



Southwold Primary School

HIGHLIGHTS

2nd February 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

The weather has been variable lately but we are keen that children get fresh air and to play outside every day, so please make sure that they bring a warm coat, hat and gloves to school on days that are colder. These should be clearly marked with your child's name in case they get lost. Please remember that we expect children to wear black shoes whilst at school and not boots for safety reasons, as well as to make sure that they are comfortable when in class. PE at this time of the year mostly takes place indoors but we still expect all children to have a white t-shirt and plain black shorts, or black jogging bottoms for PE lessons.

At the very beginning of each school day, children get straight to learning tasks whilst the teacher calls the register. These often involve rehearsing key skills such as spellings, handwriting or times tables. This is also the time that many children read one to one with an adult or receive additional help. It is very important that children are on time for these sessions by being in the playground ready to line up at 8:55am. Please help children to be ready and arrive in good time for the start of the day. Setting a morning routine, preparing the night before and being consistent in expectations support children in the important skills of responsibility and time keeping necessary throughout life.

We aim to change home reading books at least once a week (more often for younger children), and returning home readers to school will help us to do this. We make sure that children have a wide selection of books to choose from but the breadth of books reduces when these are left at home. Please could you check for any school home reading books that may have slipped behind the sofa or under the bed, pop them in your child's book bag or give them directly to any member of staff during morning drop off.

Children are expected to know all of their multiplication tables by the end of Year 4 and they benefit hugely from any help that you can give from home. We have given all children in Years 3 to 6 a password to access an online programme to help them learn their times tables called Times Table Rock Stars. Please encourage them to use this, as well as practise with you when you see the opportunity.

Thank you for all of your support.

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

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School Shoes

Smart black shoes for school please. School uniform items can be purchased from Mapac. To order, please scan the QR code on the next page or visit our school website for the link.



Lost Property & School Uniform

If you have misplaced a jumper, lunchbox or other item, please call into the school office who will show you to the lost property cupboard.



Practising Writing Skills

EYFS have been enjoying their new writing pads and have been using them to practise different writing techniques. Some have been practising their letters and numbers, while others have been drawing pictures and telling stories. We are thrilled to see them engaging with this new activity and developing their fine motor skills.



Clay Sculpting

This week, Year 1 have been perfecting their sculpting skills in Art. They have enjoyed using clay to explore a range of sculpting methods such as; rolling, pinching, mark making, joining and carving. They have also used this time to make links to the Science curriculum on 'materials', discussing the properties of clay.



Making Bread and Soup

For Work and Enterprise Week, Year 3 have been learning all about food. This week, the children visited Hackney School of Food where they made Irish soda bread and soup. The children responsibly worked as a team and used different kneading and chopping skills to make their food.



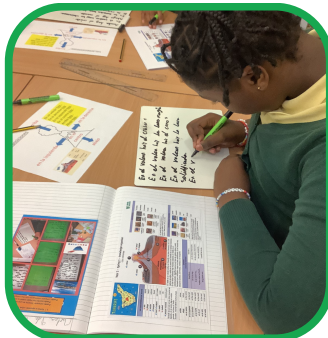
Librarians

The Librarians have been discussing the different jobs they do and what they like about their roles. Some children prefer handing out stickers to their peers, whereas others like keeping their classroom libraries tidy. The Year 6 Librarians updated our reading display, recording the class reading diary percentages based on how many children have had their diaries signed.



Spanish Language Learning

Year 5 have just started a new project with our partner school in Tenerife. The theme of the project is learning about the geography of Tenerife, with a specific focus on the island's volcanoes. Pupils have been drawing on prior learning of the parts of a volcano so that they can confidently begin to present their ideas on the features of the island in Spanish.



Key Dates

SPRING TERM 1 (2024)

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 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)

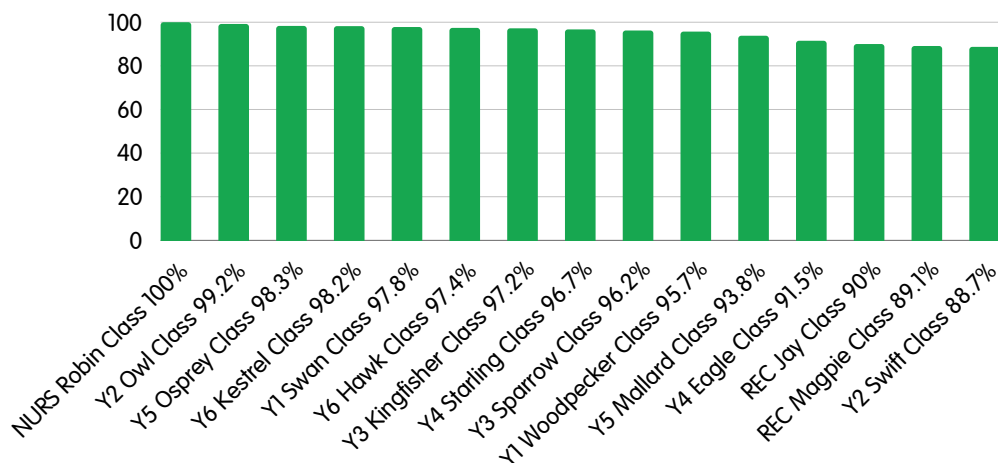
Attendance

The whole school attendance for the last week was 94.9%.

Well done to Nursery Robin 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.



Term End and Start

The first half of spring term ends at 3:30pm on Friday 9th February 2024, and the second half of the term starts at 8:55am on Monday 19th February 2024. Please ensure your child returns to school on time and in full uniform ready to learn.



School Uniform

Please scan the QR code to order school uniform.



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