

Dear Parents & Carers,

As the winter break approaches we have a range of seasonal events and concerts lined up. We have listed some of these on the back of this newsletter and please also look out for posters and information on our website. Each Year group will be performing a selection of traditional songs and readings to which parents are invited. Nursery and Reception classes will be performing their annual Christmas concert which is always very popular so please make sure you arrive in good time. We will of course be teaching a full timetable until the holidays as no day is to be wasted and children are expected to attend school every day until we break up on **Friday 21st December at 2pm.**

You will receive your child's termly report at our parents evening on the **Thursday 29th November.** This will give more information about their achievements so far, as well as learning targets for the coming term. A letter inviting you to parents evening along with details of the online booking system will have been sent home to you, if you haven't seen it, please check in book bags. We are keen to make sure that all parents meet with teachers and discuss their child's progress as well as take up the opportunity to look through their workbooks and celebrate their hard work, so if you haven't seen the letter, or are finding it difficult to make an appointment please call the school office so that we can help.

Reception places are allocated in a cross London scheme which is organised by our local authority, Hackney Learning Trust, not the school. If you have a child who was born between 1st September 2014 to 31st August 2015 then you will need to make an application for a Reception place *regardless of whether your child attends our Nursery or has a sibling already in the school.* Our Reception classes are very popular so don't miss the deadline for these applications which is **Tuesday 15th January 2019.** You can access the application form at www.eadmissions.org.uk and Hackney Learning Trust will also be able to support you on 020 8255 5555 (option 1 or 4).

Thank you for your support

Ms Rachel Davie
Headteacher

Mr Stephen Hall
Executive Headteacher

PEER MEDIATORS



Peer mediators from Orchard, Southwold and Hoxton Garden got together at Orchard School for a group training session. They practised their skills at solving disputes, supporting with games and making sure that everyone is happy and safe in our playground by role playing and trying out scenarios in small groups. They are now out and about in the playgrounds, easily spotted in their high visibility vests.



TRADITIONAL TALES

Nursery Classes have been learning about traditional fairy tales and reading the story of Rapunzel. They have been showing great problem solving skills and resilience as they



tried to make the tallest tower from wooden blocks and shaving foam cement. There was lots of talk and imaginative play in the water tray as they shared ideas to make spectacular potions. This creativity extended to the writing table where children have been creating, drawing and labelling their magical potions.

HAVE YOU MADE YOUR APPOINTMENT FOR PARENTS EVENING YET?

PUPIL VOICE



The Orchard Green Team visited the 'We Feed the World' at the Bargehouse on London's South Bank. The photo exhibition celebrated the work of farmers around the world that make sure we have

food on our table at home. years 5 and 6 visited the Emmanuel Centre in Westminster for the Debate Mate London Launch. The children enjoyed a live debate which posed the question 'should superheroes be banned?' a question which prompted some passionate discussions on the train home! We look forward to the Debate Mate club starting this month.



MOVIE MAKERS



Chestnut class have been using iMovie to create their own film trailers. Using Kensuke's Kingdom as their inspiration, they have been working hard to create their own suspense-filled movies.

HOMEWORK WINNERS

Children created amazing half term homework projects in preparation for their topics this half term. They worked really hard to create their models, using recycled materials from



around the house. In year 2, children created famous London structures including the Big Ben. Thank you to everyone at home who encouraged and helped with these projects.



DROP IN SESSIONS FOR PARENTS

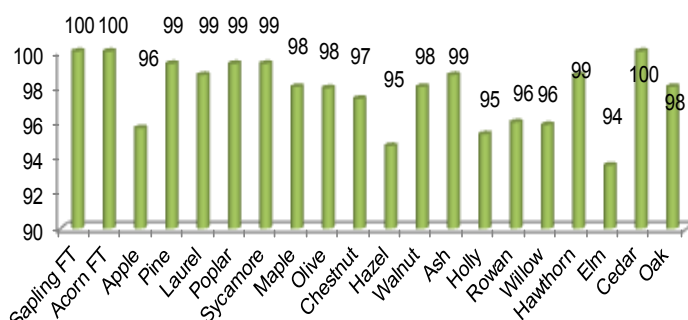
Thank you to all of the Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 parents who stay and read with their children on Friday mornings.

All parents are also invited to drop into our workshop sessions which are held in the flexi space on the first floor at 9:15am on Friday. These are an opportunity to meet with other parents and get some practical tips on how to support your child with their learning from home.

Friday 23rd November	Science: Exciting experiments in the home
Friday 30th November	ESafety: Keep your children happy and safe online
Friday 7th December	Music: Learn to play an instrument with your child!

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 **97%** **Well done to Sapling, Acorn, & Cedar Class**, the weekly winners with 100%



Key dates

Autumn Term 2018

Parents Evening:

Thursday 29th November

End of Term Finish Date:

Friday 21st December at 2pm

Spring Term 2019

Start Date:

Monday 7th January 2019

Half Term Holiday:

Monday 18th to Friday 22nd February

Staff Training Day:

Monday 25th February

Children Return

Tuesday 26th February

Parents Evening:

Thursday 28th March

Finish Date:

Friday 5th April at 2pm

Summer Term 2019

Start Date:

Tuesday 23rd April

Half Term Holiday:

Monday 27th May (Bank Holiday) to Friday 31st May

Keeping Healthy Week

(including sports day):

Starts Monday 24th June

Parents Evening:

Thursday 4th July

End of Term Finish Date:

Friday 19th July at 2pm