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Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you to all of the fathers, uncles, grandads and significant male family members who came to spend a morning in school last week. We had an amazing 223 family members attending. The children were very proud to show off their learning and the feedback from adults who attended was very positive. Please don't forget that a family member is welcome to join their Nursery, Reception, Year 1 or Year 2 child at the short Friday morning reading session from 8.55am - 9.15am. As reading at home is so important we regularly restock on home reading books and make sure that there is a choice for children. Please help us to stock enough books in the school by making sure that home readers are returned and by checking under beds, sofas and bedrooms to check that none are left behind.

During the first few weeks of the school year, we have been focusing on rehearsing key skills such as reading confidently and with understanding, as well as building writing stamina. We have also been developing our knowledge of times tables and key maths skills such as pairs of numbers that add to 10,100,1000. Please support us by making sure that children practise skills at home too including the use of Mathletics and Times Tables Rockstars. There are some tips in home reading diaries on how you can help or speak to the class teacher who will also be happy to help!

The month of October is Black History Month which has historically focused on events and achievements of the past. This year, however, the focus is on looking forward and making positive change for the better through action. During October, our school is running a series of assemblies and workshops to celebrate Black History Month. We will be exploring this year's theme, looking at key figures who are making an impact today and hearing from a guest speaker who will be talking about how their culture has influenced decisions they have made. The final week of the half term will be World Week, where we will again celebrate the culture and heritage of all pupils, providing further opportunity to discuss ideas covered and to make links across our school community. We hope you will be able to join us for our annual International Evening on Wednesday 19th October.

With the cost of living continuing to rise, these are extremely difficult and uncertain times for everyone. Trying to get the correct information about which services are available to you is important. Hackney Council have created a booklet which identifies the local support available. [Please click here or scan the QR code on the next page to access the guide.](#)

Mr Stephen O'Brien - Headteacher | Ms Rachel Davie - Executive Headteacher



Reminder



**SCHOOL STARTS AT 8:55AM
AND LEARNING STARTS
STRAIGHT AWAY.
BE ON TIME
AT FIVE TO NINE!**



**PLEASE MAKE SURE THAT
CHILDREN COME TO SCHOOL
PREPARED!
ALL CHILDREN NEED
A PE KIT OF A PLAIN WHITE
T-SHIRT, GREEN OR BLACK
SHORTS/JOGGING BOTTOMS
AND PLIMSOLLS**

Construction Role-Play

Reception class have had a very busy week role-playing in their construction area. They have learned how to match, connect and piece objects together to construct some amazing outcomes, such as the horse in this photo.



Improving Oracy Skills

Year 1 have been carrying out an oracy based lesson on 'The Gruffalo'. The children have acted out different scenes from the story, developing both their sequencing skills and their understanding of different characters' feelings.



Sculpt like Henry Moore

Year 6 have been learning about the artwork of Henry Moore. They have studied and analysed his work styles and techniques with a view of creating work which echoes his own. Working with clay, they have been able to produce some amazing sculptures.



Stone Age London

Year 3 were given a taste of 'London during the Stone Age' during their trip to the Museum of London. They explored the lives of the people living in the Lower Thames Valley from around 450,000 BC until the creation of Roman London, and observed a range of artefacts related to this era.



An Immersive Day on Mars

Year 4 took a fascinating journey into space at the Royal Observatory's planetarium. Here, they experienced a thrilling, immersive experience 'on Mars', which left them with a wealth of knowledge about the planet's two moons as well the rover that is collecting important data about this planet.



Key Dates

AUTUMN TERM 2022

Staff Training Days (SCHOOL CLOSED):
Thursday 1st and Friday 2nd September

Children's Start Date:
Monday 5th September

Meet the Teacher Days:
Monday 12th September - Years 1 & 2
Tuesday 13th September - Years 3 & 4
Thursday 15th September - Years 5 & 6

Queen Elizabeth II Funeral (SCHOOL CLOSED):
Monday 19th September

Bring a Dad/Significant Male to School Day:
Wednesday 28th September

World Week
Monday 17th October - Friday 21st October

Traditional Dress Day / International Evening:
Wednesday 19th October

Democracy Day & School Council Elections
(pupils only):
Friday 21st October

Half Term Holiday:
Monday 24th October - Friday 28th October

Children's Start Date:
Monday 31st October

Parents' Evening:
Thursday 8th December


Last Day of Autumn Term:
Friday 16th December (SCHOOL CLOSES 2PM)

Christmas Holiday:
Monday 19th December - Monday 2nd
January 2023

Staff Training Day (SCHOOL CLOSED):
Tuesday 3rd January 2023

Children's Start Date:
Wednesday 4th January 2023


 Orchard Primary School
Holcroft Road
London
E9 7BB

 020 8985 7785

 @Primary_Orchard

 @orchardprimary

 www.orchard.hackney.sch.uk

 @orchard_of_imagination (EYFS)

Scan to order
school uniform



Scan for
Hackney's cost of
living crisis guide



Coffee Mornings

Parents/Carers are invited to drop into our sessions on various themes which are held in the Flexi Space at 9:15am on a Friday morning. These are an opportunity to meet with other parents as well as learn more about what the school does and get some practical tips on how to support your child with their learning from home.

Date	Focus
Friday 21st October	<u>Science</u> : What exciting and simple experiments can I try with my child at home? (children can attend this coffee morning)

Attendance

Regular attendance at school promotes pupils' well-being, maximises progress in learning and helps pupils reach their potential. We are very proud of the achievements and progress of our pupils and are passionate about a child's right to an education. Attendance for all children is monitored weekly with the school seeking to work in partnership with parents to achieve above 97%.

Whole school attendance last week was **94.45%**.

Well done to Year 2 Rowan class, the weekly winners with **99%**.

