



Southwold Primary School

HIGHLIGHTS

19th January 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

As this is the first newsletter of 2024, we would like to take the opportunity to wish you a very Happy New Year! All children have started new topics. You will have received a year group leaflet explaining the topics we are covering over the first half of the Spring Term and any help that you can give from home is always very welcome. Thank you to those parents who helped with creative projects over the holidays which have helped to make fantastic classroom displays.

From Monday 29th January until Friday 2nd February we will be undertaking Work and Enterprise Week where children will be finding out all sorts of things about the world of work. Some year groups will be finding out what it is like to work in the community as a doctor or a fire fighter, while others will be thinking about how people can realise their ambitions. Children will be encouraged to think about what they are good at and what they might like to do as a job when they are older. All classes will go on a visit to a place of work or have a visitor from someone who works in the community.

Work and Enterprise Week forms part of our personal, social and health curriculum which encompasses life skills and ways to be safe, healthy and happy. If you are interested in knowing more about our curriculum themes, there is more information, including a full topic map of the year on our website. We are also running a series of drop in sessions for parents which are listed on the back of this newsletter. All parents are invited to come in and learn more about how we teach and what children learn whilst in school.

The world around us has changed very quickly and whilst new technologies offer so many opportunities and exciting new knowledge and ways of communicating than ever before they also hold risks, particularly to children. We work hard to ensure that children understand how to stay safe while using the internet, whether through a computer, telephone or game, and the risks of sending images or being in contact with people they do not know online. You can also help to protect them from putting themselves at risk by monitoring their use of online technologies and restricting access to social media. There are many places to seek further advice and information on the ever changing world of online technologies and the risks to young people. A particularly useful source of information which contains information as well as activities for parents and children of all ages is www.thinkuknow.co.uk.

School Streets is the Council's pioneering programme to transform roads outside schools so that pedestrians and cyclists are prioritised at school start and finish times. The schemes tackle congestion and improve air quality at the school gates, making it easier and safer to walk and cycle to school. Pedestrian and cycle zone signs are placed at the entry/exit points of each School Street zone. Additional enforcement methods exist on a case by case basis. This may include the use of physical barriers and/or automatic number plate recognition (ANPR) cameras that issue penalty notices. We encourage all families to walk, scoot or bike to school. There are designated scooter and bike racks in our playgrounds but please ensure you use an appropriate lock to secure anything left on the school site during the day.

Thank you for all of your support.

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

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Reading Development

Reading allows learners to develop their cognitive abilities, grow their knowledge and enrich their vocabulary. 15 minutes of daily reading can make people feel 69% more accomplished, 55% more relaxed and 33% happier!



School Start Time

School starts at 8.55am. Please ensure children arrive on time to line up and enter the school with their class teacher when the bell goes.



Home Corner Imaginative Play

The children in EYFS have been enjoying their new home corner. Over the past week, they have engaged in imaginative play by pretending to cook, bake cakes and eat breakfast together. This has helped them to develop their social skills by interacting with others, sharing ideas, and learning to compromise.



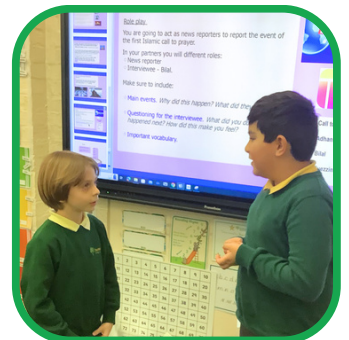
Classifying Materials

This week in Science, Year 1 were classifying and sorting materials based on their properties. The children were placing different objects onto tables and discussing the similarities and differences between the materials where they learnt that some materials are hard while others are soft, some are transparent while others are opaque.



Learning about Islam

Year 3 are learning all about Islam in Religious Education. This week they learnt about why the call to prayer (Adham) is important to Muslims and then did a role play activity pretending to be reporters. They learnt that the call to prayer was created to let Muslims know it is time to pray and to remind them of their faith throughout the day.





JRSOs Road Safety Assembly

This week, our Junior Road Safety Officers (JRSOs) lead their first KS2 assembly. They shared the posters they created to remind children to 'Be bright, stay in sight'. They also reminded children of the road safety rules, along with top tips on how to stay safe in the dark, when crossing the roads.



'Viridis Velo' Cycling Champions

Sporting their new 'Viridis Velo' cycling jerseys, our Cycling Champions came top of the teams overall at the third competitive YHPSC event of this academic year. Four of our racers won medals as follows: Jayden Hurtado - Gold, Janai Bartlett - Silver, Mia Suarez-Swindells - Silver, and Leon Abdulrahman, bronze.



Key Dates

SPRING TERM 1 (2024)

Year 4 Eagle Class Assembly - Middle Hall
Wednesday 31st January 2024 at 9:05am

Year 4 Starling Class Assembly - Top Hall
Wednesday 17th January 2024 at 9:05am

Work & Enterprise Week
Week beginning Monday 29th January 2024

Enterprise Fayre - Playground
Thursday 1st February 2024 at 3:30pm

Children's Mental Health Week
Week beginning Monday 5th February 2024

Safer Internet Day
Tuesday 6th February 2024

Last Day of Term
Friday 9th February 2024
School finishes at 3:30pm

Half Term Holiday
Monday 12th February 2024 - Friday 16th February 2024

Children's Return to School
Monday 19th February 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. These allow you 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. EYFS Workshops are held separately. Please see the dates below.

Date	Focus
Friday 26th January	<u>Writing</u> : How can I engage my child to write creatively at home?
Friday 2nd February	<u>Children's Mental Health Week</u> : How can I support my child's wellbeing through developing positive connections?
Friday 9th February	<u>Online safety</u> : How can I support my child to use digital technologies responsibly, respectfully, critically and creatively? (Safer Internet Day Parent Workshop)

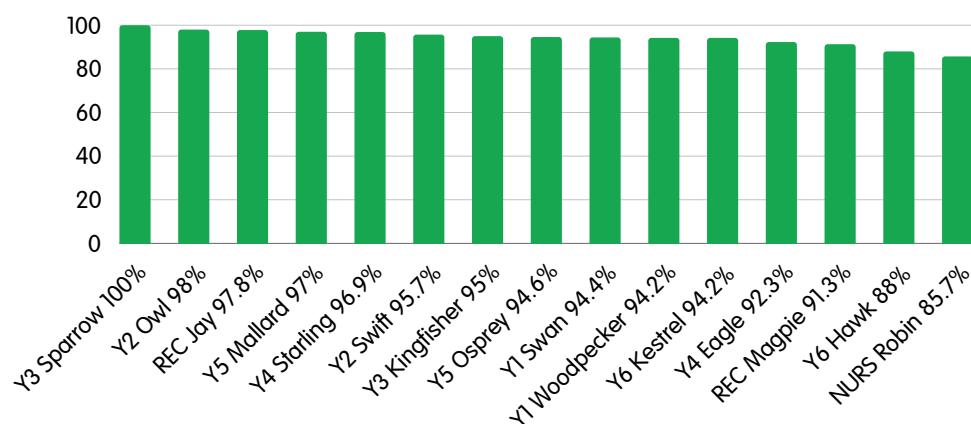
Attendance

The whole school attendance for the last week was 94.4%.

Well done to Year 2 Sparrow 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.



Southwold Primary School's

Wonderful Reading, Writing and Maths Scores!

New data has revealed the Hackney primary schools with the highest reading, writing and maths scores for 2022-23. In Hackney, Southwold Primary School saw 87% of eligible students achieving the expected standard in reading, writing and maths in key stage two in the 2022-23 school year. A fantastic achievement! Read more at <https://www.londonworld.com/your-london/hackney/revealed-the-primary-schools-in-hackney-with-the-best-reading-writing-and-maths-attainment-4481485>



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