



Dear Parents and Carers,

On behalf of the Governing Board, we wanted to share a brief update regarding our leadership team. Our Executive Headteacher, Stephen O'Brien is away from work, with Rachael Carr taking over his role on an interim basis. Rachael is an experienced leader in our federation, having worked across all three schools within the last eleven years. This will not impact the children's routines or learning. You can continue to contact our headteacher and school staff as and when needed in the usual ways.

Once again, we would like to take the opportunity to wish you a very Happy New Year! All children have now started their 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 26th until Friday 30th January, 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. All classes will go on a visit to a place of work or have a visitor from someone who works in the community. If you would like to speak to the children about your own job, please do speak with your child's class teacher.

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 new website. Following parent feedback, we have updated the website to make it easier to use and find the information that you need.

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 children from putting themselves at risk by monitoring their use of online technologies and restricting access to social media. A gentle reminder that the recommended age for using Whatsapp is 16+. 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 <https://saferinternet.org.uk/guide-and-resource/parents-and-carers>

Thank you for all of your support.

Ms Ruth Grover - Headteacher

Nature Walk

This week, children in Nursery had a wonderful time on their walk to Millfields Park for a nature hunt. The children enjoyed exploring the park and discovering a variety of natural items such as leaves and sticks!



Exploring Shapes

This week, Year 2 have been exploring 3D shapes! They sorted cubes, spheres, cones, and more by looking at faces, edges, and vertices. The children had fun spotting shapes in everyday objects and learning what makes each one special.



Anglo Saxons

Year 4 learned all about the Anglo-Saxons on a school trip to the British Museum. They explored precious items including jewellery and pottery. Later on, they even had a chance to visit Ancient Egypt and consolidate their learning on mummification and canopic jars!



In this issue:

Headteacher's Letter
Reminders
Nature Walk
Exploring Shapes
Anglo Saxons
Holiday Homework
Apollo Music Project
Coffee Morning
Attendance
Term End and Start
School Uniform Ordering

Reminders

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.



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.



Holiday Homework

This week, our KS2 holiday homework winners were celebrated in assembly, where they showcased their projects. These impressive pieces incorporated a wide range of skills and knowledge and their projects covered a variety of curriculum topics!



Apollo Music Project

Children in KS2 enjoyed a visit to Regent Hall to watch the orchestra perform as part of the Apollo Music Project. They listened to several famous pieces of classical music and learned more about the instruments the musicians were playing.



Key Dates

Year 5 Mallard Class Assembly

Wednesday 28th January at 9:05am - Top Hall

Year 5 Osprey Class Assembly

Wednesday 28th January at 9:05am - Middle Hall

Work and Enterprise Week

Week beginning 26th January

Enterprise Fayre

Thursday 29th January at 3:30pm

Children's Mental Health Week

Week beginning 9th February

Safer Internet Day

Thursday 10th February

Year 4 Eagle Class Assembly

Wednesday 11th February at 9:05am - Middle Hall

Year 4 Starling Class Assembly

Wednesday 11th February at 9:05am - Top Hall

Valentine's Bake Sale

Thursday 12th February at 3:30pm

Children break up for the half term

Friday 13th February

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 23 rd January	<u>Children's Mental Health</u> : How can i help my child develop healthy sleep habits?
Friday 6 th February	<u>MFL</u> : What do children learn in Spanish and how can language learning be supported at home? (Children can attend this coffee morning)

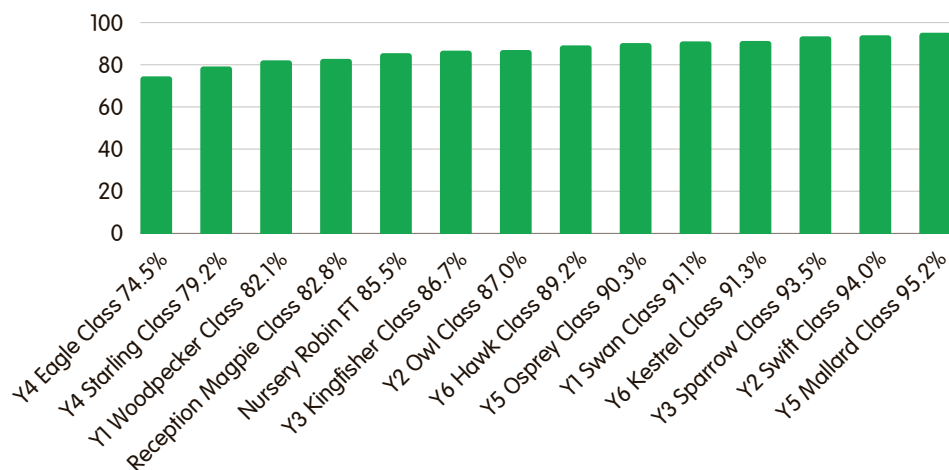
Attendance

The whole school attendance for the last week was 87.7%.

Well done to Year 5 Mallard Class, last week's winners with 99.0%.

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 the spring term ends on Friday 13th February at 3:30pm. Please scan the QR code to view our 2025 -2026 term dates.



School Uniform

Please scan the QR code to order school uniform.



Southwold Primary School
Detmold Road
London
E5 9NL

020 8806 5201

@SchoolSouthwold

www.southwold.hackney.sch.uk