

Friday 25th September 2020

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Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope that you have adjusted to the new routines that the new term has presented. A continued thank you to all parents for leaving site promptly after drop off and collection times and for ensuring only one member of the family is attending school site to do so. It is likely that these measures will be in place for some time and we must make sure that they remain high priority for the safety of everybody.

Having everyone back together again may cause a greater number of cold symptoms to appear. This is not unexpected as this is the first time we have been part of a larger group for a while. It is important to remember that the COVID measures we have in place are specifically for COVID. This means that if your child has a cold, they should still come to school, just like they would have last year. Symptoms for a cold include a blocked or runny nose, sneezing and/or itchy eyes. If you or anyone in your household has COVID symptoms, please do not bring your child to school or come onto the school site. COVID symptoms include a high temperature (over 37.8 degrees), a new, continuous (dry) cough or a loss of, or change to, sense of smell or taste. If COVID symptoms are present, it is expected a test is booked and the school will need evidence of the outcome before your child can return. In line with usual absence procedures, absence without a clear reason or evidence provided will result in a referral to the school attendance officer and could result in a fixed penalty fine.

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. We hope also that you have been able to access the Meet the Teacher videos in replacement this year of the in school event, the link was sent via text message to all parents at the end of last week. If you do need to speak to the teacher for any reason, please call the school office directly to arrange a meeting date and time. This will help to ensure we are keeping our community as safe as possible.

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 their in school learning, encouraging them to explain and describe what they are doing and to do their own research as this will build their knowledge, understanding and vocabulary.

Thank you for your support.

Ms Aimee Walker
Headteacher

Ms Rachel Davie
Executive Headteacher

YEAR 4 GARDENING

This term Year 4 are participating in gardening workshops to turn school grown flax, into linen Egyptian bandages. This week, the children explored 'separating the seeds from stems. The fibre from the stems will be turned into linen cloth in the next workshop.



YEAR 2 PE



Rowan Class had their first Physical Education lesson last week. This term, Year 2 are developing their football skills. The focus during this session was dribbling, stopping the ball and passing it to one another. Across the school we are focusing on outdoor PE lessons as one measure of support for emotional wellbeing.

NEW FRIENDS!



This week Reception children have been working on their fine motor skills by sorting using tweezers, pom-poms and beads to help strengthen the muscles in our hands. They have also been working on developing new friendships and interacting with age appropriate technology. Children explored *glo-doodle* to create self-portraits using the iPads!



SMART BLACK SHOES FOR SCHOOL PLEASE!



MAKING MUSIC



Music lessons have restarted this term and the music team are working hard to rebuild our music culture. In KS1, children have been practising reading music and recreating the 'London's Burning', a song linking to the Year 2 Fire of London topic.



Music skills boost brain development, co-ordination and thinking abilities. Just what we need after the summer break!

BLASTING OFF WITH BOOKS!



Year 6 have been reading and discussing Kensuke's Kingdom. The children have been practising the point, evidence, explanation structure to answer questions as well as using our Destination Reader stems to have really rich discussions around language and the meaning of the text.



Children in Year 6 have also had the opportunity to share strategies for ensuring they record their daily home reading in their diaries each evening. Do ask the children about their favourite authors and recommended reads if you see them!

COFFEE MORNINGS AND PARENT DROP INS

Our coffee mornings can be accessed this term as online video presentations. Please don't forget to complete the online evaluation to let us know what you think! Videos will be uploaded on the following dates:

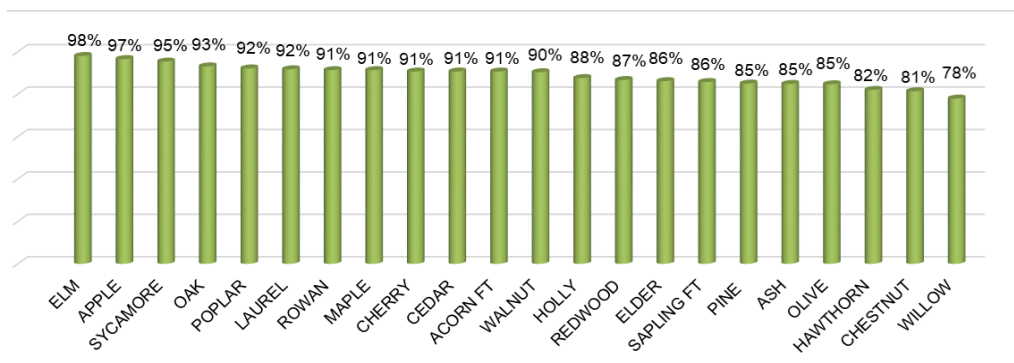
Date	Focus
Friday 25 th September	Maths (for Year 2 +): How to support your child with recalling their times tables.
Friday 9 th October	Phonics (for EYFS, Y1 and Y2): A toolkit to help your children learn to read and write.
Friday 23 rd October	Anti-Bullying: Learn what the school does to prevent bullying.

Parent Drop In sessions are taking place every second week. We will be offering you an opportunity to meet with a member of the Inclusion Team to talk about learning, well being and home support. Appointments can be made by telephoning the school office.

In line with the new statutory guidance for Relationship and Sex Education, we have hosted sessions this week to talk through our curriculum and policy. If you were not able to attend and would like more information, please visit our school website and look at the information on the Curriculum PSHE page.

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 **88%**
Well done to Elm Class the weekly winners with **98%**.



KEY DATES

Autumn Term 2020

Children's Start Date: Monday 7th September
Half Term Holiday: Monday 26th - Friday 30th October

Children Start Date: Monday 2nd November
Parents Evening: Thursday 10th December
Finish Date: Friday 18th December at 2pm

Spring Term 2021

Staff Training Day: Monday 4th January
Children's Start Date: Tuesday 5th January

Work & Enterprise Week: Week beginning 18th January

Half Term Holiday: Monday 15th February – Friday 19th February

Children's Start Date: Monday 22nd February
Science & Technology Day (with Science Fair): Friday 19th March

Parents Evening: Thursday 25th March
End of Term Finish Date: Thursday 1st April at 2pm

Summer Term 2021

Children's Start Date: Monday 19th April 2021

Families' Week: Starts Monday 26th April 2021

Bank Holiday: Monday 3rd May 2021

Half Term Holiday: Monday 31 May 2021 – Friday 4 June 2021

Children Start Date: Monday 7th June 2021

Staff Training Day: Friday 25th June 2021

Keeping Healthy Week (including sports day): Starts Monday 28th June 2021

Parents Evening: Thursday 8th July 2021

End of Term Finish Date: Thursday 22nd July at 2pm

Staff Training Day: Friday 23rd July 2021

Orchard Primary School,
Holcroft Road, London, E9 7BB
Tel: 020 8985 7785
Fax: 020 8986 3748
Email:
adminorchard@vs.hackney.sch.uk