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### Dear Parents and Carers,

You will now have received the curriculum newsletter for the second half of the Autumn Term. These detail the learning for the year group including PE days. Physical Education (PE) is a statutory part of the curriculum and essential for both physical and mental well-being. Please ensure your child has their full kit each week to enable them to access the learning comfortably and safely.

As we move towards the month of December, we have a range of seasonal events and concerts lined up. Please look out for posters and information on our website and school gates. Each year group will be performing a selection of themed songs at a sing-a-long to which parents are invited. Nursery and Reception classes will undertake a traditional performance which is always very popular so please make sure you arrive in good time. We will of course be teaching a full timetable until the holidays to ensure no day is wasted and children are expected to attend school every day until we break up on Friday 16th December 2022 at 2pm.

Keeping safe is a theme which is constant in our curriculum, including staying safe online and knowing to speak up if there is something which is worrying or seems wrong. Online safety is something which many parents are concerned about. One of the best ways to help young people stay safe online is to talk to them about what they do. If you understand the situations they encounter you will be better placed to offer them advice on how to deal with them. There is some useful information to be found at [saferinternet.org.uk/advice-centre/parents-and-carers](https://saferinternet.org.uk/advice-centre/parents-and-carers) as well as [www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents](https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents) which has a number of resources to help parents navigate their way around the benefits and risks of the ever-changing technological world.

Reception places are allocated in a cross-London scheme which is organised by our local authority, Hackney Education, not the school. If you have a child who was born between 1st September 2018 to 31st August 2019 then you will need to make an application for a Reception place regardless of whether your child attends our Nursery or has a sibling already in the school. Our Reception classes are very popular so do not miss the deadline for these applications which is Tuesday 15th January 2023. You can access more information at <https://education.hackney.gov.uk/content/primary-before-you-apply?guidebook=188>.

Thank you for your support.

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

## Reminder



**CHILDREN MUST COME TO SCHOOL IN FULL UNIFORM AND SMART BLACK SHOES!**



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

### Desert Role-Play

EYFS have been busy using their sensory, imaginative and investigative skills to explore their new desert role-play area. They have learnt about the different creatures and animals which live in deserts, as well as how the animals and people travel within the hot climate.



### Jim and the Beanstalk

Year 2 have been producing story maps in literacy to create a sequence of events for their own, alternative version of 'Jim and the Beanstalk'. They have enjoyed describing the giant plant their character would be climbing and thinking of exciting objects that the giant would need.



### 20th Century Technology

This term, Year 5 have been analysing and sorting primary and secondary sources to infer about the changes to technology in the 20th century. They have also been discussing how it might have affected how people spent their leisure time.



## EYFS DT Day

A very big thank you to all the parents and carers who joined us in EYFS. We all had fun using a range of resources and techniques to cut, join and attach materials together for some fantastic final design outcomes!



## KS2 DT Day

For DT day, Year 3 created waterproof bags, learnt how to do different types of stitches, and experimented with different types of fabrics. Thank you to all the parents and carers who attended, making the day extra special.



## Key Dates

### AUTUMN (2) 2022

Parents' Evening:  
Thursday 8th December

Last Day of Autumn Term:  
Friday 16th December (SCHOOL CLOSSES 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

### SPRING TERM 2023

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

Children's Start Date:  
Wednesday 4th January 2023

Work & Enterprise Week:  
Monday 23rd January - Friday 27th January 2023

Safer Internet Day:  
Thursday 9th February 2023

Half Term Holiday:  
Monday 13th February - Friday 17th February 2023

Children's Start Date:  
Monday 20th February 2023

World Book Day:  
Thursday 2nd March 2023

Parents' Evening:  
Thursday 23rd March 2023

End of Term Finish Date:  
Friday 31st March 2023 (SCHOOL CLOSSES at 2pm)

## 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 25th November	<u>Wellbeing</u> : What does mental wellbeing mean and how do I speak to my child about this?
Friday 2nd December	<u>Eco</u> : How do we teach children about sustainability? (children can attend this coffee morning)
Friday 9th December	<u>Christmas Holiday Activities</u> : What activities can we try in the holidays and what local places can we visit? (children can attend this coffee morning)
EYFS Coffee Mornings	
Thursday 24th November	<u>Maths</u> : How can I develop my child's mathematical understanding at home?

## 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 for the last week was 94.4%.

Well done to Year 6 Redwood class, the weekly winners with 99.3%.



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www.orchard.hackney.sch.uk

@orchard\_of\_imagination (EYFS)

Scan to order school uniform



Scan for Hackney's cost of living crisis guide

