



# Southwold Primary School

## HIGHLIGHTS

1st December 2023

### Dear Parents and Carers,

Last week children across the school joined in with a number of key events to shine a spotlight on anti-bullying. The theme was 'Make A Noise About Bullying'. During the week there was an 'Odd Socks Day' where adults and children wore odd socks to celebrate what makes us all unique. Through assemblies and class PSHE lessons, children learnt and reinforced their understanding of what bullying is, the difference between bullying and unkindness and what the role of a bystander means. Our school takes any allegations of bullying very seriously and we have a zero tolerance approach. Staff ensure that allegations are dealt with quickly. We are proud to be a Stonewall Champion School and adopt the 'no bystanders' approach of "if you hear it, stop it" to tackle any language or actions used in a derogatory way.

We hope you will now have booked your parent consultation appointment in order to discuss your child's first term of the new academic year. You will have received a letter home with instructions explaining how to book online or alternatively, please call the school office who will be able to support you. Learning at home continues to be of high importance, and ways in which you can ensure your child is maximising their learning opportunities in school include making sure there is time for reading every day, practising times tables (counting in steps for younger children) and practising the spellings that are sent home every week in Years 1 to 6.

We work very hard to be a smart school where children can feel proud. An important part of this is our school uniform. Please remember that children are expected to wear black school shoes and not boots as these are uncomfortable when sitting on the carpet and can compromise safety when playing on equipment outside. Please also ensure children are bringing a book bag to school rather than a large rucksack as space in classrooms for storage is limited. Book bags can be purchased through our uniform supplier: <https://www.mapac.com>.

Children have accessed a range of trips and workshops across this term to enhance their learning experiences. We regularly post news on social media to share what we have been doing. If you have not already done so, please follow us on Twitter and Facebook to see weekly updates on all the exciting things going on in our school. Links to our pages can be found on the reverse of this newsletter.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

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

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### Reminders

#### Smart Shoes to School

Children are expected to wear smart black school shoes to school and not boots.



#### School Start Time

School starts promptly at 8.55am. Please support your child by ensuring they arrive on time and ready for learning.



### Autumnal Changes

The children in EYFS embarked on a trip around the local area. They visited Millfields Park to investigate how the autumn season impacts nature. They observed how the colours of leaves had changed and enjoyed collecting some natural autumnal treasures, including bright-coloured leaves.



### Local Area Walk

Last week, Year 1 enjoyed an engaging local area walk, gaining a deeper understanding of their local environment. The children enjoyed exploring and observing some of the physical features and human features that were found along the way, such as the canal, the canal boats, the local shop and the park.



### Constructing Viking Boats

Year 5 have been exploring a range of materials and techniques to design and make their very own Viking longboat, inspired by the Oseberg burial ship in Norway. They have analysed the best materials to strengthen their boats and discovered how to create sails, masts and strakes by creating joints and hinges.



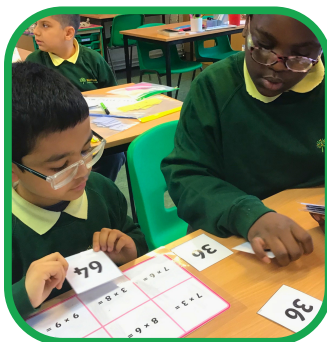
## Liberal Arts at IntoUniversity

Year 6 Visited IntoUniversity to focus on 'Liberal Arts'. They learnt about a range of people in this field of work and took a trip to the Wallace Collection and Cambridge University to learn about art and the range of different courses you can study at university. At the end of the week, they graduated and performed all the different things they had learnt.



## Times Tables Intervention

The Times Tables Ambassadors have been diligently conducting their times tables interventions in various classes across the school. Their primary focus has been on mentoring pupils in Year 4, providing support to enhance their recall of all times tables. We have witnessed significant progress outcomes as a result of their efforts.



## Key Dates

### AUTUMN TERM (2) 2023

**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 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

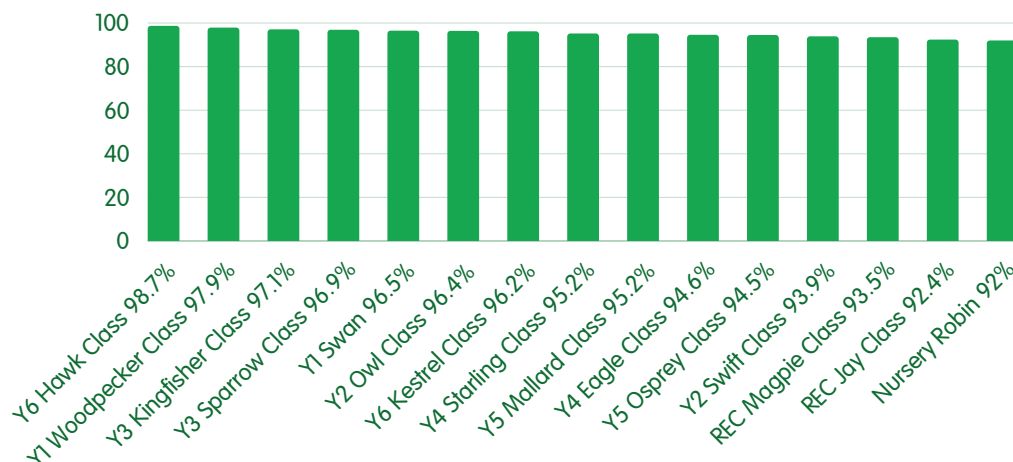
## Attendance

The whole school attendance for the last week was 95.7%.

Well done to Year 6 Hawk class, last week's winner with 98.7%.

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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 @SchoolSouthwold

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



Scan the QR code to view  
the 2023 - 2024 term dates.