

## Dear Parents & Carers,

Welcome back to the Spring Term. Thank you to all the parents who supported with holiday homework projects and in getting children prepared for the new term. Each week in Years 1 to 6 we send home a literacy and maths task as well as some tricky spellings. We encourage children to *look, say, cover, write, check* when practising spellings and there is a list of common words that children should know in their homework diaries, please also look for opportunities to encourage children to spell words out loud at home. The more practice the better!

Next week is work and enterprise week at Orchard. During the week children will be finding out all sorts of things about the world of work. Some year groups will be finding out what it's like to work in the community, while others will be thinking about how people can realise their ambitions. Children will be encouraged to think about what they are good at and what they might like to do as a job when they are older. All classes will go on a visit to a place of work or have a visitor from someone who works in the community.

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 on our website. We are run regular drop in sessions for parents which are listed on the back of this newsletter to which all parents are invited to come in and learn more about how we teach and what children learn whilst in school.

We have listed our term dates on the back of this newsletter. Please make sure you take note of our holiday dates, as we will not authorise absences outside of the 3 months that children have as holiday each year. We monitor attendance very closely with the aim that all pupils get their full 190 day educational entitlement each year.

Thank you for your support

Ms Rachel Davie  
Headteacher

Mr Stephen Hall  
Executive Headteacher

## LETTER WRITERS

In the last weeks of Autumn term, Reception children wrote letters to their families and posted them home. They also went shopping to buy ingredients for sandwiches, which they made in the afternoon. Thank you to the adults who were able to help, our trips would not be possible without you!



## TUDOR HISTORIANS



Year 5 visited the Tower of London as part of their studies of Tudor History and the development of the monarchy. They saw different historical sources including texts, artefacts and even the Crown Jewels, as well as receiving a workshop from 'Francis Bryan', one of Henry VIII's most loyal advisers.

## THE BRASS FAMILY

Hazel class have been learning about instruments from the Brass family. They looked at a few different instruments such



as the trumpet and trombone. As well as this, we also had the opportunity to use a makeshift trumpet (made from a hose pipe and funnel) to investigate how loud or quiet the sounds were.



## SMART BLACK SCHOOL SHOES TO SCHOOL PLEASE!

## DIGITAL LEADERS

Our Digital leaders delivered a powerful message to parents about the importance of eSafety in our coffee morning. They spoke about the importance of staying SMART online. Digital leaders from Orchard, Southwold and Hoxton Garden also met with education officers from Childnet to plan interactive activities for Safer Internet Day. These will be related to the very current issue of consent online.

The pupils had lots of interesting ideas to help adults and peers to think about how to make the internet a safer place by learning to ask for permission before sharing online. These activities will be presented by a group of digital leaders at the BT Centre on 5th February.



## ARTISTS

Last half term Rowan Class were learning about the famous Victorian decorative artist William Morris and the technique of printing. They used Morris's designs as inspiration to create their own printing tiles. They then created a repeated print of their design using contrasting colours.



## SPRING TERM COFFEE MORNINGS

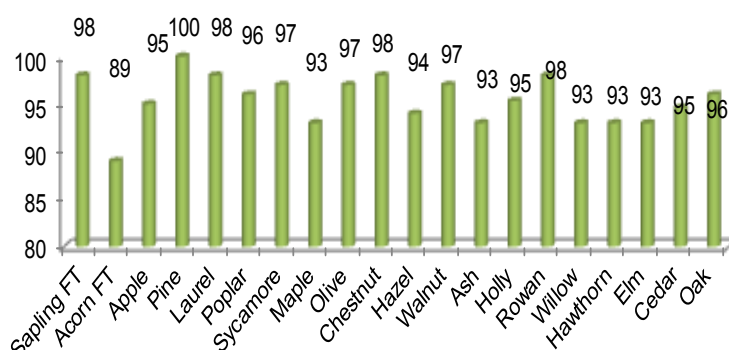
As well as our **Friday morning stay and read** sessions for Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2, all parents are invited to drop into our sessions on various themes which are held on the ground floor at 9:15am. We have organised new themes for Spring 2019. Tea and coffee are provided!

<b>Friday 25<sup>th</sup> January</b>	<b>Speech and Language:</b> Find out how to improve your child's speech and language skills
<b>Friday 1<sup>st</sup> February</b>	<b>Road safety:</b> Find out how we can shape the attitudes and behaviours of children and young people to be responsible passengers, pedestrians and cyclists
<b>Friday 8<sup>th</sup> February</b>	<b>Family team building:</b> Games to play at home to develop resilience and confidence
<b>Friday 15<sup>th</sup> February</b>	<b>ICT Coding:</b> Learn to code like your child
<b>Friday 1<sup>st</sup> March</b>	<b>Special Educational Needs:</b> Develop an understanding of how we teach and differentiate for children with special educational needs

## 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 **95.22%**

**Well done to Pine Class**, the weekly winners with 100%



## Key dates

### Spring Term 2019

#### Half Term Holiday:

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

#### Staff Training Day:

Monday 25<sup>th</sup> February

#### Children Return

Tuesday 26th February

#### Parents Evening:

Thursday 28th March

#### Finish Date:

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

### Summer Term 2019

#### Start Date:

Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April

#### Half Term Holiday:

Monday 27th May (Bank Holiday) to Friday 31<sup>st</sup> May

#### Keeping Healthy Week (including sports day):

Starts Monday 24<sup>th</sup> June

#### Parents Evening:

Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> July

#### End of Term Finish Date:

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> July at 2pm

### Autumn Term 2019

#### Start Date:

Wednesday 4th September

#### Half Term Holiday:

Monday 21<sup>st</sup> to Friday 25<sup>th</sup> October

#### Children Start Date:

Monday 28<sup>th</sup> October

**Parents Evening:** Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> November

#### End of Term Finish Date:

Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December

See our website for up to