



# HINGUAR SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

TOGETHER WE ACHIEVE

Autumn Term Newsletter Week 1 12th September 2025

Dear Parents/Carers

It has been fantastic to welcome the children back into school this week and they all look so smart in their uniforms. They have all settled in quickly and are keen to get on with their learning. I would also like to say a huge thank you to all the staff in school for ensuring that the children have settled quickly back into routine and for their hard work during the holiday in preparing the classrooms for their return.

This week, it has been lovely to welcome our new families in both Reception and Nursery, in particular those who have started in our new 2-year-old room. I am sure that they will be very happy at Hinguar.

Thank you for ensuring that your child attends school every day on time so that they are ready to learn. They clearly enjoy coming to school and experiencing the exciting activities their teachers plan for them, as well as seeing their friends. Attendance and punctuality will continue to be monitored very closely each week, and we will continue to meet with families where attendance triggers our benchmark of 4+ days absence within the first 4 weeks of school or where persistent absence is identified as a barrier to learning. This is so that we can support families in preventing attendance issues becoming embedded. Promoting good attendance is everyone's responsibility and ensures that pupils are successful.

To reward good attendance, we will be continuing with our weekly attendance awards and our half termly attendance award, Dress for Success. This is where the children in the class with the best attendance across the half term will be allowed to come into school the following Monday in appropriate non-uniform to celebrate their achievement.

We are also continuing with our reward system for every child in school called 'Catch Me!'. This is a system that rewards the children for doing the right thing all the time, whether it be being polite, helpful, ready to learn etc and any adult in the school can award the Catch Me! signatures to the children. All the children will begin again, working towards their Bronze award, as they are in a new school year with new expectations.

We continue to strengthen the learning experiences for the children, and we are currently planning trips in support of this, including more local ones across the year. Please remember to check the diary dates at the end of the weekly newsletter. Updates will be in red so that they can be easily identified.

Just a reminder that the children will continue to come into school on PE days in their kits so that they have maximum time in lessons.

Finally, I would like to say a huge thank you to you all for your continued support. Please remember that our Pastoral Team are here to support all our families. Please do not hesitate to contact either Mrs Wilson or Mrs Attard via the school office should you need their help/assistance at any time, and they will get back to you.

Have a lovely weekend and I look forward to seeing you all on Monday.

Kind regards

Mrs Waite

Headteacher





# HINGUAR SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

TOGETHER WE ACHIEVE

## Turtles and Starfish



In Turtles class this week, the children have been settling in and developing their personal, social and emotional development. They have all been working on their confidence and independence by exploring the whole of the Turtles room and outside, around the play deck by selecting from the activities available all by themselves. They have been learning the rules in Nursery, for example, that we share, have kind hands and tidy up. Most of the children are learning the routines quickly and are keen to sit for snacks and drinks at the snack table. They enjoyed dancing to Baby Shark, singing nursery rhymes and Head, Shoulders, Knees and Toes with the actions. They have experienced their first Dough Disco session. Dough Disco is a fine motor control development activity using playdough which we will do daily to develop finger strength for writing.

Mrs Cochrane, Mrs Loe and Ms Burgess



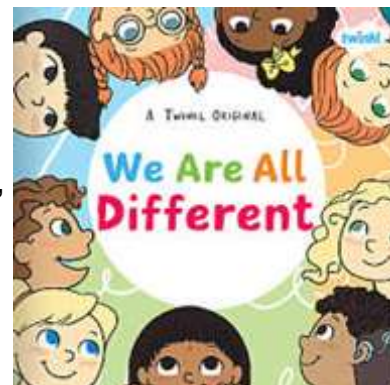
The children are continuing to settle into their new class and routines and are enjoying getting to know some new friends in Nursery.

In Starfish class this week, our story focus has been 'We Are All Different', The children have discussed how we all look different and we all have different likes and dislikes. Our artist focus this term is Frida Kahlo and the children have been exploring using paint to create their own self-portraits. Frida often liked to include her garden, monkeys and her pet parrot in her paintings as they made her feel happy. The children thought about



their own emotions and expressed things that make them happy too. Some suggestions included, "playing in the sand", "coming to Nursery", "painting" and "riding bikes". Next week, our story focus will be 'Our House' and we will be talking about sharing, playing and learning together. We will also be exploring the counting rhyme '5 Currant Buns' and looking at factual information about how bread is made. Well done, Starfish class on a busy week of fun and learning!

Mrs Brant, Mrs Attard, Mrs, Bowser, Ms Burgess and Mrs Merton



## Seahorse

Well done to Seahorse Class for completing their first week at Hinguar. They all looked extremely smart in their school uniform. The children have continued to explore the classroom and play deck throughout the week. We have been learning the rules of the class and how to walk around the school.

Our theme this week was feelings, and we have enjoyed stories such as 'The Invisible String' and 'The Way I Feel.' This gave us an opportunity to talk about how we were feeling and how we showed our feelings through our bodies. We have further explored feelings by watching short animation clips of the Inside Out characters.

The children have created their own invisible string by drawing with a white wax candle on paper before painting over the top to reveal their patterns.

We have begun our daily phonic and maths sessions. We are concentrating on hearing and saying the initial sounds in words. In Maths, we have counted forwards and backwards to 10, before demonstrating how to represent each number on our fingers.

Throughout the week, the children have created train tracks, built dens, constructed with Lego and Duplo and moulded with playdough.

Please could reading records and reading books be in school every day. When looking at the wordless books, please help your child to talk in full sentences about what they can see.

Your child will be coming home with an explanation sheet on Little Wandle – our phonics scheme—and all the sounds they will learn by Christmas. Feel free to try the suggested activities on the explanation sheet.

Have a lovely weekend.

Mrs Newman, Mrs Bowser and Mrs Penny



# Oyster Class

It has been lovely to welcome the children back to school and see them settle so quickly into their new class. They have enjoyed exploring their new classroom and equipment and learning new routines.



In our maths lessons this week, we have been counting, recognising and representing numbers in different ways.



Our English and PSHE lessons have been linked this week as we have started to discover the story of The Colour Monster, learning about his different emotions and thinking about our own feelings.

In science this week, we have started learning about the human body. The children wrote labels for different body parts and added them to a shared diagram.



What a busy start to the new school year! Well done, Oyster Class  
Mrs Oakley, Mrs Lovelace-Court and Mrs Edwards.



## Seagull Class

Wow, what a busy start it has been to our first full week at school in Year 2! I have been so impressed with how hard everyone has been working.

We have started our first Maths and English units for the term, and the children have been showing off all the wonderful knowledge they brought with them from Year 1.

In Geography, we have been learning all about London! We used atlases to identify where London is, thought about its place as a capital city, and explored how it fits into Europe and the wider world.

Well done, Year 2 – what a fantastic start to the year.

Have a lovely weekend, everyone!

Mrs O'Donnell, Mrs Mota and Miss Calvy



## Heron Class

Wow, Heron class, what a fantastic start to the term!

Year 3 have settled in beautifully, learning new transitions and routines. They have really taken Key Stage 2 in their stride so far and it has been wonderful to get to know them all over the past week.

We have discussed our class rules and the importance of these values to ensure a successful year.

This week, we have begun our new topic 'It's a Hard Rock life'. In English, we have looked at the story 'Stone Age Boy' to understand what life was like during the Stone Age. We have also begun our French unit, where we have learnt different greetings for different times of day. In art, Heron class have produced a fantastic piece inspired by the artist Charles McGee.

Well done, Year 3. It has been a fantastic start to the year and we look forward to an equally successful rest of the year!

Miss Venables and Mrs Merton



## Curlew Class



It has been an absolute pleasure to welcome my Thunderous Threesies back as Fabulous Foursies, and I look forward to another fun-packed and successful year together.

The word of the year has to be 'collaboration'. The children have so far had 3 opportunities to work in pairs or small groups and displayed fantastic teamwork skills each time. They did this by supporting each other, following instructions and respecting each other.

- The first time was to solve clues to complete a maths investigation.
- The second time was building paper boats to kick start our new English unit.
- The third time could have ended very differently had they not been so fantastic. They were given board games and a selection of dice and counters – but were not given any instructions or guidance. Every member of the class collaborated in their respective groups to decide on the rules, take turns and ensure no one was left out. I am extremely proud of the cooperation and inclusion displayed by them all.



In science, we started our 'States of Matter' topic. The class all became molecules (!) and physically demonstrated how solids, liquids and gases are constructed. There was a lot of hugging (solids), melting on the floor (liquids) and floating around the classroom (gases) to help understand this concept.

Well done, Fabulous Foursies for such a positive start to the



school year. It's going to be another good one!

Miss Eakins, Miss Brailsford and Mrs Allen

# Sanderling Class



This week, our Superb Sanderlings came out of their comfort zones to showcase their performance skills in English!

In Maths, they have continued to impress with their Place Value skills and in History, they wrote some fabulous descriptions of life in an Anglo-Saxon village. They have started the coding unit in Computing and discussed our Big Question in RE. In PE, they worked on their cross-country skills and in Art they created some stunning illuminated letters.

A fabulous week with a fabulous class. Have a great weekend, everyone.

Mrs Emmings and Mrs Mistry



## Avocet Class

Year 6 have had a fabulous full first week back.

In Maths, we have completed our place value unit with a focus on ordering and comparing numbers, including negative ones.

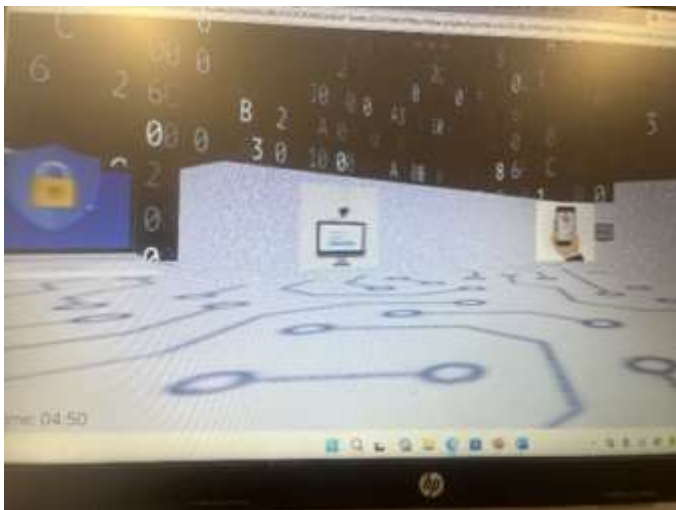
In English, we have begun to plan for writing our formal job application letters next week. We have been thinking about the skills and qualities we can contribute to supporting the various roles available at Hinguar. We have begun to read our class novel, Goodnight Mr Tom and completed prediction and summarising tasks linked with it. In History, we have begun to explore key dates from World War 2 and learnt how to create a timeline to display them.

In Computing, we begun our online safety unit by playing a game in which we had to select the correct safety features. Following this, the children then created their own online safety games using 2Code.

A fantastic first week!

Best wishes,

Mrs Calvy, Ms Hardy and Miss Brailsford





## Awards and Notices

**Ashley Banjo**



**Mo Farah**



**Ellie Simmonds**



**Jamie Oliver**



### Dress for Success

In the lead this half term are  
EYFS/KS1 Oyster Class having an attendance of 98.57%  
and in KS2 Heron Class with 99.52%

**Dress for Success**

### 100% Attendance and Punctuality Prize

Each week, during our Celebration assembly, we congratulate good attendance as a whole class.

This week in KS1, Alice the Bunny was awarded to Oyster Class with an attendance of 98.57% and in KS2 the attendance cup was awarded to Heron Class with 99.52%. The classes will be rewarded with an extra turn on the play equipment.



# SOUTHEND PARKS TENNIS OPEN DAY EVENT



FAMILY TIME & COACHING TASTER SESSIONS FOR MINIS + ADULTS

CHALKWELL

**SATURDAY**

PARK

**27th September 13.30 – 16.30**

OPEN FOR ALL ABILITIES – NO EXPERIENCE REQUIRED

[BOOK HERE: clubspark.lta.org.uk/southendparkstennis](http://clubspark.lta.org.uk/southendparkstennis)



# Notices

## Food Donations needed

- |                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| UHT Milk         | Tea, Sugar & Coffee                                       |
| Pasta sauces     | Jams & Spreads  |
| Tinned Meat      | Tins of veggie food (macaroni cheese/ veggie ravioli etc) |
| Mayo             | Tinned Tomato   |
| Butter           | Cereal  |
| Nappies          | Pasta   |
| Wet wipes        | Toiletries  |
| Crisps/ biscuits |   |
| Tuna Crackers    |   |
| Pot Noodles      |   |
| Instant Noodles  |   |

St Vincent's Centre, Victoria Business Park, Short Street, SS2 5BY



£4 Pay As You Go (Card Only)

Every Thursday During Term Time  
5:45pm To 6:45pm

## Athletics Club

Sibling Discounts!  
Weekly Trophies Given Out!

**Where?**  
Southend High School For Girls  
Southchurch Road  
Southend-on-Sea  
SS2 4JZ

Year Groups  
Year 2/1/3  
Year 3/4  
Year 5/6

Dedicated Coaches  
That Will Always Put Your Children First!

Southend Under 11s Athletics Club  
SouthendSSP

[www.spssa.co.uk](http://www.spssa.co.uk)

### PE Days

Tues—Yr3 & Reception

Weds—Yr 1 & Yr 6

Thurs—Yr 4

Fri—Yr2 & Yr5



15th September to 15th October 2025

We will be collecting donations for the Southend Foodbank again, this year. Please bring any donations to the school office.





# Term Dates for Your Diary

## Autumn Term Diary Dates

Y6 Bikeability Presentation	Wednesday 17th September 9.30am
Y5 Residential Final Parent Meeting	Thursday 18th September 3.30pm
Y3 Stone Age Workshop	Tuesday 23rd September
Y6 Residential Parent Meeting	Thursday 25th September 3.30pm
Pupil Advocate Meeting	Friday 26th September 1.30pm—2.15pm
FOH Back to School Blast	Friday 26th September 3.30pm—6.00pm
Parent Consultation Evenings	Monday 6th and Wednesday 8th October 3.30pm—6.30pm
Yrs 5 & 6 Road Safety Training	Tuesday 14th October
Y5 Residential	Wednesday 15th to Friday 17th October
Reception Parent Meeting for Sept 2026 intake	Wednesday 12th November 9.30am and Thursday 13th November 3.45pm
Assessment Week	w/b Monday 17th November—Friday 21st November
FOH Christmas Market	Friday 21st November 7.00pm—9.00pm
Pupil Advocate Meeting	Friday 28th November 1.30pm—2.15pm
Flu Immunisations	Wednesday 3rd December and Tuesday 9th December—pm
Nursery Christmas Decorations afternoon	Tuesday 9th, Wednesday 10th and Thursday 11th December 2.00pm—3.00pm
Nursery Nativity	Wednesday 10th December 9.30am
Reception Christmas Decorations afternoon	Thursday 11th December 2.00pm— 3.00pm
Reception Nativity	Thursday 11th December 3.45pm
FOH Christmas Discos	Friday 12th December
Christmas Lunch and Christmas Jumper Day	Tuesday 16th December
EYFS Storyteller	Wednesday 17th December
KS1 & KS2 Pantomime	Wednesday 17th December
End of Term	Friday 19th December—school closes at 1.00pm



# Term Dates for Your Diary

## Spring Term Diary Dates

Assessment Week	w/b February 23rd—February 27th
Young Voices O2	Tuesday 24th February
EYFS Mother's Day Pamper	Friday 13th March 2.00pm—3.00pm
Parent Consultation Evenings	w/b 16th March (dates to be confirmed)
Y6 Assessment Week	w/b Monday 9th March—Friday 13th March
End of term	Friday 27th March—school closes at normal time

## Summer Term Diary Dates

Y6 SATs Week	w/b Monday 11th May—Thursday 14th May
Y6 Residential	w/b Monday 18th—Friday 22nd May
EYFS FUDGE	Friday 19th June 2.00pm—3.00pm
Assessment Week (Reception—Y5)	w/b Monday 22nd June—Friday 26th June
Sports Day	Thursday 2nd July
Transition Day	Friday 3rd July
Reserve Sports Day	Thursday 9th July
Open Evening	Thursday 16th July 3.30pm—4.30pm
Nursery Leavers' Assembly	Friday 17th July 3.30pm—4.30pm
Hinguar's Got Talent	Monday 20th July - am
Volunteer Afternoon Tea	Tuesday 21st July 2.15pm
Y6 Graduation	Wednesday 22nd July 2.00pm
Y6 Leavers' Disco	Wednesday 22nd July 6.00pm—7.30pm
End of Term (non-uniform day)	Thursday 23rd July—school closes at 1.00pm

### Term and Holiday dates for SECAT Schools 2025-26

**Autumn Term:** 1 September 2025—19 December 2025

*Half term* 20—31 October

**Spring Term:** 5 January 2026—27 March 2026

*Half Term* 16 February—20 February

**Summer Term:** 13 April 2026—23 July 2026

*Half Term* 25—29 May

**INSET DAYS 1st & 2nd September 2025 , 23rd February 2026**

