



### Weekly Newsletter Friday 12th January 2024

#### Message from the Headteacher

Happy New Year! We hope that you have had a restful holiday and that children have enjoyed the return to school. This week we have talked about new beginnings and new year's resolutions. Many children have returned to school a little tired; please ensure that term time routines are back in place (early to bed, daily reading and homework and limited screen time).

#### Stars of the Week



**Maliha Reception** for staying engaged throughout carpet sessions and for following class rules.

**Mahir Yr 6** for consistently upholding school values since the start of the year- a great role model to other students.

#### Attendance

**N- 82%**

**R- 88%**

**1- 95%**

**2- 94%**

**3- 91%**

**4- 92%**

**5- 79%**

**6- 89%**

Please ensure children are in school **every day**. Only Yr 1 class managed to reach 95% attendance in the last week of term; this will be due to some sickness but predominantly parents taking children out on extended leave.

#### Changes to school PE kit Years 1-6

In order to make sure that we maximise the time children are active in PE lessons we would like your child to come to school in their PE kit on their PE days and remain in their PE kit for the day. They can wear their school jumper/cardigan on top of their kit in colder weather.

**See letter below**

#### Oracy Target

This week children have been working on our oracy target:

***I can speak politely to all adults and children, using phrases such as:***

***'Good morning...'*** ***'Please'***  
***'Thank you'*** ***'Excuse me'***

Please help children to use polite language when talking to adults and other children..

#### Online Safety

Keeping children safe online is our joint responsibility. Make sure that you have parental controls in place; and that you know the sites and Apps

#### Parent Sessions

**Coffee Morning** on Wednesdays 9-10 am in the Parents Rm run by Yasmin- all welcome

**Toy Library** Thursdays Hoyam and Dilara

**Felix Food Project** Friday 2:30-3:30 run by Yasmin, Hoyan, Muna.

We are very grateful for the time and energy that our parent volunteers offer the school.

#### Reception Application Deadline

Pupils usually start primary school in the September following their fourth birthday. If your child was born between 1 September 2019 and 31 August 2020 this will be from September 2024. You must make an online application for a reception place, **even if your child is already attending the school's nursery**.

There is no automatic right of transfer from the nursery class to the reception class in the same school, and attending a nursery class does not give any priority for admission to reception class at the same school.

You must apply via the <https://www.eadmissions.org.uk/>

**Closing date for making applications is 15 January 2024.**

#### Extended Leave Gentle Reminder

Parents should not book holidays during term time. Holidays should be booked during the school holiday to limit missed education. If you want to discuss extended leave this must be done with the headteacher once the Extended Leave form has been completed. Extended leave should be for emergencies only.

Please note that **Ofsted** is taking a careful look at **school attendance** as it has dropped significantly after Covid at a local & national level. It's really important that we work together to ensure attendance is at least 96% across the school.

#### Important dates

##### Spring term 2024

**Jan 9,16,23 30th** - Parent Volunteer training at Hague 9:30-12:00

**Mon 12th - Fri 16th Feb** Half term holiday

**Tues 5th March** Parent Conferences

**Thurs 7th March** World Book Day  
**Wb 11th March 11th** Ramadan starts

**8th March-** Science week  
**Thur 28th March** school finishes  
Fri 29th March to Fri 12th April  
**Easter holidays**

**Mon 15th April** school starts  
Monday 6th May bank holiday  
Mon 27th May- Fri 31st May half term holiday  
Mon 17th June school closed Eid Al-Adha  
Friday 19th July school finishes

#### Cost of Living Crisis

Please have a look at this website for information on how Tower Hamlets plans to support families affected by the cost of living crisis.

[Cost of Living package worth nearly £6million.](#)

#### Parents of Yr 1 Children

If children arrive after the gate has shut, please bring them to the office and say goodbye to them. They can then go up stairs on their own. This is good for their development of independence.

that your children use. Check the school's online safety policy on the website. [Safeguarding and Child Protection - WILLIAM DAVIS PRIMARY SCHOOL](#)

### Book Amnesty

Please return all school books to the class next week so that the book corners can be stored. There are lots of books missing.

### Uniform

We have noticed that many children are coming to school in the wrong uniform. Please check the website and ensure that your child is dressed in the correct uniform and PE kit.

<http://www.williamdavis.org.uk/uniform.html>

### Uniform Stall

Look out for the monthly uniform stall on a Friday afternoon run by parents, Hoyam and Dilara

### Is My Child Too Ill for School?

Please refer to these NHS guidelines when thinking about whether your child can go to school.

We need to reduce unnecessary absences from school.

[Is my child too ill for school? - NHS](#)

### Sweets and Snacks

Please can I ask parents to help us promote healthy eating habits. If you want your children to have a snack at home time - **bring some fruit or a bagel**. Please avoid sweets, crisp etc that are high in sugar and fat. Please encourage water or milk.

### Fathers and Male Carers

**Fathers Football** at Thomas Buxton Thursday mornings - see Russell. See poster below.

### WD Wrap Around Care

Wrap Around Care ( childcare) is available for all children. Contact Bhumi or Ridhwan on the admin email if you want to book sessions. All information is on the website: [William Davis' Wraparound Care](#)

### Birthday Celebrations

Although we have stopped our custom of parents sharing birthday sweets in the playground at hometime, please be reassured that we still sing and give children a sticker and pencil when they celebrate their birthday.

### Sight and Hearing Tests

Please get your child's hearing and sight checked if you have concerns about them. Unfortunately our school nurse does not routinely screen children. School and parents need to work together to identify when a child can't see the board or hear class instructions. Please talk to your child and contact your GP or optician if you need to book a screening.

### Situation in the Middle East

We know that this time is complex for adults caring for young children. Please take time to read this Unicef guidance for parents about talking to children about conflict and war. [How to talk to your children about conflict and war | UNICEF Parenting](#)

Please talk to us if you are concerned about your child.

### Parent Reader Needed

We have one volunteer who has started. Thank you!

We need another volunteer reader to work with a KS 2 child new to the country. Ideally this volunteer would read with the child daily 9:00-9:30. See Annika or Siobhan.



### Magic Breakfast

Children are welcome to come into school for breakfast on a daily basis. Staff prepare toasted bagels or cereal and milk. Children must be in between 8:00 and 8:30 to be served breakfast.



### Reading for Pleasure

Are you a member at the Whitechapel Ideas Store? Why not join this weekend and be a regular visitor to borrow books for you and your children. Check out the website:

[Idea Store Whitechapel](#)

### CHARGES

#### Reminders:

In order to replace books lost at home we will charge £5 for lost books.

EYFS parents will be charged £3 / term for perishable items.

Repeated late pick ups from ASC will incur an increased fine- see the **Charging and Remissions Policy** on the website.

Poem for a New Year  
by Matt Goodfellow

Art by Lennart Helje

Something's moving in,  
I hear the weather in the wind,  
sense the tension of the sheep-field  
and the pilgrimage of fins.  
Something's not the same,  
I taste the sap and feel the grain,  
hear the rolling of the rowan  
ringing, singing in a change.  
Something's set to start,  
there's meadow-music in the dark  
and the clouds that shroud the mountain  
slowly, softly start to part.





Dear parents/carers,

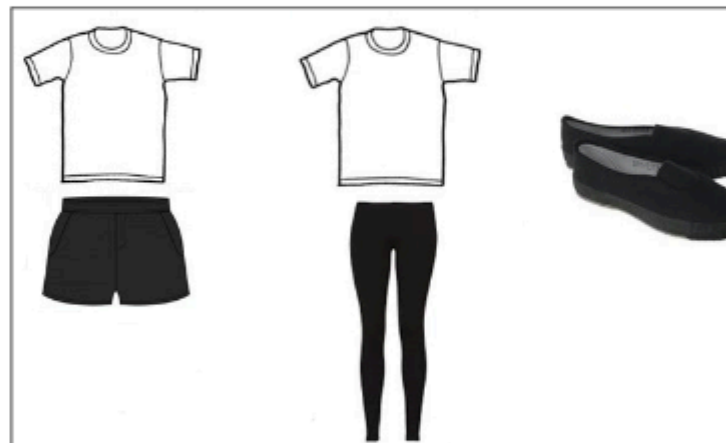
### Re: Changes to school PE kit Years 1-6

In order to make sure that we maximise the time children are active in PE lessons we would like your child to come to school in their PE kit on their PE days and remain in their PE kit for the day. They can wear their school jumper/cardigan on top of their kit in colder weather.

*Children in Reception will continue to change as part of their PE lesson and wider learning.*

#### PE Kit

- Plain white T shirt
- Black/dark blue shorts, leggings or tracksuit bottoms
- Plimsolls or trainers



#### Health and safety

- No jewellery should be worn to school on PE days, including earrings. If stud earrings are not able to be removed you should cover the earrings with micropore tape. The amount of tape used needs to be sufficient to prevent the piercing penetrating the bone behind the ear should an unintentional blow be received from someone or some item of equipment, such as a ball.
- Long hair must be tied back.
- Headscarves must be removed for PE lessons. Girls in Y5 or 6 who wish to keep their heads covered in PE must bring a suitable headcovering - this should be close fitting and cover the top of the head only.
- Children must be wearing well fitted plimsolls or trainers with a good grip.

Please note if your child is not wearing PE kit to school we will ask them to use spare school kit on that day.



Spring term PE days:

Class	PE days and activities	
Reception	Monday- Throwing and Catching	
Y1	Tuesday - Dance	Thursday- Fitness
Y2	Friday - Dance	Tuesday- Fitness
Y3	Tuesday - Dance	Friday- Fitness
Y4	Monday - Fitness	Wednesday - Dance
Y5	Monday - Fitness	Friday - Dance
Y6	Wednesday - Dance	Friday - Fitness

Many thanks for your support,

Kind regards,

Charlotte Barrington  
Deputy Head



An OCN accredited course  
delivered by the  
PARENTAL ENGAGEMENT TEAM

TUESDAYS

9, 16, 23, 30 January

6, 20, 27 February

12, 19, 26 March

9.30am- 12pm

## Volunteer in E1 Schools

Information &  
assessment session

Hague Primary School  
Thurs 21 December 2023,  
9.30am

### Learn about

- the curriculum and how children learn
- teaching methods
- how to support learning
- how to keep children safe