Winners

Congratulations to all of our Autumn Term Values Award winners who have demonstrated each of our values of kindness, empathy, respect and friendship. During our Values Assembly, the winners were presented with their trophies which are proudly displayed in our cabinet in the school office.



## Spelling Bee Finalists

A massive well done to our exceptional Spelling Bee finalists for their remarkable dedication and linguistic ability. Their hard work and impressive spelling skills earned them a well-deserved spot among the federation's finalists. Well done to Christopher for bringing home gold for Southwold's Upper KS2 group.



## Key Dates

### AUTUMN TERM (2) 2023

Year 2 Swift Class Assembly - Middle Hall  
Year 2 Owl Class Assembly - Top Hall  
 Wednesday 29th November at 9:05am.

Parents' Evening - School Finishes at 1:45pm  
Thursday 7th December

EYFS, Year 1 & 2 Pantomime - in school  
 (Pupils only)  
 Monday 11th December at 9:30am.

Years 3, 4, 5 & 6 Pantomime - Hackney Empire  
 (Ticket Holders Only)  
 Wednesday 13th December in the afternoon.

Parent Reading Celebration for EYFS, Years 1 & 2  
 Friday 15th December at 9:15am in the Lower Hall

Winter Warmer Event - Main Playground  
 Tuesday 19th December at 3:30pm - 4:30pm.

Christmas Jumper Day & Lunch  
 (Pupils only)  
 Tuesday 19th December.

Last Day of Term  
 Wednesday 20th December  
 School finishes at 2:00pm.

INSET Days  
 Thursday 21st December 2023  
 Monday 8th January 2024

Children Return to School  
 Tuesday 9th January 2024 at 8:55am.

## Coffee Mornings

Parents/Carers are invited to drop into our sessions on various themes which are held in Raven Room or the Lower Hall at 9:15am on a Friday morning. These give you an opportunity to meet with other parents as well as to 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 24th November	<u>Wellbeing</u> : What tools and strategies can I teach my child to support their mental health? Raven Room
Friday 1st December	<u>Eco</u> : How do we teach children about sustainability? (Children can attend this coffee morning) Lower Hall
Friday 8th December	<u>Christmas Holiday Activities</u> : What activities can we try in the holidays and what local places can we visit? (Children can attend this coffee morning) Lower Hall
EYFS Workshops (9:00am in the Lower Hall)	
Thursday 23rd November	<u>Maths</u> : How can I develop my child's mathematical understanding at home?

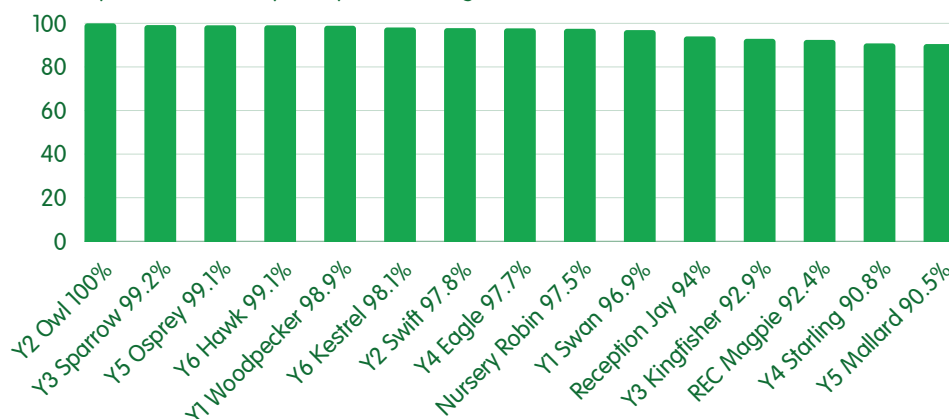
## Attendance

The whole school attendance for the last week was 96.3%.

Well done to Year 2 Owl Class, last week's winner with 100%.

Attending school every day makes a real difference.

Please remember that WE DO NOT AUTHORISE HOLIDAYS IN TERM TIME and unauthorised absences may result in a fixed penalty notice being issued.



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[www.southwold.hackney.sch.uk](http://www.southwold.hackney.sch.uk)



Scan to complete  
 The Big Ambition survey