

27th September 2019

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Dear Parents & Carers,

We hope that you are all settled into the routine of the new term. Term dates are on the back of this newsletter and information about upcoming events can be found on our website including class assemblies and class trips. This week we had significant male family members join us in classrooms. A big thank you to those who were able to join us. There are special days for significant female family members and grandparents later in the year as well as our World Week celebrations in October to look forward to. We are again running a series of coffee morning sessions for parents on different themes on Friday mornings which are listed on the back of this newsletter, you are welcome to drop in, even if you don't have time to stay for the whole session.

Last week we sent home year group curriculum newsletters which give information about the topics that each class is studying this half term and there are more details of our curriculum on our website. Please take note in particular of PE days. We have a PE kit that we expect children to wear which will need to be brought into school on these days.

Children have brought in some fantastic summer homework projects related to their curriculum themes, thank you for your support with this. It is very helpful if you can talk with children about the topics being studied at home, encouraging them to explain and describe what they are doing and to do their own research as this will support class learning. During their time with us they will learn about a range of local and global historical events as well as about different cultures and religions. We aim to provide children with lots of meaningful, creative, inspiring and above all educational opportunities, which with your support will ensure they become enthusiastic life-long learners.

We aim to enrich our curriculum with a range of opportunities for children including clubs for all ages, chess in Year 3, swimming in Year 4, a residential visit in Year 5 and university visits in Year 6. As well as this, children across Key Stage 2 take cycling lessons and all children participate in gardening workshops with our resident gardener Cassie. Follow us on our social media sites to keep up to date!

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Ms Rachel Davie
Headteacher

DIGITAL LEADERS

Digital Leaders from Orchard, Southwold and Hoxton Gardens, conducted their first cross-site meeting this week. The children discussed what being a Digital Leader means, their roles and responsibilities and plans for the year ahead. The children will be conducting assemblies, raising awareness of online safety and ensuring all children sign an e-safety agreement this half term.



PARENT READING



We were delighted to welcome our new parents in Nursery to Parent Reading last week. Adults joined children to read a book as part of our weekly celebration of the love of reading.

Classrooms across Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 were also alive with the magic of sharing stories. Reading is a core skill and children greatly benefit from adult role models, thank you for joining us.



SCIENCE SENSES

This week Year 1 have continued their learning about the human body by exploring their senses. They smelled, tasted, felt and looked closely at some familiar and not so familiar foods and used known and new vocabulary to describe them. The children engaged in purposeful discussions with their peers. Well done Year 1!



BE ON TIME AT FIVE TO NINE!

PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU ARE ON TIME SO THAT CLASSES ARE NOT INTERRUPTED.

YEAR 4 MUSEUM TRIP

Year 4 enjoyed their trip to the British museum, where they explored the different aspects of life in ancient Greece through a range of interactive activities. The ideas and achievements of the ancient Greeks changed their world and still affect us today. Children have been able to ask and answer questions with growing understanding as well as learning new vocabulary related to architecture, family life, sports and ancient Greek gods and heroes!



We have celebrated our summer holiday homework winners and talked about the creative projects undertaken. These experiences help children to gather pre learning about their upcoming topics and are a great way to get the whole family learning! A big well done to our winners. Can you identify which topic the children are studying from the creative projects in the picture?



DROP IN SESSIONS FOR PARENTS

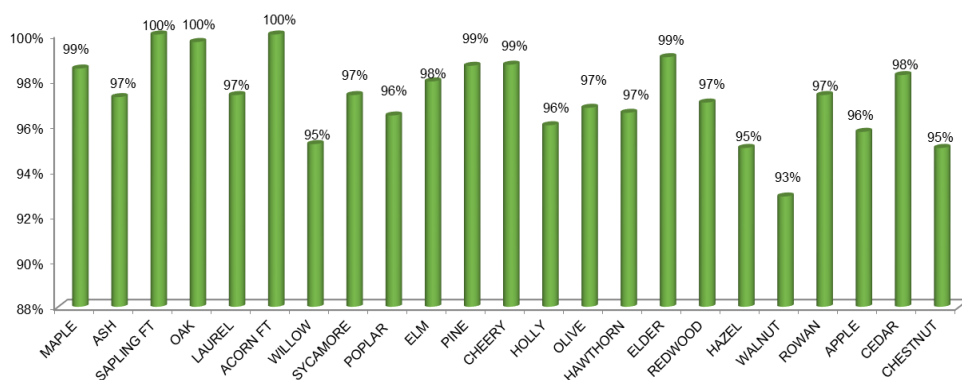
As well as our **Friday morning stay and read** sessions for Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2, all parents are invited to drop into our **coffee morning** sessions which are held in the Flexi Space at 9:15am. These are an opportunity to meet with other parents as well as learn more about what the school does and get some practical tips on how to support your child with their learning from home.

Date	Focus
Friday 27 th September	Phonics (for EYFS, Y1 and Y2): A toolkit to help your children learn to read and write
Friday 4 th October	Homework: Strategies to support your child's homework routine and take home a reward chart.
Friday 11 th October	E Safety: Be aware of dangers online and how to keep your child safe while using technology
Friday 18 th October	Family Team Building: Take part in games and activities you can play at home

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 **96.97%**

Well done to Acorn, Oak & Sapling Class, the weekly winners with 100%



Key Dates

Autumn Term 2019

Children Start Date:

Wednesday 4th September

Half Term Holiday:

Monday 21st to Friday 25th October

Children Start Date:

Monday 28th October

Parents Evening:

Thursday 28th November

End of Term Finish Date:

Thursday 19th December at 2pm

Spring Term 2020

Start Date:

Monday 6th January

Half Term Holiday:

Monday 17th to Friday 21st February

Staff Training Day:

Monday 24th February

Parents Evening:

Thursday 26th March

Finish Date: Friday 3rd April at 2pm

Summer Term 2020

Start Date:

Monday 20th April

Bank Holiday:

Friday 8th May

Half Term Holiday:

Monday 25th May to Friday 29th May

Parents Evening:

Thursday 2nd July

End of Term Finish Date:

Friday 17th July at 2pm

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