

3<sup>rd</sup> February 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

RE: Hackney Schools' Challenge

This year we are excited to say we are taking part in the Hackney Schools' Challenge (please see FAQs on the reverse of this letter).

In short, it is a running challenge that will take place on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> May and ties in with the Hackney Running Festival, which culminates with the famous Hackney Half Marathon on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> May. Children cover 13.1 miles by running one mile a week for 13 weeks. On Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> May children are cheered on by thousands of fans and finish their final mile on the Hackney Half finish line.

They will each receive a goody bag, finisher's medal – and of course, that unbeatable feeling of crossing the finishing line.

If you would like your child/children to take part, please read the FAQs carefully and then use the QR code below to express your interest. Another communication will go out once we have submitted all of the names to Hackney Moves and have received confirmation of our place in the race. We look forward to seeing you there!



Yours sincerely,



Mr Gregory Logan  
Head of School  
Twitter: @OneMrLogan1



Robin Warren  
Executive Head Teacher  
Twitter: @BlossomExecH



## FAQs:

### **What is it?**

For those unfamiliar with the event, each year, Hackney welcomes tens of thousands of people from all over the world to take part in one of the UK's most popular half marathons. As part of their 'Weekend of Movement' they invite all primary schools to take part in their Hackney Schools' Challenge the day before the Half Marathon.

### **When is it?**

This year it will take place on Saturday 20th May (times TBC).

### **Where is it?**

The festival village, start line, and finish line will be located on Hackney Marshes. However, on the day we will meet outside the gates at Daubeney and walk to the marshes together.

### **How does it work?**

The way this works is that in the lead up to the weekend, the children will join a school running club and run a total of 12 miles over 12 days. This will likely be spread out over two half-terms; Spring 2 and Summer 1. It will be led by our own running enthusiast, Mr Swarbrick, who will be running the full Hackney Half on Sunday 21st May. They will run the final mile, mile 13, at the Hackney Schools' Challenge event and will get to experience crossing the famous finish line.

### **How much is it to enter?**

The good news... it is free to all primary school aged children! Not only that, each child will receive a t-shirt and a bib number leading up to the event, and upon crossing the finish line, they will receive a goody bag and a finisher's medal!

### **Who is it open to?**

This year, we are opening entries to all children in year 3, year 4, year 5, and year 6. We are also happy to welcome any parents who also wish to take part (please note: finishers medals and goody bags will only be given to the children - however, all participants, both children and adults, will be given a t-shirt and bib number).

### **When do I need to submit my response by?**

The deadline to express interest is **Friday 10th February 3:30pm** – unfortunately, no entries will be accepted after this date.

### **What will my child need?**

Your child will need a pair of appropriate trainers to run in; please avoid pumps, plimsoles, high-tops etc. (e.g. Converse and Vans). For the school running club, they will need a t-shirt, and shorts, leggings, or tracksuit bottoms (they can wear their PE kit if that is more convenient).

### **What happens next?**

Once the deadline has passed and we know how many children and adults are taking part, we need to submit this information to Hackney Moves. When we receive confirmation of our place in the challenge, we will send out letters to confirm your child's place. We will also provide more information of when the Daubeney Running Club will take place.

### **What if I still have questions?**

Mr Swarbrick will be on the school gates most mornings and afternoons and you can direct any questions to him.

