

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope that you enjoyed the half term break and are well rested as we start the second half of the year. Thank you to all parents and carers who supported the half termly holiday homework projects, there were some fantastic examples of research presented in very creative ways.

This week we held our World Book Day events, an important opportunity to celebrate the love of reading. There were many children and staff dressed up as their favourite book character and many conversations about favourite stories throughout the day. Look out for photographs on our Facebook and Twitter pages! We are constantly refreshing our home reader libraries so that children have a breadth of books to read. Please help us with this by making sure that children read every night and record their reading in their home school diaries. Don't forget that there are also example questions that you can ask in the diaries, this helps children to develop their understanding and comprehension skills.

We are continuing to invest in annual subscriptions for Mathletics and Times Table Rock Stars online learning programmes so that children in Years 1 to 6 can access them at home as well as at school for free. All children have their own password to log on to the site (usually in their home school diaries). These both offer fun and interactive ways to learn key maths skills such as times tables and number bonds.

Thank you to all the parents who completed our parent survey last term. We had 285 responses from parents of children in all year groups. We are very pleased that:

- 99% strongly agree or agree that the school provides a good education for their child.
- 99% strongly agree or agree that their child feels that their teachers work hard and teach well.
- 99% strongly agree or agree that the office staff are friendly & welcoming.

For a full breakdown, please visit the parent section of the school website. Remember, the school office has a parent suggestion box which can be accessed at any time.

On Thursday 23rd March we are holding a parents' evening where you get the chance to meet your child's class teacher, look at their books and discuss their termly report. You will be receiving a separate letter inviting you to this, however, please contact our admin team or use the online booking systems via the website to make an appointment so that you don't miss out.

Thank you for your support.

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

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Reminder



**PLEASE ENSURE YOUR CHILD
ARRIVES TO SCHOOL IN
FULL UNIFORM AND
SMART BLACK SHOES.**



**PLEASE CHECK THE
CURRICULUM NEWSLETTER
FOR PE DAYS AND ENSURE
THE CORRECT PE KIT IS IN
SCHOOL..**

EYFS Self-Confidence Building

During Children's Mental Health Week, EYFS explored all the things that they are good at to build their self-confidence. They enjoyed choosing objects from a treasure chest to share their strengths, and to talk about their favourite hobbies, such as swimming and reading.



Continents and Oceans

Year 2 have been learning about continents and oceans, linked to this half term's geography topic. Using atlases and compass directions, they have located Earth's 7 continents and 5 oceans and have created their own map using this information.



Online Safety Video

Our Digital Leaders have been working tirelessly to produce an online safety video, hoping that their messages will be able to reach the wider community through our school website. Please keep an eye on our Digital Leaders page in the coming weeks.





Earthquake Appeal Fundraiser

We held a successful Enterprise Fayre on Friday 10th February. Thank you to all those who volunteered and to those who attended. Funds raised were donated the DEC Turkey-Syria Earthquake appeal, in support and recognition of our strong Turkish community, both in school and in the local area.



World Book Day at Orchard

To celebrate World Book Day and promote reading in our school, children were encouraged to dress up as their favourite book character. We saw so many wonderful costumes, and the winner for the 'Best Dressed' prize will be announced soon. Please keep an eye on our social media pages.



Key Dates

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:
Wednesday 1st March 2023

Parents' Evening:
Thursday 23rd March 2023

Lower School D&T Day:
Tuesday 28th March 2023

Thursday 30th March:
Upper School D&T Day

End of Term Finish Date:
Friday 31st March 2023 (SCHOOL CLOSES 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.

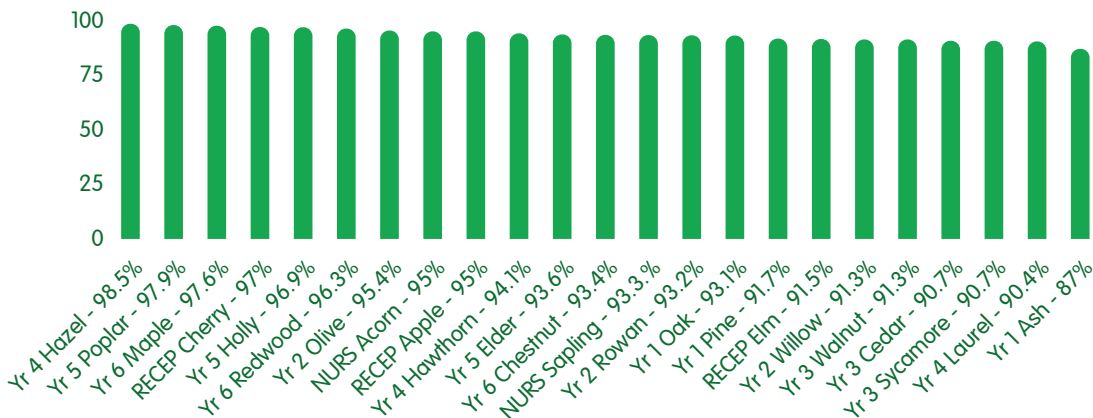
Date	Focus
Friday 10th March	<u>Science</u> : How can I support my child's science learning at home?
Friday 17th March	<u>Belonging</u> : How can I ensure I tackle unconscious bias in myself and others?
Friday 24th March	<u>Easter Holiday Activities</u> : What activities can we try in the holidays and what local places can we visit?
Friday 31st March	Parent Coffee Morning & Reading Celebration Event
EYFS Parent/Carer Workshops	
Date	Focus
Thursday 16th March	<u>Writing</u> : How can I support my child to write for different purposes?

Attendance

Children have only 190 school days in a year so coming to school every day makes a real difference!

The whole school attendance for the last week was 93.5%.

Well done to Year 4 Hazel class, the weekly winner with 98.5%.



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@orchard_of_imagination (EYFS)

Scan to order school uniform



Scan for Hackney's cost of living crisis guide

