

### Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope you 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 PE kit each week to enable them to access the learning comfortably and safely.

Today children came to school wearing odd socks in to mark the end of the Anti Bullying Alliance national focus week. Children learn regularly through the curriculum and assembly delivery about the different types of bullying, how to know the difference between bullying and unkindness, the role of bystanders and how to report any concerns they have to an adult. As a school we have a range of preventative systems in place to ensure happy playtimes and that children build the necessary social skills for positive interactions. This includes zoned playgrounds, peer mediators, lunchtime clubs and regular training for staff so they are equipped to resolve any identified incidents of unkindness in order to ensure this does not become a repeated behaviour.

A letter inviting you to parents evening on Thursday 12th December, along with details of the online booking system, will be sent home to you next week. We are keen to make sure that all parents meet with teachers and discuss their child's progress as well as take up the opportunity to look through their workbooks and celebrate their hard work, so if you haven't seen the letter, or are finding it difficult to make an appointment please call the school office so that we can help.

Reception school places are allocated in a cross London scheme which is organised by our local authority, Hackney Education, not the school. This admissions process is for children aged 3 and 4 (born between 1st September 2020 and 31st August 2021) who will start Reception class at primary school in September 2025. All parents should apply by the 15th January 2025, even if your child is already in the Nursery Class. More information can be found on the Hackney website: <https://education.hackney.gov.uk/content/primary-before-you-apply?guidebook=188> As we move towards the month of December, we have a range of seasonal events and concerts lined up. We have listed some of these on the back of this newsletter but please also look out for posters on gates and information on our website and social media. We will of course be teaching a full timetable until the holidays and children are expected to attend school every day until then.

We are delighted to share with you that our websites have been upgraded to support an even better user experience on a PC, tablet and mobile phone. The websites are due to go live early next week so do have a look!

**Thank you for your continued support.**

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

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### Reminders

#### School Shoes

Smart, black shoes for school please.



#### Punctuality

Be on time... school starts at five to nine.



### Remembrance Day

This week in EYFS, children have been learning all about Remembrance Day. They enjoyed creating their own poppy field and learned how to tend to the plants. They planted poppies and watered them while exploring natural materials such as water and soil.



### Local Area

This week Year 1 have been learning all about their local area. The children practised using the key on the map to find different features of the park. They used directional language to identify where the swings, bee hives and the farm were located.



### Stonehenge

As part of their Humanities lesson, Year 3 created their very own Stonehenge models out of clay this week! They learned all about Stonehenge's significance and labelled key features, deepening their understanding of this ancient prehistoric monument.





## Viridis Spelling Bee

This week, children from across the federation met at Orchard for the Viridis Spelling Bee! They impressed with their spelling skills, tackling challenging vocabulary. Hoxton Garden won the LKS2 round but Orchard took the overall trophy after the final face-off! Congratulations to all who took part.



## Design & Technology Day

This week, Orchard children enjoyed celebrating Design & Technology Day. From seasonal items such as igloos and castles to dips and phone cases, children enjoyed getting creative. Thank you to all the parents and carers who came in to support pupils with their projects!



## Key Dates

**Cedar Class Assembly**  
Thursday 21st November at 10:30am

**Poplar Class Assembly**  
Thursday 21st November at 11am

**Walnut Class Assembly**  
Thursday 28th November at 10:30am

**Elder Class Assembly**  
Thursday 28th November at 11am

**Year 6 Seasonal Sing-Along**  
Wednesday 4th December at 2:45pm

**Year 5 Seasonal 'Sing-Along'**  
Thursday 5th December at 2:45pm

**Winter Fayre**  
Friday 6th December at 3:30pm

**Year 4 Seasonal 'Sing-Along'**  
Monday 9th December at 2:45pm

**Year 3 Seasonal 'Sing-Along'**  
Tuesday 10th December at 2:45pm

**EYFS and KS1 in-school Pantomime**  
Tuesday 10th December at 3:30pm

**Parents Evening**  
Thursday 12th December

## Coffee Mornings

Parents/Carers are invited to drop into our sessions on various themes which are held in the Flexible Space at 9:15am on a Friday. These allow you to meet with other parents as well as 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 22nd November	<u>Hackney 10x10</u> : The Hackney 10x10 Programme is a new initiative to support every child in Hackney to achieve 10 amazing activities by the time they are 10 years old.
Friday 29th November	<u>Wellbeing</u> : What tools and strategies can I teach my child to support their mental health?
Friday 6th December	<u>Eco</u> : How do we teach children about sustainability? (Children can attend)
Friday 13th December	<u>Christmas Holiday Activities</u> : What activities can we try in the holidays and what local places can we visit? (Children can attend)
Friday 20th December	<u>Parent Reading Celebration for EYFS, Year 1 and Year 2</u>
Date	EYFS Workshop
Thursday 21st November	<u>Maths</u> : How can I develop my child's mathematical understanding at home?

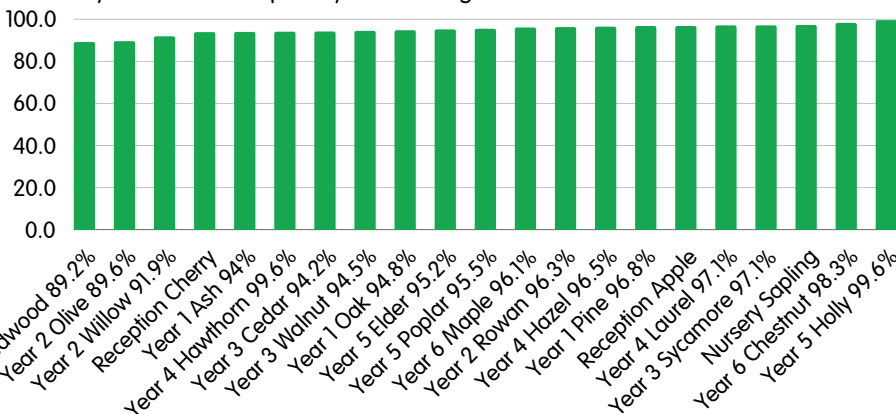
## Attendance

The whole school attendance for the last week was 95.1%.

Well done to Year 5 Holly Class, last week's winners with 99.6% attendance.

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.



## Term End and Start

The second half of the autumn term ends on Friday 20th December 2024 at 2:00pm. Please scan the QR code to view our 2024 - 2025 term dates.



## School Uniform

Please scan the QR code to order school uniform.



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