

13th January 2023

Dear Parents / Carers,

We now come to the conclusion of our first full school week of 2023. We trust that you and your child(ren) have gotten back into the swing of school routines.

This week, our **Golden Expectation and Word of the Week** were 'Learn Brilliantly' and 'Yet (The power of Yet)'. Our jigsaw theme this half-term is 'Dreams & Goals'. Do discuss these with your child(ren).

Last week we mentioned the importance of reading with your child(ren)/your child reading on a regular basis. This week 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. To support our families there will be a range of **parent workshops** designed to help you support your child with their learning at home. If you are invited, there is a very specific reason for that, please do attend. Next week I will share links to our Blossom Federation Phonics videos to support you at home.

In our previous letter we also highlighted the importance of being **punctual** and having good **attendance** (97%+). As a school we are very mindful that our pupils experience common illnesses from time to time. Most of these illnesses do not need a prescription or a visit to your doctor and do not need time away from school. Often treating your child's illness yourself, or with advice and medication from your pharmacist, can be the quickest and easiest way to deal with it. Please remember that early morning aches and pains often pass, so don't keep your child at home 'just in case' when they could be learning in class. When you send your child to school with minor aches and pains, tell our staff and they will phone you if your child continues to have symptoms. To this end, please make sure that the **telephone contact details** we have for you are up-to-date. It is important that the school is able to make contact with you during the day if your child(ren) is not well enough to stay in school. If you need to keep your child off school, you should always contact us in the morning to let us know the reason why your child(ren) will not be attending school. Please access the link below to read our Blossom Federation Attendance Policy.

[https://www.daubeney.hackney.sch.uk/files/parents/attendance/Parent%20agreement%20Flyer%20\(6\).pdf](https://www.daubeney.hackney.sch.uk/files/parents/attendance/Parent%20agreement%20Flyer%20(6).pdf)

This week SLT met with class teachers for our **progress meetings**. This is where we look at each pupil individually and look at the progress they are making and what teachers predict they will achieve by the end of the year. This is to ensure that all of our pupils are challenged appropriately to achieve their best. Where we have concerns about a child's progress we may invite them to attend an intervention, in addition to their class teacher having them as a key focus pupil. Hence why if your child, or you, are invited to attend an intervention or a workshop it is imperative that your child/you attend. We are pleased to report that the progress overall is good and we have identified actions where there are concerns.

We will be meeting with Hackney Education, Laleh Lavrick and Jason Marantz, for our second TAG meeting of the year today, so we can share how we are progressing on our **school improvement journey**. Attending the meeting will be Mr Warren, Will Emms (Chair of Governors) and me. We will feedback on how the meeting went in next week's letter.

As mentioned previously, our cross curricular focus this half-term will be **Design & Technology** (DT). Below you will find the focus for each year group and this week we have added our **science topics**, again this is to facilitate discussions at home about learning at school.

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

University might seem a long way off from primary school, but believe me (as a grandparent!) that it arrives quicker than you anticipate! As such, this week class 6K visited another of our community partners, **IntoUniversity**. This experience affords our pupils the opportunity to explore the idea of going to university and looking at all of the various courses and universities available to them. Today will be a magical day for them as they will be 'graduating' from Cambridge University! If you'd like to know more about IntoUniversity please access the link below. As always, do speak with your child about this experience. <https://intouniversity.org/>

For those of you have not done so already, we strongly encourage you to read Mr Warren's update letter for more news about Daubeney Primary and the Blossom Federation, please do so at your convenience by accessing the link below. <https://www.daubeney.hackney.sch.uk/viewer/639#sitelive-viewer/>

Have a wonderful weekend everyone,

Yours sincerely,



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