

## 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 practise the better!

Work and Enterprise week will be taking place from the 20th January 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 also 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. Please support your children by ensuring all routine appointments are booked out of school time to ensure their school day is not interrupted.

Thank you for your support.

Ms Aimee Walker  
Headteacher

Ms Rachel Davie  
Executive Headteacher

## CROSS SITE ECO-TEAM

The Orchard Eco Team decided to focus on tackling litter around our school and in our local community. They organised a litter pick as part of our termly cross site visit with the Eco Teams from Southwold and Hoxton Garden Primary Schools. Working together, the Eco Teams managed to fill a whole bag with litter they found hidden in bushes and under benches!



## Y6 HEART WORKSHOP



Year 6 were busy learning about the heart last half term and had a great time dissecting the hearts during a workshop. They were able to locate different features of the heart and apply their learning from their science lessons including the use of technical vocabulary!

## Y4 TEETH WORKSHOP

As part of their topic on humans in science, Year 4 learned about the wonders of teeth and how they are used for very specific jobs. They created their own plaster casts of teeth to



embed the learning. The children are building on their previous knowledge of the human body and key functions including nutrition, muscle functions and lifecycles.



## SMART BLACK SHOES TO SCHOOL PLEASE!

## WINTER FAYRE



Thank you to all the families who contributed donations to the Winter Fayre and to those who came to along to support our local community. We raised over £500. It was

fantastic to see staff, pupils and parents enjoying the merriment of the occasion. The annual Winter Fayre raffle and the visit from Santa were both popular as always!



and Hackney Town Hall where they got to meet the mayor of Hackney! The choir have raised an impressive £123.21 for our school's chosen charity, Shelter.

## COMMUNITY MUSIC

Our school choir enjoyed spreading festive cheer around Hackney before Christmas. They performed at Tesco Well Street, Homerton Hospital, Hackney Central Station



## 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 in the Flexi Space at 9:15am on Friday mornings. We have organised new themes for Spring 2020 based on parent interests and feedback from the Autumn Term sessions. Tea, coffee and biscuits are provided!

<b>Friday 17<sup>th</sup> January</b>	<b>Reading:</b> Strategies to support reading at home (including games to support learning phonics)
<b>Friday 24<sup>th</sup> January</b>	<b>Music:</b> Learn to play an instrument with your child (Children will be attending this morning with their parents.)
<b>Friday 31<sup>st</sup> January</b>	<b>PSHCE:</b> How we prepare children for the wider world and what it means to be a Stonewall School
<b>Friday 7<sup>th</sup> February</b>	<b>Behaviour and Relationships:</b> Strategies for developing positive behaviour and sibling relationships
<b>Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February</b>	<b>Speech and Language:</b> How to use technology to support communication and language

## 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

## ATTENDANCE

Children have only 190 school days in a year so coming to school everyday makes a real difference! Whole school attendance for the last week of term was **90.14%**  
**Well done to Hazel Class** the weekly winners with **99%**.

