

Friday 28th February 2025

## Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back, half term holidays always seem to go so quickly, but I hope that you all enjoyed a restful break! I managed to see family and catch up with friends, including a walk in the country with Ms Davie. It was lovely to tell her about everything that we have been up to across the schools since she left us for her new role in Camden.

Whilst the schools were closed last week, our site managers were busy as always maintaining our school grounds. Our gardeners were also in to replace the plants in the flower beds with spring blooms. Families at Orchard will have noticed the new hedge planted along the edge of the Key Stage 1 playground to offer more greenery. Gardening is a key aspect of our federation enrichment offer and I am pleased to share with you that we plan to increase the number of gardening lessons that children have from the Summer term.

Next week, the schools will be celebrating 'World Book Day' on Thursday 6th March. This is an opportunity to celebrate all things reading! To make the event even more special, we invite the children to dress up as their favourite book character. This is a fantastic opportunity for them to showcase their creativity and imagination while sharing their love for literature with their peers. We ask that costumes remain simple, fun and comfortable, and that they reflect a character from a book your child enjoys. In addition to the costume fun, there will be a variety of exciting activities throughout the day, including: themed assemblies, peer reading and teacher take-over; where teachers will share their favourite childhood tale. Each child will receive a £1 World Book Day Book Token, which can be used to buy a special book from participating bookshops or exchanged for a £1 discount off a full-priced book. We also encourage you to take this opportunity to visit your local library, explore new stories and inspire your child's love of reading.

Please be reminded of the key dates for the academic year, which can be found down the side of this update, and enjoy the selection of news items from across the Viridis schools below.

As always, I look forward to seeing you all on the different school gates in the coming weeks.

Kind regards,

**Mr Stephen O'Brien - Executive Headteacher**



## Key Dates

**World Book Day**  
Thursday 6th March

**Parents Evening**  
Thursday 27th March - School closes at 1:00pm

**School Closes for Easter Holiday**  
Friday 4th April at 1:00pm

**Children's Start Date**  
Tuesday 22nd April

**Bank Holiday**  
Monday 5th May

**Families' Week**  
Week beginning Tuesday 6th May

**Science & Technology Day**  
Friday 23rd May

**School Closes for May Half Term**  
Friday 23rd May at 3:30pm

**Children's Start Date**  
Monday 2nd June at 8:55am

**Keeping Healthy Week**  
Week beginning Monday 23rd June

## Orchard

After much deliberation, Orchard school councilors were excited to award the winners of the reading competition with certificates for the best mini library and reading corner. They were impressed by the dedication and effort the teachers had put into creating these inviting reading spaces!



## Southwold

This week as part of their art unit, Year 3 enjoyed a walk around Walthamstow Village. They explored the Maud Milton street mosaics within the community and were inspired by the mosaics that are all connected to history and the local area. They loved the bright colours and textures and took inspiration for their own project!



## Hoxton Garden

Hoxton Garden raised an impressive £180 from their Valentine's Bake Sale held just before the half term break. Congratulations to the winner and well done to all those who entered. A huge thank you to all those who donated and bought cakes and especially Ms Shola for organising such a wonderful event to raise money for the school.

