

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you to all of the family members who came to spend a morning in school last week as part of Significant Male morning. We had a staggering attendance of 164. 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 morning reading session from 8.55am – 9.15am each Friday ahead of the coffee morning at 9.15am.

During these first few weeks of the school year, we have been focussing on key skills such as reading confidently and with understanding, as well as building writing stamina. We have also been practising knowledge of key maths skills such as pairs of numbers that add to 10,100,1000 and essential confidence in times tables facts. Please support us by making sure that children practise skills at home too including the use of Mathletics, Timestable Rockstars and reading for 10 minutes each evening. There are some tips in home reading diaries on how you can support your child. You can also speak to your child's class teacher who will be happy to help!

We are delighted to have so many families making an active choice to walk or cycle to school. Walking to school requires no set up, apart from shoes, a warm coat and a hat on a chilly day. Children get to learn important life skills, road safety and independence, as well as contributing to physical and mental wellbeing. If you are bringing a bike or scooter to school, please help us by storing these with care and consideration for others in the designated parking areas.

World Week is a part of our enrichment programme and will take place next week. It delves into and celebrates the diversity within our schools. It creates opportunities to explore relevant global issues and topics, linking National Curriculum subjects in a cross-curricular way. It also provides a context for pupils to acquire, develop and apply a broad range of knowledge, understanding and skills. The theme for World Week this year will be 'Our World; Our Responsibility.' The aim of the week is for children to gain an awareness of their own role in protecting the planet they live in, from the impact they can have in their local environment, to how their actions contribute to the health of the wider world. We hope you will be able to join us for our annual International Evening on Thursday 19th October 2023.

The month of November will also be Black History Month. The theme this year is 'Celebrating Our Sisters' and through weekly assemblies, children will explore the lives of Floella Benjamin, Beverley Knight, Dame Jocelyn Barrow and Dame Sharon White. Look out for updates on our social media and websites!

Thank you for your continued support.

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

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Key Messages



We are committed to healthy lunches. If your child does bring a packed lunch, this must contain healthy options. Please do not include chocolate bars, crisps or biscuits.
Thank you for your support.



As we move towards colder weather, please ensure all school uniform items are clearly named including hats, coats and gloves.

Playground Explorers

Children in EYFS have been building their exploration skills using the school's grounds as their study. They have taken a lot of photographs of the playgrounds, then taken to the drawing tables to put pencil to paper, using many colours and shapes to represent the playground features they identified.



Story Maps

For 'Bring a Significant Male to School' day, Year 1 enjoyed showing their adults how to create story maps for their core text 'The Tiger Who Came to Tea'. They used time connectives and adjectives to describe and sequence each part of the story, then had fun guiding their adults through the map to create the narrative.



Bread Making Workshop

Year 3 got the opportunity to become bakers for a day during a 'Homegrown Bread' workshop. They learned all about making bread from scratch, using wheat that was grown on Orchard's own grounds. They even got to speak with a professional baker to find out what it takes to be one and what their day-to-day life is like.





Pen Licence Holders

Well done to the first set of pupils from Year 3 to get a pen licence this academic year. They have shown great pride in their handwriting and presentation, and we hope they will continue to demonstrate these skills to encourage their peers.



Harvest Festival Collection

A huge thank you to all those that contributed to our harvest festival collection this year. This photograph shows just a small sample of your very generous donations which will all be going to The Hackney Foodbank to support the amazing work they do.



Key Dates

AUTUMN TERM (1) 2023

Black History Month
October and November

World Week
Monday 16th - Friday 20th October 2023

International / Traditional / Cultural Dress Day
All day on Thursday 19th October 2023

International Evening
3:45pm - 5:00pm on Thursday 19th October 2023

Last Day of Autumn Term 1
School closes at 3:30pm on Friday 20th October 2023

Half Term Holiday
Monday 23rd - Friday 27th October 2023

Children Return to School
Monday 30th October 2023

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 give parents and carers the opportunity to meet with one another to 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 20th October	<u>Science</u> : What exciting and simple experiments can I try with my child at home? (Children can attend this coffee morning)

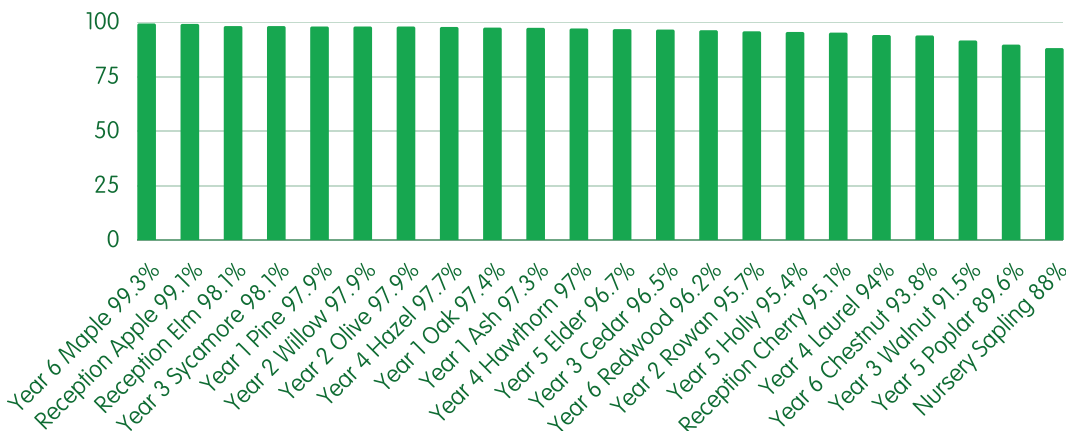
Attendance

The whole school attendance for the last week was 96.

Well done to Year 6 Maple Class, last week's winner with 99.3%.

Attending school every day makes a real difference.

Please remember that WE DO NOT AUTHORISE HOLIDAYS IN TERM TIME and unauthorised absences may result in a fixed penalty notice being issued.



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