

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been wonderful to welcome our new Reception and Nursery children to school this week and a warm welcome to our new families as well as siblings of existing Orchard pupils.

Children have received a new reading and homework diary and are already showing their pride and dedication to home reading through the careful completion of these. Thank you for supporting learning by making sure that children read at home for 15 minutes every evening. Younger children and less confident older children really benefit from reading aloud to an adult regularly and there are some questions and tips to help with this in the diary. We ask that an adult at home signs the diary once a week to show that they have checked on their child's reading. Also in the diary are spellings, times tables and guidance on bullying and safety. We hope that this is all useful when supporting learning from home.

We aim to enrich our curriculum with a range of opportunities for children including clubs for all ages, chess in Year 3, swimming and a music project 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 support in ensuring community understanding of the current context relating to COVID 19. We are working hard to ensure safe school access for all our pupils and staff by following both the Government and the Hackney Education Health and Safety Team guidance. Children no longer need to isolate due to contact with a positive case of COVID 19 meaning that we do not have to close year groups or classes if there is a confirmed case. We continue to ask children to wash their hands at regular points throughout the day and continue to provide hand sanitizer. We have an increased cleaning programme across the school to ensure classrooms are thoroughly cleaned each evening and a risk assessment in place to ensure continued good practise related to hygiene and mindful distance which can be found on our website.

Thank you for your continued support.

Ms Aimee Walker
Headteacher

Ms Rachel Davie
Executive Headteacher

FRIDAY COFFEE MORNINGS

Thank you to parents and carers who have attended our first three coffee mornings this half term. From this week, we have relaunched our parent coffee morning loyalty postcards, with a prize draw taking place each half term.



YEAR 2 SCIENCE

In Science, Year 2 have been exploring circuits. They used different components of a circuit to successfully turn on a light bulb. They also discussed what objects use electricity and the difference between mains and batteries.



INTERNATIONAL AWARD



It is testament to our school commitment to embedding a rich and creative range of international work that we have successfully been re-accredited the International Schools Award. By embedding an international dimension in

children's education, we prepare children for successful lives in the UK or further afield, empowering them to be global citizens. Well done to Ms Dawn Alexander Joseph, our languages lead who has led the project.



**PLEASE MAKE SURE THAT CHILDREN COME TO SCHOOL PREPARED!
ALL CHILDREN NEED A PE KIT OF A PLAIN WHITE T SHIRT AND BLACK SHORTS**

HOLIDAY HOMEWORK

Last week, children's summer holiday projects were celebrated in year group assemblies. It was fantastic to hear pupils talk through their research and new found knowledge using key vocabulary.



EYFS ROLE PLAY

Children in Nursery and Reception have settled well into their new classrooms this year. They have been busy in the role play corners, learning how to look after others in their 'home' and 'doctor surgery'.



PARENT DATES

Upcoming coffee mornings for parents take place on **Friday's from 9:15am** with the next event focussing on online safety. These dates, along with other key events during the year are also included in our school website calendar. Class assemblies will be restarting this term with all classes having the opportunity to present to parents about their learning across the year. Year 5 and 6 will be undertaking their assemblies this half term and dates have been published on the half termly 'parent dates' sent home this week.

Date	Focus
Friday 1 st October	Online-Safety: How can I keep my child safe when they are using technology?
Friday 8 th October	Homework Support: How can I set a routine and help my child with their homework?
Friday 15 th October	Spelling and Vocabulary: How do I help my child to learn their spellings and learn new words?
Friday 22 nd October	Science: What exciting experiments can I try with my child at home?

KEY DATES

Autumn Term 2021

Staff Training Days:

Wednesday 1st, Thursday
2nd and Friday 3rd
September 2021

Children's Start Date:

Monday 6th September
2021

Meet the Teacher:

Monday 13th, Tuesday
14th and Thursday 16th
September 2021

Bring a Dad/Significant

Male to School Day:

Wednesday 29th
September 2021

World Week &

Democracy Day: Monday

11th October 2021 –
Friday 15th October 2021

Half Term Holiday:

Monday 25th October 2021
- Friday 29th October 2021

Children Start Date:

Monday 1st November
2021

Parents Evening:

Thursday 9th December
2021

End of Term Finish Date:

Friday 17th December
2021 at 2pm

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ATTENDANCE

Coming to school everyday makes a real difference!
Whole school attendance for last week was **96.20%**. **Well done to Holly Class,**
the weekly winners with **99.30%**.

