

19th January 2024

Dear Parents & Carers,

Today brings week 2 of the Spring 1 half-term to a close. As mentioned previously, our curriculum focus is **'Beautiful or Useful?'** Design and Technology (DT) this half term with our WOW day scheduled for Thursday 8th February.

This prompts me to encourage you, as always, to visit our **online calendar**, please access this at your convenience so that you are fully informed and aware of the events and many trips happening in the Spring term and beyond! A noteworthy event is our **parent consultations** happening next half-term on **Tuesday 5th and Wednesday 6th March**. <https://www.daubeney.hackney.sch.uk/viewer/785#sitelive-viewer/>

As we are focused on DT and Art this half-term, I'd like to usher you towards our **Art Newsletter** which includes an introduction to the Junior Art Team members, word search activities, a tutorial on how to draw a dragon, the template for a 'split pin' dragon, an article on artist Tomislav Tomic, the Daubeney Art Gallery and much more! Well done to **Miss Smith** and the **Junior Art** team for producing such an informative and activity filled newsletter! <https://www.daubeney.hackney.sch.uk/events/art-team-newspaper-issue-13>

This week I'd like to re-introduce our word, expectation and our breathing technique of the week to facilitate home learning discussions which are:

Expectation of the Week – **Learn Brilliantly**

Word of the Week – **Yet** (The power of yet)

Breathing technique of the Week – **Snake breath**

Please discuss the above with your child(ren) and get them to teach you the breathing technique, it will be an opportunity for children to consolidate their learning.

As our parent partners we would like to clarify that **smart watches** are not allowed to be worn by students in school. This is to **safeguard all of our students** as some smart watches do have a camera function, and for obvious reason we do not want that function being used inappropriately on school premises. Digital watches and analogue watches are fine. Thank you in advance for your support.

Talking of time 😊 There will be **Hackney Lunar New Year 2024 celebrations** held locally next weekend. Hackney's East Asian communities and culture are being celebrated in a special event at Hackney Bridge on **Saturday 27 January** to mark **Lunar New Year 2024** from 1pm-4pm, Saturday 27th January, Hackney Bridge, Units 1-28 Echo Lane Building, E Bay Lane, E15 2SJ. [Map](#).

The event, led by Hackney-based East Asian carnival arts organisation Jun Mo Generations, and hosted by Hackney Bridge, commemorates the Year of the Dragon which begins on 10 February. The celebration will feature traditional

dances and performances from Asian culture, including Lion and Dragon dances, an Umbrella dance, a Bell dance, flag rotations, plus live music, martial arts displays and a craft-making workshop for all ages.

Full details can be found [here](#). Please RSVP to lucy.mcmenemy@hackney.gov.uk if you'd like to attend. (Please also mention if you would like to bring a +1.)

Closer to home, we invite you to our second **Stay & Play session** of the academic year on Wednesday 24th January (3:30pm – 4:30pm), please see flier below. Thank you to those who have made a toy donation, all donations are welcome.

Linked to our Stay & Play session if you attend you will also have the opportunity to learn more about our plans for re-designing our playground. We are working in collaboration with one of our parent partners, **Jules Kirby** and his organisation **Natural Neighbours**. Jules has informed me that our crowdfunding drive has had some very good news - we have received a **£5000** (!) corporate funding commitment from SNG (a housing company) towards our Aviva/Wild Isles fund. That's amazing, BUT it comes with conditions. It will only show up as a pledge to our fund once we hit £2500. Given Aviva match donations pound for pound we need about £500 to get there. Our tally will then leap to £7500. They will only follow through on that pledge though if we hit our £10,000 target. If the school can get 50 people to give an average of £10 each we'll see the SNG pledge stick a rocket under our fund so please please can the school community/Daubeney village start pumping its networks and comms channels asking people to support and spread the word about the fund? [Here's the link](#)

Enjoy a great weekend, stay warm and enjoy a good book!

Yours sincerely,



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