

Friday 11th October 2019

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Dear Parents and Carers,

This week at Orchard we have been celebrating World Week and Democracy Day. World Week celebrates the diversity within our partnership of schools and creates opportunities to explore relevant global issues and for children to gain an understanding of themselves as global citizens. The theme for World Week this year was 'Climate in Crisis'. The aim of the week was for children to gain an awareness of their own role in protecting the planet they live in, from the impact they have in their local environment to how their actions contribute to the health of the wider world. World Week incorporated a number of events such as international evening, democracy day, cultural workshops, national dress day and the launch into Black History Month. We were very excited to welcome Bengali musicians, Balinese story tellers, Latin dancers, Chinese dancers and African mask makers into school to run workshops with children. We also elected the new members of our school pupil council, who meet weekly. Thank you all for your support during our day of international dress and also for joining us for our international evening, when so many parents were kind enough to contribute dishes from across the globe. We are so fortunate to be able to celebrate so many different cultures that make London a proud global city!

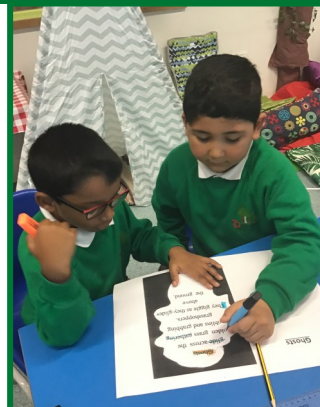
The first half term has gone by very quickly, with school breaking up for half term on **Friday 18th October 2019 at 3:30pm. Children return on Monday 28th October 2019.** During the first few weeks of the school year we have again been focussing on key skills such as reading confidently and with understanding as well as knowledge of key maths skills such as pairs of numbers that add to 10, 100, 1000 and essential confidence in times tables facts. Please support us by making sure that children practise these at home including the use of Mathletics and Timestable Rockstars. There are some tips in home reading diaries on how you can help or speak to the teacher who will also be happy to help! You will also be receiving the half term holiday project information to support children in getting ready for the new half term of learning and we look forward to seeing the creative outcomes worked on at home when children return!

Thank you again for all of your support!

Ms Rachel Davie
Headteacher

YEAR 2 POETS

Year 2 created their own poetry this week. The children were able to identify adventurous verbs, interesting adjectives and recognise rhyming couplets and repetition. They used this knowledge to write their own shape poem based on the Fire of London. Look out for them on display in classrooms!



YEAR 1 GARDENERS



Year 1 had a lovely visit from the Gardening Team. The children learnt about the different parts of a plant and played a fun game sorting and identifying a selection of fruits and vegetables. The children also planted

their own seeds to grow in the classroom. Then the children enjoyed tasting blueberries, celery and figs!

CHESS CHAMPIONS



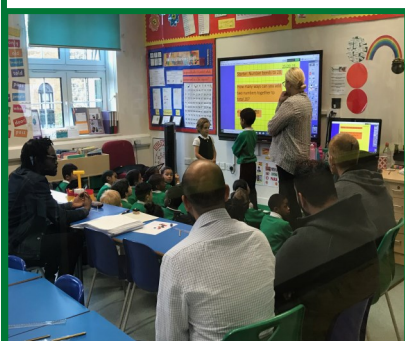
In Year 3 our children are receiving lessons in how to play chess from a respected International Master. The children learn moves and strategy to support them in building their skill set. This week, it was nice to see

children putting their new learning into practice on the playground in their free time. Children from year 4 who learned last year were keen to offer suggestions, hints and tips. Look out for upcoming competitions.

**WE BREAK UP FOR HALF TERM AT 3:30PM FRIDAY 18TH OCTOBER 2019
CHILDREN RETURN ON MONDAY 28TH OCTOBER AT 8:55AM**

SIGNIFICANT MALES

Last week we invited significant males into school to join children in classes and experience the learning taking place. There were lots of exciting activities from exploring vocabulary to practical maths and drama! Making



connections between home and school is an important part of our yearly events. Thank you to everyone who came and for the positive feedback. Look out for more events in our half termly parent dates, newsletters and on our website.

ROAD SAFETY OFFICERS



Our Junior Road Safety Officers attended a training event at The Round Chapel. They learnt more about their new roles and had time to plan ideas for promoting road safety in our school. They also took part in a

range of interactive activities, including learning about the future of electric cars and travelling safely on buses. The children loved conducting speed tests on the main road with the Safer Transport Police! Look out for our road safety initiatives throughout the coming year.



COFFEE MORNINGS

Our coffee mornings each Friday at 9.15am in the Flexi Space focus on different topics each week and are linked with our curriculum. The last coffee morning for this half term is family team building led by our learning mentors Mr Ward and Ms Buttery. Coffee mornings restart for the new half term on the 1st November.

Date	Focus
Friday 18 th October	Family Team Building: Take part in games and activities you can play at home
Friday 1 st November	Play Pod: Experience the creative opportunities at play time.
Friday 8 th November	Anti-Bullying: Learn what the school does to prevent bullying.
Friday 15 th November	Celebrating Life Experiences: Create a scrap book to document special time together.
Friday 22 nd November	Science: Learn how to create exciting experiments in the home.
Friday 29 th November	Spelling and Handwriting: How to support your child with their spelling and handwriting at home.
Friday 6 th December	Speech and Language: How to develop and extend your child's vocabulary.
Friday 13 th December	Parent Reading Assembly: EYFS, Year 1 and Year 2.

Key Dates

Autumn Term 2019

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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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 **96.8%**

Well done to Sapling & Laurel the weekly winners with 100%

