

Dear Parents & Carers,

Many of our Year 5 pupils are looking forward to their trip to Kench Hill activity centre in Kent next month. This will give them the opportunity to experience the great outdoors and try out new adventure activities. This is the first time we have had children from all three of our partnership schools attending together. We hope that this will create many opportunities for new friendships and support the start of their transition year to secondary school. We look forward to sharing news of their activities with you through regular noticeboard and website/Twitter updates as well as in this newsletter.

Making sure our school sites are safe and secure is a constant priority for us. The end of the school day is a very busy time when the school gates are necessarily open. Although we have members of the senior team stationed at exits, please could all parents ensure that they collect their children from the line in the playground and not before, letting the adults know that they have been collected. We have also recently reviewed our emergency management policy, so that we are prepared in case of a major incident outside of the school which means that we have to keep exits closed. In this exceptional situation we would send all parents a text to inform them that the school has entered a 'lock down' and no one will be permitted to enter or leave the building. In the highly unusual situation, please be assured that the intention is to ensure that everyone remains safe.

All children will have been set homework tasks and projects for half term. Please support them with this by making sure that tasks are completed and children have the opportunity to read and talk about their learning at home. Knowing times tables is particularly helpful, along with telling the time on both analogue and digital clocks, counting money and of course sharing a book.

We hope that you have a very happy half term break and we look forward to seeing children safely back on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> June at 8:55am.

Thank you for all of your support

Ms Rachel Davie  
Headteacher

Mr Stephen Hall  
Executive Headteacher

## MUSIC FESTIVAL



Our Samba Band is in full rehearsal using the instruments awarded to us at the Mayor of Hackney Music Awards. The Orchard Orchestra is also growing with our new guitarist and percussion section! They are all getting ready for the Federation Festival of Music in July!



## TRIP TO KEW



Year 3 enjoyed a visit to Kew Gardens to explore and compare the different plants. We had a fabulous time

learning about plants from all over the world. Sycamore Class even managed to get a class photo under a sycamore tree which had large clumps of seeds ready to disperse!

**CHILDREN RETURN TO SCHOOL ON MONDAY 4TH JUNE AT 8:55AM**  
**ENJOY A SAFE AND HAPPY HALF TERM HOLIDAY!**



## CYCLING NEWS

On the 11th May, Orchard and Southwold cyclists from years 4 and 5 came to the seventh inter school Hackney cycle race of the school year. It was a really challenging race in Hackney Downs as the intrepid competitors had to ride fixed wheel bikes with no brakes! Lev from Orchard came first in his first race, and all of the children did Orchard and Southwold proud with their fierce determination.

## READING & POETRY

**Year 4** have been exploring the wonderful world of poetry. After reading and performing a range of poems by Allan Ahlberg, they spent some time discussing the features of the poems and the impact of the words used. The children then used one of their favourite poems, "Please, Mrs Butler", as a structure for their own writing which they bravely performed in front



their mothers and other female family members during the Bring a Mum or Significant Female to School session. **Year 5** have been enjoying reading Emil and the Detectives. A brilliant novel which captured the minds of all of the year group. When his seven pounds goes missing on the train, Emil is determined to get it back and when he teams up with the detectives he meets in Berlin, it's just the start of a marvellous money-retrieving adventure.



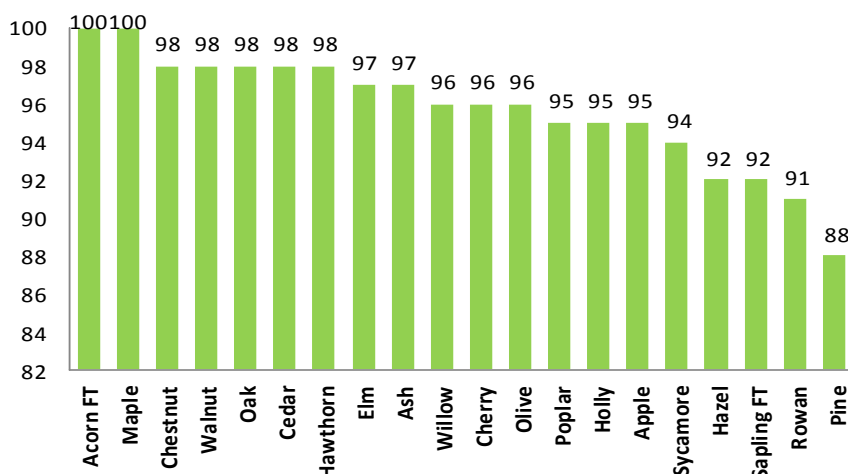
## SUMMER TERM COFFEE MORNINGS

Coffee mornings run in the flexi room on the first floor at 9:15am on Friday mornings. We hope that you can make time to drop in and join us. Tea, coffee and biscuits are all provided!

Date	Focus
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> June	Keeping children safe/ transitions outside school
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> June	Developing Speech and Language How to introduce new vocabulary and embed in daily language
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> June	Music - Samba Band Learn how to play in a samba band!

## ATTENDANCE

Children have only 190 school days in a year so coming to school everyday makes a real difference! Whole school attendance for last week was **96.6%**  
**Well done to Acorn FT and Maple Class**, the weekly winners with 100%



### Key dates

**Summer Term 2018**

**Half Term Holiday**

Monday 28<sup>th</sup> May to  
Friday 1<sup>st</sup> June

**Keeping Healthy Week**

Starts Monday 25<sup>th</sup> June

**Parents Evening**

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> July

**Staff INSET Day**

Friday 6<sup>th</sup> July

**End of Term Finish Date**

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> July at 2pm

**Autumn Term 2018**

**Start Date:**

Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> September

**Half Term Holiday**

Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> to

Friday 26<sup>th</sup> October

**Children Return**

Monday 29<sup>th</sup> October

**Parents Evening:**

Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> November

**End of Term Finish Date:**

Friday 21<sup>st</sup> December at 2pm

**Spring Term 2019**

**Start Date:**

Monday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2019

**Half Term Holiday:**

Monday 18<sup>th</sup> to Friday 22<sup>nd</sup>  
February

**Staff Training Day:**

Monday 25<sup>th</sup> February

**Children Return**

Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> February

**Parents Evening:**

Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March

**Finish Date:**

Friday 5<sup>th</sup> April at 2pm

*Please see up to date events & dates for class assemblies on our website. You can also follow us on Facebook & Twitter!*