



HINGUAR SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

TOGETHER WE ACHIEVE

Autumn Term Newsletter Week 17 30th January 2026



Dear Parents and Carers,

We reach the end of January in the way it began: wet and cold. Looking forward to February now to start us on the way to Spring!

I wanted to clarify the best way to communicate with staff. Please approach your child's class teacher after school if you have any queries or need to make them aware of something. We appreciate that not everyone is able to do this, so an email into the school office is the most effective way to contact staff. Please be aware that teachers will not be able to respond straight away. If you have a message about collection or your child's welfare, please contact the school office. I can also be contacted via the office.

I have been fulfilling the role of SENDCo whilst Mrs Attard has been absent. Please speak to your child's class teacher if you need support for a child with SEND and they will let me know if additional advice is needed, The senco email address is also now being checked.

I would also like to introduce a new email address: dsl@hinguar.secat.co.uk

This is for the safeguarding team. If you have a concern about a child, you can use this address for a more confidential contact. In future newsletters I will share more information about our approach to safeguarding and advice for parents about keeping children safe wherever they are.

Next week we have the information meeting for parents of our current year 4 children about the year 5 residential. Please attend if you can on Monday, after school.

Have a good weekend and we will see you next week.

Mrs Goy

NEW

ACRO GYMNASTICS CLUB

Looking for a fun, dynamic and inspiring way to build strength, flexibility, and confidence? Join our Acro Gymnastics Club — where movement meets creativity!

Classes for All Ages & Abilities
From beginners to advanced athletes, we offer tailored sessions that help every gymnast thrive.

Passionate, Professional Coaching
Our experienced coaches provide safe, supportive, and motivating instruction designed to help each student reach their full potential. British Gymnastics Qualifications.

£5 TRIAL FOR ALL CLASSES

Job Opportunity

**Richmond Academy Primary School
Drop Zone breakfast club assistant -
Monday - Friday 07:30am - 08:30am.**

The position will start on Monday 13th April.

https://ce0898li.webitrent.com/ce0898li_webrecruitment/wrd/run/etrec179gf.open?WVID=3997432IIO&LANG=USA&VACANCY_ID=3325982zBU



Turtle and Starfish Class

In Starfish class this week our story focus has been 'Cinderella'. Our home corner has been transformed into a shoe shop and shoe cleaning centre. The children have had great fun role-playing and developing their physical and self-help skills whilst trying on shoes. We have watched a video of some people dancing at a ball. We then chose a partner and had a try at dancing together to classical music. The children have been developing their fine motor skills to decorate a shoe for Cinderella. In literacy we have been completing our 'look at me' self-portraits and Bertha the bus has been busy visiting more animals at the zoo, helping us to hear initial sounds in words. In maths we have been exploring the number four and continuing our learning around size and measures, particularly enjoying measuring our feet in the shoe shop. Next week our story focus will be 'The North wind and the sun' and our sound of the week will be m.

Well done Starfish class!

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



This week in Turtles class we have been reading The Hare and The Tortoise and talking about opposites such as fast and slow, up and down, wet and dry. In the tuff tray we had coloured water and explored the concept of full and empty as well as wet and dry. In the other tuff tray we had characters from the story along with natural items, leaves and sticks etc.. We used this to talk about the story and use our imaginations. We moved excitedly to The Grand Old Duke of York and danced to an up, down song using floaty scarves. In our math's time this week we have been learning about positional language e.g up, down, in, on, out. We learnt about the vocabulary of size big, small, tall and short while building towers. Outside we enjoyed running fast and slow, climbing up then sliding down and we built even taller towers with big bricks. Next week our book will be, We All Belong-a book about diversity.

Mrs Cochrane, Mrs Loe and Ms Burgess



Seahorse

This week in Seahorse Class, we have looked at the story Pigs Might Fly, an alternative version of the 3 Little Pigs' tale. In this story, the pigs made planes for a race, one out of straw, one out of sticks and one out of metal! The wolf wanted to win the race and tried to get on board the metal plane. However, he mistook the engine for a chimney and was blasted into the sky. During the story, the children have used the repeated phrase "I'll vroom, and I'll zoom, and I'll smash your plane in".

In Literacy, we had a discussion on what other modes of transport we could race in. The children also watched a clip of a plane with a wing walker who performed acrobatics in the sky. The children then designed their own vehicle for a pig, before using their phonics to write a phrase or a sentence.

We have watched a Makaton version of the 3 Little Pigs and learnt some signs. Before listening to a musical version of the story.

Finally, we listened to the story No Lie, Pigs and Their Houses Can Fly! Where the wolf cannot control his huffing and puffing and is just looking for friends. In the story he used his breath to blow out candles and fly a kite. The children discussed what the wolf could use his breathing for. Ideas included blowing on hot food, blowing away leaves, cobwebs and dust, blowing baddies away and drying wet clothes.

In maths, we have looked at odd and even numbers. We have discussed why a number is odd or even and explored the pattern in the numbers. The children have then sorted Numicon pieces into odd or even groups.

Throughout the week, the children have become mechanics and builders, built a train track the width of the room, raced cars, designed a pair of mittens and constructing with Lego.

Mrs Newman, Mrs Bowser and Mrs Penny



Oyster Class

This week in Year 1 we have continued exploring the story of Grandad's Island. The children have used a range of descriptive language relating to the island and the activities Syd and Grandad tried whilst on the island. We also tried using similes to compare the colourful island to other colourful things.



In our PSHE lesson this week we have been learning about germs and how easily they can spread.

Mrs Oakley sprinkled some glitter onto Sidney's hands, and we pretended it was germs. Sidney then shook hands with everyone in class. The children thought the glitter may spread to a few of his friends but were shocked to discover that it actually spread to everyone, in fact the glitter ended up all around the classroom by the end of the day! Then we sprinkled some glitter germs into a bowl of water and watched what happened when we put soapy hands into the water, the germs moved away. We thought germs might be scared of soap!

We discussed the importance of good hygiene to help stop the real germs from spreading.



A great week, well done Year 1!

Seagull Class



In maths, the children in Year 2 have been working hard on their 5 and 10 times tables. We have been exploring both multiplication and division facts and using a variety of methods to represent multiplication, helping everyone build confidence and deepen their understanding.

In English, we have been learning all about compound and simple leaves. The children enjoyed examining different leaves closely and thinking carefully about words to describe their shapes, textures, and features.

History lessons took us on an adventure as we learned about the explorer Matthew Henson, who many believe was the first person to reach the North Pole. The children were fascinated by his journey and achievements.

In DT, the children have been making structures, thinking carefully about how to join materials and make their designs stable.



Heron Class

In English this week, we have been completing the rest of our sentence stacking for our unit on 'The Magic Paintbrush'. We have focussed on a range of literary devices, including similes, alliteration and dialogue. We have been very impressed with their creativity in their writing! Very well done!

In maths this week, we have completed our second multiplication and division unit. We have looked at dividing a two-digit number by a one-digit number (this time with remainders), scaling, and also finding out how many ways we can make different combinations.

In P.E this week, we completed another lesson on dance; thinking about different movements and shapes that we can create to embody a machine breaking down. The class worked in groups of three or four to create their dance piece to counts of 8. I was very impressed with their teamwork and ability to communicate with the rest of the group. The final pieces were fantastic!

In R.E. this week, we have been continuing our unit on Islam. We looked at the first chapter of the Qur'an to find out its significance. We have also focussed on prayer in Islam. Heron class had the opportunity to look at a prayer mat and watch a video on how Muslims pray.

Have a lovely weekend.

Miss Venables and Mrs Merton



Curlew Class



Well done fabulous foursies for another fantastic week.

In science, we learnt about pitch. Children should be able to tell you that pitch is how high or low a sound is. To explore this, we used different sized saucepans and rubber bands to investigate how size and tension affect pitch.

In English, we finished collecting vocabulary and ideas about the Iron Man. Next week, we will be planning and writing our own story excerpts.

After having concluded our short 'Spy' dance unit in PE, this week we began our new unit based around the 1960s dance craze, 'The Twist'. The children watched a video from when the dance was popular and practised the set phrase.

Many thanks to Alisha for supporting our learning during our RE lesson this week. We looked at how and why Muslims celebrate Ramadan and Eid ul-Fitr, and she was extremely helpful in sharing her own experiences.

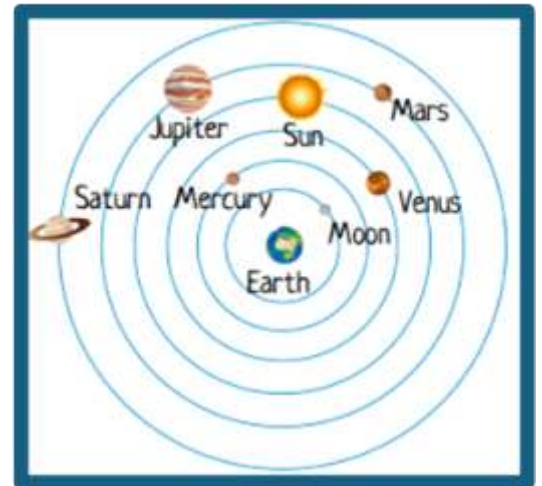
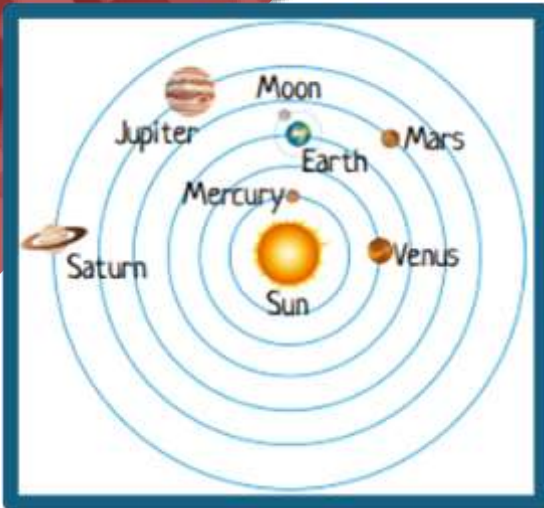
Lastly, in geography, we investigated the areas between the Tropic of Cancer and Tropic of Capricorn and found out about what the climate was like in these areas. Children then worked in groups to prepare and present a weather report from a specific country within this area.

Have a great weekend.

Miss Eakins, Miss Brailsford, Mrs Allen and Chubby Checker



Sanderling Class



This week Year 5 wrote their narratives based on *One Small Step* and in Maths they completed their unit on fractions. In Science they studied the Heliocentric and Geocentric models of the solar system; in computing they worked on their word processing skills, in Art they studied self-portrait in the style of Frida Kahlo, in RE they talked about Hindu places of worship and in PE they created some super gymnastic sequences. A great week!

Have an even greater weekend,
Mrs Emmings and Mrs Mistry

$5 \times 3 \frac{2}{11}$ is equal to
 $3 \times 5 \frac{2}{11}$

Do you agree with Ron? _____
Explain your answer.

ACTIONS

rolls *ROBBER*

Jumps

balances

travelling actions

SUPER STUFF

starting and finishing position

levels

directions

matching

contrasting

SUPER SEQUENCES



Awards and Notices

Catch Me! Awards

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.



Congratulations to Carly and Hudson in Heron Class, Stanley and Lawrence in Sanderling Class and Zachary in Avocet Class on achieving their Bronze Catch Me! Award.

Congratulations to Darcie-Blu, Ariana, Archie and Hugo in Seahorse Class, Zayaan, Freya, Finley, and Stepan in Oyster Class, Louis in Seagull Class, Mia in Heron Class, Hunter and Jessica in Curlew Class and Niamh in Sanderling Class on achieving their Silver Catch Me! Award.

Congratulations to Zaha and Olivia in Sanderling Class on achieving the first Gold Catch Me's ! Awards this year .



Children who have achieved their Gold Catch Me! Award will be treated to afternoon tea with Mrs Goy at the end of term.

Congratulations to Eden-Grace, Macsen in Seagull Class and Matilda and Willow in Heron Class on achieving their Bronze Times Tables Certificate.

Congratulations to Eden-Grace, Louis and Harry in Seagull Class and Sophia, Olive, Summer and Harry in Heron Class on achieving their Silver Times Tables Certificate .

Congratulations to Rachel, Albie, George, Sophia and Daisy in Heron Class on achieving their Gold Times Tables Certificate .

Reading Champions

Well done to Alfie in Seagull Class and Oliver G in Heron Class who are this week's Reading Champion.

If you would like to be awarded a Reading Champion badge, you must read a selection of challenging books from a variety of genres and then write a short review of ONE book that you have read. We have plenty more badges waiting to be handed out so let's see who will be next! We thank all families for their continued support in enabling our children to be Reading Champions and in fostering a love of reading.

'Together We Achieve.'





Awards and Notices

Ashley Banjo



Mo Farah



Ellie Simmonds



Jamie Oliver



Dress for Success

The winners for this half term are
EYFS/KS1 Seahorse Class having an attendance of 95.49%
and in KS2 Sanderling Class with 92.19%

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 Seahorse Class with an
attendance of 94.59% and in KS2,
the attendance cup was awarded to
Sanderling Class with 96.55%.
The classes will be rewarded with an extra
turn on the play equipment.





Term Dates for Your Diary

Spring Term Diary Dates

Southend Makes Music (yr1)	Tuesday 10th Feb
Young Voices O2	Tuesday 24th February
Conductive Music Workshop yrs 2-5	Friday 27th February (All Day)
Seesma Infant Music Festival	Friday 13th March (year 2) 10.00am—11.30am
EYFS Mother's Day Pamper	Friday 13th March 2.00pm—3.00pm
Parent Consultation Evenings	Tuesday 17th and Thursday 19th March 3.30pm —6.30p
Pupil Advocate Meeting	Friday 27th March 1.30pm—2.15pm
End of term	Friday 27th March—school closes at normal time
Book Fair (All Week)	Week commencing Monday 23rd March

Term and Holiday dates for SECAT Schools 2025-26

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— Monday 23rd February 2026





Term Dates for Your Diary

Summer Term Diary Dates

Y6 Bikeability	Wednesday 15th and Thursday 16th April
Dance Festival (pupils only)	Thursday 30th April 12.15pm—3.00 pm
Y6 SATs Week	w/b Monday 11th May—Thursday 14th May
Y6 Residential	w/b Monday 18th—Friday 22nd May
Pupil Advocate Meeting	Friday 22nd May 1.30pm—2.15pm
EYFS FUDGE	Friday 19th June 2.00pm—3.00pm
Sports Day	Thursday 2nd July
Transition Day	Friday 3rd July
Reserve Sports Day	Thursday 9th July
Pupil Advocate Meeting	Friday 10th July 1.30pm—2.15pm
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) 1.00pm	Thursday 23rd July—school closes at

SECAT Term and Holiday Dates 2026-27

Autumn Term : 1September—18 December 2026

Half Term 19-30 October 2026

Spring Term: 4 January—25 March 2027

Half Term 15 - 19 February 2027

Summer Term: 12 April—23 July 2027

Half Term 31 May—4 June 2027

INSET DAYS: 1st and 2nd September 2026

