



# Hoxton Garden

## Primary School

### HIGHLIGHTS

3rd November 2023

#### Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back! We hope that you enjoyed the half term break. Thank you to all parents who supported children with the homework projects in preparation for the upcoming learning this half term, particularly learning important topic-based words. A broad, rich vocabulary; the words we recognise and know how to use allows a child to understand and enjoy the things they read, to learn about the world around them, and to express themselves and their thoughts so that people will listen. Research suggests that a strong vocabulary in childhood is linked to future success and happiness, both at school and in later life. Look out for the curriculum newsletter which was sent home in book bags last term for an overview of the curriculum coverage. This will help you to continue talking about school learning with your child at home.

This week we have had the finals of our Federation Spelling Bee competition with finalists from all three schools travelling to Orchard Primary School to put their spelling skills to the test. Children were given words to spell correctly out loud. This has caused much excitement amongst the children and we are looking forward to hosting more Federation-focused competitions later this year.

This half term you will receive your child's termly report at Parents' Evening on Thursday 7th December 2023. This will give more information about achievements so far, as well as learning targets for the upcoming term. Letters inviting you to parents' evening along with details of the online booking system will be sent home in the coming two weeks. We are keen to make sure that all parents meet with class teachers and discuss their child's progress, as well as take up the opportunity to look through their workbooks and celebrate their hard work. If you are finding it difficult to make an appointment, please call the school office who will be happy to help you. School contact details can be found on the reverse of this newsletter.

We work very hard to be a smart school where children can feel proud. An important part of this is our school uniform. As the weather gets colder please remember that children are expected to wear black school shoes and not boots as these are not safe when they are moving around the school and in the playground. If you would like your children to wear boots when travelling to and from school then they must also bring their school shoes to change into when they arrive. At different points in the day, children may remove jumpers which can easily be misplaced in busy classrooms. As well as making sure all uniform has your child's full name, please can you also check that items belong to your child and have not been picked up by accident. We ask that any items that are not yours be returned to class and to their rightful owners the next school day.

Our Junior Road Safety Officers (JRSOs) have been talking about road safety and have identified some important reminders for our community. Children learn by watching adults, so please help us to set a good example by taking care whilst crossing the road and remind your child of these basic road safety messages: always stop, look, and listen whilst crossing the road, always find a safe place to cross the road such as zebra crossing or puffin crossing, always hold your child's hand whilst walking and crossing the road.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

**Ms Rachel Kinder - Headteacher | Ms Rachel Davie - Executive Headteacher**

#### In this issue:

Headteacher's Letter  
School Shoes  
Cycling Survey  
Local Library Visit with EYFS  
Online Safety with Year 1  
Culture sharing with Year 3  
World Week Art Competition Winners  
Reading Champions Meeting  
Coffee Mornings  
Attendance  
Key Dates

#### School Shoes

Smart shoes for school please.  
We expect children to wear comfortable black school shoes.  
No boots or trainers please!



#### Cycling Survey

Is your child interested in joining a once weekly 'bike bus', which is an organised group cycle ride to school every Monday? If so, please scan the QR code below to complete a brief survey. Our Cycling Champions will then be in touch.



#### Local Library Visit

EYFS have started to visit the local library, and on their first visit they listened attentively to the librarian read a story. They enjoyed following along with the repeated refrains and helped the librarian identify and describe the different animals in the story. The children later engaged in independent reading, exploring a range of books.



#### Online Safety and Coding

In ICT, Year 1 have been learning how to be safe when using the internet and how to access age-appropriate apps that will help them with their learning. One of the apps they are using is Daisy Dinosaur: an early coding app that supports children and shows them how to use specific programming skills to help Daisy move, jump, roll, grow and shrink.



#### Culture Sharing

For World Week, Year 3 participated in a number of fun activities. The children created their own heritage board, completed a project about how long it takes an item to decompose and participated in a Morris dance workshop. They also dressed up in their cultural clothing to share their cultural heritage with their peers and teachers.



## Heritage Arts

A huge congratulations to everyone that took part in the art competition themed around World Week! Entries included collages, paintings, drawings and sculptures related to their heritage. The Art Ambassadors from each year group voted for their favourite entries.



## Reading Champions Meeting

Our Reading Champions attended their first meeting of the year at Hackney Town Hall. They met with reading champions from schools all across Hackney and were thrilled to meet children's author, Sav Akyuz. They are very eager to start promoting reading for pleasure in our school.



## Coffee Mornings

Parents/Carers are invited to drop into our sessions on various themes which are held in the Dinner Hall 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 3rd November	<u>Phonics</u> : What are the different Phases of phonics and how can I support my child at home?
Friday 10th November	<u>Behaviour</u> : How does the school promote a culture of kindness?
Friday 17th November	<u>Spelling and Vocabulary</u> : How do I help my child to learn their spellings ready for their weekly spelling test? (Children can attend this coffee morning)
Friday 24th November	<u>Wellbeing</u> : What tools and strategies can I teach my child to support their mental health?
Friday 1st December	<u>Eco</u> : How do we teach children about sustainability? (Children can attend this coffee morning)
Friday 8th 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)
Friday 15th December	<u>Parent Reading Celebration Event</u> : for EYFS, Year 1 and Year 2
EYFS Workshops (9:00am start)	
Thursday 23rd November	<u>Maths</u> : How can I develop my child's mathematical understanding at home?

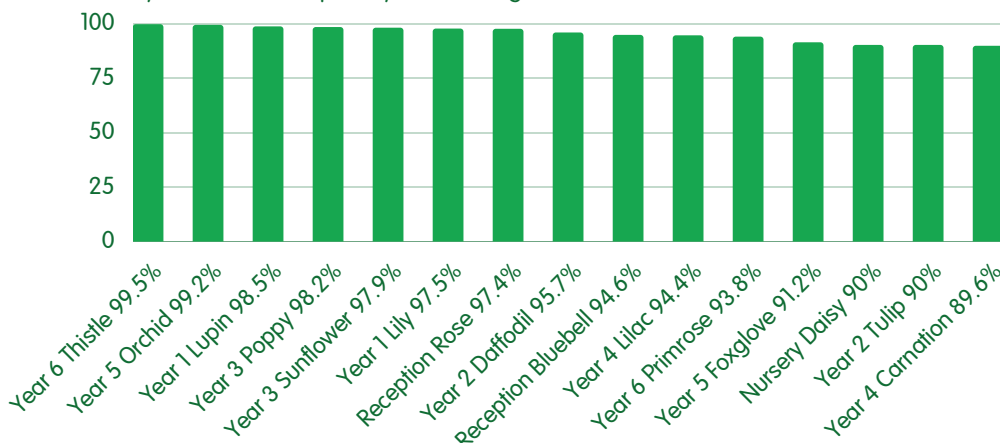
## Attendance

The whole school attendance for the last week was 95.4%.

Well done to Year 6 Thistle Class, last week's winner with 99.5%.

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.



## Key Dates

### AUTUMN TERM (2) 2023

Years 1 & 2 DT Day - in classrooms  
Tuesday 7th November all day.  
(Parent helpers welcome from 1:30pm)

Nursery and Reception DT Morning - in classrooms  
Thursday 9th November.  
(Parent helpers welcome from 9:00am)

Years 3, 4, 5 & 6 DT Day - in classrooms  
Thursday 9th November all day.  
(Parent helpers welcome from 1:30pm)

Year 4 Lilac Class Assembly - Middle Hall  
Year 4 Carnation Class Assembly - Top Hall  
Wednesday 15th November at 9:15am.

Odd Socks / Anti-Bullying Day - in school  
Friday 17th November all day.

Year 5 Foxglove Class Assembly - Middle Hall  
Year 5 Orchid Class Assembly - Top Hall  
Wednesday 22nd November at 9:15am.

Year 1 Lupin Class Assembly - Middle Hall  
Year 1 Lily Class Assembly - Top Hall  
Wednesday 29th November at 9:15am.

Years 3, 4, 5 & 6 Pantomime - Hackney Empire  
(Ticket Holders Only)  
Wednesday 6th December in the afternoon.

Parents' Evening - School Finishes at 1:45pm  
**Thursday 7th December**

Year 1 & 2 Pantomime - in school  
Monday 11th December in the afternoon.

Winter Fayre - Dining Hall  
Friday 15th December at 3:30pm.

Festive Jumper Day  
Tuesday 19th December all day.

Festive Lunch - Dining Hall  
Tuesday 19th December at lunchtime.

Last Day of Term  
Wednesday 20th December  
School finishes at 1:45pm.

INSET Days  
Thursday 21st December 2023  
Monday 8th January 2024

Children Return to School  
Tuesday 9th January 2024 at 8:55am.

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[www.hoxtongarden.hackney.sch.uk](http://www.hoxtongarden.hackney.sch.uk)