

Friday 17th October 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a busy half term it has been, I can't believe that it's almost half-term. We have been fortunate to have Lisa Williams (the new Head of School Improvement at Hackney Education) visit all three schools, as well as visits from other Hackney Education staff. All have commented on what calm, happy and purposeful learning environments we have across our family of schools. This is testament to our fabulous pupils and hardworking staff.

For me personally it's been a funny few weeks as I fractured my ribs the week before last. As usual I have been spoilt by the pupils and staff with well wishes and gifts of chocolate to keep me strong. Ms Carr, Ms Grover and Ms Headen did a fabulous job running the schools whilst I had bed-rest, they really are my three musketeers!

Cauliflowers fluffy, cabbages green... you will have seen that we have been having our annual harvest collection in the school offices over the last week or so. As always, we are proud to support the local food bank by collecting donations of non-perishable food items. These contributions help families in our area who may be struggling financially. By giving to the harvest collection, we are teaching our pupils the value of compassion and community spirit. Every can, box, or bag makes a difference, so thank you greatly for your donations.

Last of all, I will be out the next two days on Ofsted inspector training. Being an Ofsted inspector means that I get to visit lots of different schools across London and see all the amazing learning taking place. One of the best parts of the role is seeing excellent practice which I can then 'magpie' (steal) and bring back to our schools!

As always, I look forward to seeing you all on the different school gates in the coming weeks.

Kind regards,

Mr Stephen O'Brien - Executive Headteacher



School Closes for Half Term

Friday 24th October at 3:30pm

Children's Start Date

Monday 3rd November

Autumn Term Parents Evening

Thursday 11th December - School closes at 1pm

End of Term Finish Date

Friday 19th December at 1:00pm

INSET Day

Monday 5th January

Children's Start Date

Tuesday 6th January

Work & Enterprise Week

wb Monday 26th January

School closes for Half Term

Friday 13th February at 3:30pm

Children's Start Date

Monday 23rd February

World Book Day

Thursday 5th March

Spring Term Parents Evening

Thursday 19th March - School closes at 1pm

End of Term Finish Date

Friday 27th March - School closes at 1pm

INSET Day

Monday 13th April

Children's Start Date

Tuesday 14th April

Orchard

This week, Year 1 explored their heritage and celebrated stories from around the world. They engaged with traditional tales from a variety of cultures and brought them to life through creative storytelling. Using masks, props, and plenty of imagination, they retold the stories in their own words.



Southwold

As part of their History topic on World War II, Year 6 enjoyed a trip to the Imperial War Museum. They explored real wartime objects like uniforms, ration books, and even saw a Spitfire up close! They were able to link their learning to life, helping them understand what life was like during the war.



Hoxton Garden

Children in Year 1 enjoyed their gardening workshop and had great fun learning about different herbs and their uses. They had the opportunity to taste and smell a selection of herbs, went on a herb hunt around the school garden and got to plant some seeds for next year's crop.

