

20th January 2023

Dear Parents / Carers,

This week the weather became decidedly frosty, as did the political landscape with the announcement of industrial action by the National Education Union (NEU). For those who have not read Mr Warren's letter that relates to the dates for planned industrial action and our response as a school (and federation), please do so at your earliest convenience. There will be further dedicated and detailed letters from the SLT informing you of our plans re: the upcoming **planned industrial action**. <https://www.daubeney.hackney.sch.uk/viewer/641#sitelive-viewer/2>

That said, in the meantime we will continue with business as per usual – we have children to educate and prepare for the next stage of their learning journey, and more importantly – life in the real world! As such, we'd like to let you know that this week, our **Golden Expectation and Word of the Week** were '**Stay Safe and look after people and property**' and '**Perseverance**'. Do discuss these with your child(ren).

Since our return in the New Year, we have been emphasising the importance of reading with your child(ren)/your child reading on a regular basis. Once again, I'd like to commend all of the parents who are supporting their child(ren) to read on a daily basis and to record comments in their reading record. At this point I must express my gratitude to our **Parent Reading Volunteers** who give their time to read with our/their children (#It Takes a Village...) between the time of 9:00-9:30am. And, I must commend those parents who have been attending our weekly **Parent Daily Supported Reading (DSR) training sessions** held every Monday from 3:45 – 4:15pm in our Reception classes. Please speak with a member of staff if you'd like to know more about these sessions, or becoming a parent reading volunteer. As promised last week, below you will find several links to our **Blossom Federation Phonics videos** to support you at home, especially for those with children in our Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 classes. However, you're never too old to recap on your phonics knowledge or learn about phonics for the first time if you weren't taught to read phonetically.

Alphabet Sounds - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5KnljrDQARel>

Phase 2 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0zX6be672Fk>

Phase 3 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cyNi4zej2zo>

Phase 3, High Frequency & 'Tricky' words - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HitzsllByzc>

Phase 4, High Frequency & 'Tricky' words - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MrlshwqB_Og

Phase 5, High Frequency & 'Tricky' words - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q82DINrLWko>

Link to access all - https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=blossom+phonics

Last Friday, Mr Warren, **Mr Will Emms (Chair of Governors)** and I met with Hackney Education's Laleh Laverick (Interim Principle Learning & Management Advisor) and Jason Marantz (Interim Assistant Director of Education), for our second TAG meeting of the year to discuss how we are progressing on our **school**



improvement journey. Questions were posed to me regarding our SATs predictions for Y2 & Y6, our end of year predictions for all other year groups and what have been our actions towards meeting our SDP targets, and the impact of these actions. As is the nature of these meetings, to hold us to account, they need to be challenging. However, the meeting concluded with the judgment being that we are making satisfactory progress. We look forward to our second School Improvement Partner (SIP) visit from HE on 21.2.23 when the foci of the visit will be writing outcomes, quality of T&L in maths, and reading for our lowest attaining 30% of pupils and our Y1 phonics attainment.

By now, you should be very aware that our cross curricular focus for this half-term is **Design & Technology (DT)**. Below you will find the DT focus for each year group and their **science topics**, again this is to facilitate discussions at home about learning at school. Can your child(ren) tell you what they learnt in these subjects yesterday, last week, last month, last year?

This week your child(ren) was given their new writing targets for this term. These targets were based on their recent writing moderation task, which we use to assess the children's progress. Please ask your child(ren) about their writing targets and what they wrote for their writing task. **Years 1, 2 and 3's** were based on the short film 'Marshmallows' <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GwXFVqKuH-w> and **Years 4, 5 and 6's** were based on the short film 'Something Fishy'. <https://www.literacyshed.com/something-fishy.html>

Year 1	<p style="text-align: center;">D&T - Freestanding Structures</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Biology – Animals (Including Humans) Classification of animals. - How am I different from other animals?</p>
Year 2	<p style="text-align: center;">D&T - Wheels and Axles</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Physics – Everyday Materials – How can I protect the Environment?</p>
Year 3	<p style="text-align: center;">D&T - Linkages and Levers</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Biology – Animals (Including Humans) – What would happen if we didn't have a skeleton?</p>
Year 4	<p style="text-align: center;">D&T – Electronics</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Chemistry – States of Matter – Does water ever just disappear?</p>
Year 5	<p style="text-align: center;">D&T - Pulleys, Gears and Levers</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Chemistry – Properties and Changes of Materials – Is it possible to make seawater drinkable?</p>
Year 6	<p style="text-align: center;">D&T – Shelters</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Biology – Animals (Including Humans), Evolution & Inheritance – What is the purpose of Evolution?</p>

For much more on what has been happening at Daubeney please do access our highlights link with your child(ren) for more home learning discussions. <https://www.daubeney.hackney.sch.uk/highlights>
Have a great weekend everyone, and stay warm!



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PCTA NEEDS YOU

SPRING TERM FUNDRAISING KICK OFF

KEY STAGE 1 HALL
TUESDAY 24TH
JAN
7PM

PLEASE COME & SHARE YOUR IDEAS



Blossom Federation

