Dear Mums, Dads, Carers, staff, governors, friends & colleagues

I hope you found the Coffee morning meetings informative last week. Each class has a curriculum overview which is available from your child’s class teacher if you do not have one. The Reading Cafes have been a huge success and we will be running them termly, we hope to see more of you each time.

Mrs Maharasingam
Head Teacher

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Reading Cafés
Developing our love of reading!

A big thank you to all the parents and carers who helped to make our new READING CAFES a wonderful and beneficial experience for our children this week! The reading cafes took place on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings, before the start of the day and were set up to enable you to spend some quality time sharing stories with your child, with the opportunity to explore new reading genres. Rose and Linda, our wonderful Lead Teaching Assistants brought stories to life with puppets and props and Priya from Lewisham Library attended the Café on Wednesday to sign up more Rathfern readers to this vital service.

Some of our Year 6 children have offered to run a book club for the younger pupils during their lunch break, after being inspired at one of the book areas.

Thanks also to Jane Waters who provided coffee and refreshments to help make the session comfortable and relaxing.

We will be running our Reading Cafes every term at least, but hope to be able to offer this event every half term if possible.

If you have any ideas about how we can make our Reading Cafes even better, please speak to your class teacher who pass this information on to our English Team.

Clare Goldsmith
Assistant Head
DATES FOR YOUR DIARY – 2019

Christmas Holiday begins - Thursday 19th December

JANUARY
Monday 20th
Enrichment clubs resume

Thursday 23rd
Vision and Hearing Tests for Reception classes

FEBRUARY

Monday 10th
Parent information session:
Year 4 Multiplication check 8.15am & 5.15pm

Tuesday 11th and Thursday 13th
Target setting

Half Term: Monday 17th – Friday 21st February

Y4 Multiplication Check
MEETING FOR YEAR 4 PARENTS

Incase you were unable to attend the first meeting, further meetings will be held on 10th February 2020.
8:15am - 8:30am
5:15pm - 5:30pm

Please join us to find out about the Y4 Multiplication Check

Ms Zulver (KS2 Maths Lead)

Upcoming events

Mothers day afternoon tea:
20th March 2020 3.45pm - 5.30pm

Fathers day BBQ:
19th June 2020 3.45pm - 5.30pm

Summer Fair:
26th June 2020 3.45pm - 5.30pm
Our language of the month this term is Tamil

We would like to encourage our Tamil speaking community to share any special recipes, traditional dress, flags or photos of your country with us. We will use all the contributions for our language of the Month display for all to see and celebrate.

If you have anything relating to Tamil that you would like to contribute this term, please do let me know.

There are about 75 million Tamil speakers in the world; the majority of them live in southern India.

There are large Tamil populations in Sri Lanka, Malaysia, Singapore, Mauritius, Fiji and South Africa.

Many of the Tamils currently in the United Kingdom are from Sri Lanka.

Many thanks, Ms Henderson-Vieira.
Big Schools Birdwatch  
**Date:** 2 Jan to 22 Feb  
**What is it:** Big Schools’ Birdwatch is an educational activity that gets your class closer to nature.  
**Rights Link:** Article 28: Right to Education  
**SDG 16 Life on Land and SDG 4 Quality Education**

World Religion Day  
**Date:** 19 Jan  
**What is it:** A day to recognise, respect and accept the hundreds of differing faiths across the globe.  
**Rights Link:** Article 2: The right not to be discriminated against; Article 14: Freedom of thought, conscience and religion  
**SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions**

Chinese New Year  
**Date:** 25th Jan

Australia Day  
**Date:** 26th Jan

Holocaust Memorial Day  
**Date:** 27 Jan  
**What is it:** Holocaust Memorial Day provides an opportunity for everyone to learn lessons from the Holocaust, Nazi persecution and subsequent genocides and apply them to the present day to create a safer, better future.  
**Rights Link:** Article 38: War and armed conflicts  
**SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions**

LGBT History Month  
**Date:** Feb  
**What is it:** The aim of LGBT History month is to promote equality and diversity for the benefit of the public.  
**Rights Link:** Article 2: Non-discrimination, Article 13 – freedom of expression  
**SDG 5 Gender Equality**
World Cancer Day
Date: 4 Feb
What is it: World Cancer Day was established by the Paris Charter adopted at the World Summit Against Cancer (2000). The Charter promotes research for curing and preventing cancer, upgrading services provided to patients and the mobilisation of the global community against cancer.
Rights Link: Article 24: Health and health services
SDG 3 Good health and well-being

Safer Internet Day
Date: 11 Feb
What is it: Calls upon young people, parents, carers, teachers, social workers, law enforcement, companies, policymakers, and wider, to join together in helping to create a better internet.
Rights Link: Article 16: Right to privacy; Article 17: Access to information from the media
SDG 4 Quality Education

World Day of Social Justice
Date: 20 Feb
What is it: Social Justice Day aims to promote poverty eradication and social integration. A theme is set each year.
Rights Link: Article 4: Implementation of the Convention
SDG 16 Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions

International Mother Language Day
Date: 21 Feb
What is it: International Mother Language Day celebrates language diversity and variety worldwide. A theme is set each year.
Rights Link: Article 30: Children from minority or indigenous groups
SDG 4 Quality Education

Fairtrade Fortnight begins
Date: 24th Feb – 8th March
What is it: These two weeks are a fantastic opportunity to learn about Fairtrade and share the stories of the people who grow our food and drink.
Rights Link: Article 2 Non-discrimination, treated equally
SDG 5 Equality, SDG 12 Responsible consumption and production, SDG 13 Climate Action

Shrove Tuesday/Mardi Gras
Date: 25th Feb

Ash Wednesday
Date: 26th Feb
On the 15th January 2020, Yr 6 classes, Elder and Cedar, went to Horniman to learn more about our topic Ancient Benin. We arrived quite early and were soon let into a room full of tables and benches to put our bags and coats away. Cedar class went to look around the world gallery while Elder went to a workshop about how the Benin citizens made brass, and we also looked at some replicas of different things from that time period. When we had finished, we looked round the world gallery in the sections Africa, Australia, Europe and Asia.

Cara - Yr 6

On the 15th January 2020, we went to the Horniman to learn more about our topic - Ancient Benin. Elder went to a workshop whilst Cedar looked at the animals and artefacts (in the world gallery). During the workshop we examined some secondary sources (replicas of the real things which included beads, brass sculptures and manilla and cowrie shells which were Ancient Benin currency). We also learned how the brass places were made. Whilst Cedar were looking at the Ancient Benin artefacts and the stuffed animals.

Norah - Yr 6
School Trees Project

Rathfern Primary, Street Trees for Living (STFL) and our neighbours have worked together to create a tree-lined street on Rathfern Road. It has been a wonderful experience to work with our neighbours on this incentive as a community project. We have secured the cost of 8 Honey Locust trees from the generous sponsorship from neighbours and local businesses. These trees were delivered and planted over the weekend and will now be looked after by us as a community to help make our environment a greener, safer place for all.

According to STFL, these trees will help to reduce:
- Toxic air mortality
- Global warming
- Crime
- Road rage
- The risk of flooding
- Speeding traffic

The trees will also help improve:
- Mental and physical health
- Biodiversity & wildlife
- Health recovery rates
- Work productivity
- Shading & temperature regulation
- Neighbourhood vigilance
- Business profits

UNCRC 24: The right to a clean and safe environment.
SDG 15 Life on Land, SDG 13 Climate Action
NEWS FLASH !!!
PARENTS
ANTI-IDLING AWARENESS

Parents let’s
Clean up our air
by switching off
Our car engine when stationary

What is car idling?
When a vehicle is left running unnecessarily while stationary. For example, waiting, with your car on in a parking lot for your friends to arrive. Most parents idle their cars while waiting at school gates or in the pick-up line at school.

Why idling is so bad for our health and the environment?
Idling increases the amount of exhaust fumes in the air. These fumes contain a number of harmful gasses including carbon dioxide, which is bad for the environment and contributes towards climate change, as well as a range of other harmful gasses including nitrogen dioxide, carbon monoxide and hydro-carbons which are linked to asthma and other lung diseases.
How does it affect your health and the environments?
When you idle, your car exhaust fumes build-up and that fumes ends up in the air around your car or in your car and when breath in it is dangerous and unhealthy for the body. For example: it is estimated that in 2010, outdoor air pollution was linked to approximately 9,500 early deaths in London, and approximately 40,000 nationally.

How can you help not to idle?
Parents let’s do our bit for air quality
- Turn off your engine when stationary
- Switch to cycling or walking for local trips, school runs
- Switch to a bus or train either for short or long journeys
ATTENDANCE MATTERS

Outstanding achievement is linked to outstanding attendance.

Attendance winners for Spring Term 1
Statistics for period 7th – 17th January 2020
Congratulations to Sweet Chestnut class for achieving the highest attendance again!!!

PUNCTUALITY MATTERS

Ms Lisa stands on the gate every morning and we want to say THANK YOU to all of you who organise your mornings to ensure your children arrive punctually.

However there are still a significant small number of families who arriving after 8.55 and sometimes after 9.00am.

Congratulations to Elder class for achieving the least lates this fortnight ****

Cherry Blossom class had the highest number of lates at 3.2%!!!!
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<tr>
<th>CLASS</th>
<th>EFFECTIVE LEARNERS</th>
<th>LEADING CITIZENS</th>
<th>ACT OF KINDNESS</th>
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<td>Apple</td>
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