



# HINGUAR SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

TOGETHER WE ACHIEVE

Spring Term Newsletter Week 18 6th February 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been a good week here at Hinguar.

We welcome back Mrs Attard, I know there were lots of children very pleased to see her. For any queries with SEND that your child's teacher cannot answer please contact her by phone or using the usual [senco@hinguar.secat.co.uk](mailto:senco@hinguar.secat.co.uk) address.

As you can see we have some attached some advice about SNAPCHAT as we aware some children have access to it. Snapchat is not regarded as age appropriate for children of primary school age. The information may help you decide about whether it is something you want your child to be using. There are dangers with children being able to share their location and connect with people that may be unsafe.

Have a lovely weekend and we shall see you all on Monday for our final week of the half term.

Mrs Goy



Southend Music Centre offers three specialist pathways: Rock School - a dynamic band-based programme for guitarists, drummers, vocalists, bassists and keyboard players, focusing on collaboration, creativity and live performance. Southend Brass Academy - weekly 30-minute small-group lessons for beginners on trumpet, tenor horn and trombone, including free instrument hire for the first 12 months. The Southend Strings Project - weekly 30-minute small-group lessons for beginners on violin, viola and cello, also with free instrument hire for the first 12 months.

Tuition is priced at £30 per 10-week term, with financial assistance available. Further details can be found at [www.musiconseasouthend.co.uk](http://www.musiconseasouthend.co.uk).

Parents and carers can register their child using the following link: <https://www.southend.gov.uk/xfp/form/34> For further information, please contact MOS at: [musiconseasouthend@southend.gov.uk](mailto:musiconseasouthend@southend.gov.uk)



Southend East Community Academy Trust



# HINGUAR SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

TOGETHER WE ACHIEVE

## Outstanding Achievements



We would like to share the good news that Jessica competed in a diving competition in Southampton at the weekend and won her first gold medal for Group E girls at the Gavin Brown Love to Dive competition 2026.





# Turtle and Starfish Class

This week in Turtles class we have been reading a simple book called *We All Belong* and looking at differences and similarities between ourselves. We talked about hair, skin and eye colour as well as other differences and that we should all share and be friends with everyone. We all belong in Turtles class and at Hinguar. In our maths we looked at different patterns and learnt about spots and stripes. As part of our physical development we moved our bodies in a pattern while dancing, eg clap, clap, stomp, clap, clap. On the creative table we painted spots and stripes using a cotton bud and explored the paint. In one tuff tray we had a wide selection of patterns to investigate and used magnifying glasses. In the other tuff tray we had flour and paint brushes to draw our own patterns. Next week our book will be *Dear Zoo* and we will be talking about Chinese New Year.

Mrs Cochrane, Ms Burgess and Mrs Loe



In Starfish class this week our story focus has been 'The North wind and the sun'. We have discussed the seasons, different weather types and recorded the daily weather on a chart. The children had great fun, working together to pretend to be the wind. We watched a video of autumn leaves being blown by the wind. We then used the parachute to blow our own leaves. We explored the wind further by creating a wind sock, which we took outside to watch what effect the wind has. Our artist focus this term is Christopher Kuster, an artist who uses his mouth to paint and draw. We explored blowing paint bubbles and creating bubble prints to decorate our kite shapes. The children have been really interested in colour mixing and this painting activity has enabled them to explore this further. In maths we have been continuing to use language to compare height and length and we have been ordering the days of the week and numbers 1 to 7. In literacy our sound of the week has been 'm'. The children enjoyed listening to a story which included lots of objects from our 'm' sound bag.

Next week our story focus will be 'The great race' and we will be learning about the lunar new year and how it is celebrated. Our sound of the week will be 'd'

Well done Starfish class on a busy week of fun and learning.

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



## Seahorse

This week, Seahorse Class have read the story 'The Little Red Hen'. As we read, the children voiced the characters' speech of "Not I" when the Little Red Hen asked for help. At the end of the story the Little Red Hen does not share the bread with his friends, this led to a discussion about forgiveness, using your words to explain why you may not be able to help and being aware that our behaviour has consequences. We have also listened to the alternative story 'The Little Red Hen makes a Pizza'.

Within the story the children were introduced to a farm tool from the past - a scythe. We investigated what this was used for and how a combine harvester now does the same job. We also explored what a miller does and where they work.

The children were tasked to make a jam sandwich. They used their fine motor skills to spread the butter and jam with a knife. They then folded or cut their sandwich in half, or quarters before eating it or taking it home.

In Science, we have looked at germs and washing hands. We watched how germs are repelled by soap. We have learnt that to effectively remove germs from our hands we must wash them for at least 20 seconds!

In Literacy, we discussed what ingredients we could put in a sandwich, as a class we wrote instructions of how to make a sandwich. We recognised that instructions had to be in a specific order to help someone understand and follow them correctly. Each child then put pictures and the matching sentences in sequential order.

We have been working hard in our phonics lessons, and are using the phrase 'chunking' when reading longer words such as pocket and carpet etc. This is where the children blend and read each syllable of the word before connecting them together e.g. vel, vet, velvet.

In Maths we have explored the concept of halving. We began the week by looking at how to halve objects. We have used the vocabulary 'whole, half, 2 halves, equal, and the same' when discussing halving. This led onto a discussion that 4 equal parts would be called quarters. The children have cut playdough and paper pizzas using child-friendly knives and scissors into halves and quarters during continuous provision.

Throughout the week the children have constructed with Lego, retold the story in the builder's tray farm, made water ramps outside and used spoons to move oats from pot to pot.

Mrs Newman, Mrs Bowser and Mrs Penny



# Oyster Class

This week in Year 1 we have started exploring the poem *When I am By Myself*. The children have been thinking about rhyming words both within the poem and in general. They have been sorting rhyming pictures and words and playing rhyming pairs. This poem is wonderful for using imagination and we are looking forward to seeing how imaginative Year 1 can be as we explore the poem further.



In our PSHE lesson this week we have been learning about medicines and the dangers of not using them correctly.

We talked about how medicines should be stored so they are safe and why we must never take medicine unless it has been given by a grown up. We talked about a range of scenarios and discussed what would be the best thing to do in each situation.



In our PE this lesson we have continued looking at different balances. We explored 6 balances and talked about the position of each part of our body to make each of the balances.



A great week

Well done Year 1!



## Seagull Class



What a busy and exciting week Year 2 have had!

In Maths, the children have been learning all about Money. They have been making amounts in different ways and exploring which coins and notes are needed to make specific values we are becoming much more confident handling money.

In English, we have been busy writing a non-fiction piece about plants. The children have worked hard to include facts, clear sentences, and features such as headings.

Our Science lessons have been very hands-on this week. The children planted seeds as part of an experiment to investigate which plants grow better. They are very excited to observe the changes over time and develop their skills as young scientists.

In Geography, the children used atlases to take part in a scavenger hunt. They thoroughly enjoyed searching for countries and locations, and it was wonderful to see such enthusiasm and teamwork during the activity.

Well done Year 2 for another brilliant week.

Mrs O'Donnell, Mrs Mota and Miss Calvy



## Heron Class

In English this week, we have been focussing on planning and completing our independent write for our unit on 'The Magic Paintbrush'. Their writing has been inspired by the book, where their chosen characters have received magic to paint. Their ideas and creativity so far have been great!

In maths this week, we have begun a new unit on length and perimeter. So far, we have focussed on using a ruler to measure in centimetres, millimetres and metres. We have also discussed the equivalence for each of these measurements e.g. there are 10 millimetres in 1 centimetre etc.

In science this week, we looked at animals with and without a spine. We also looked animals who had an exoskeleton. We discovered what an exoskeleton is and which species have an exoskeleton as opposed to spine.

In P.E. this week, we have been continuing our dance unit, this time focussing on a trip to the beach! We learnt a set phrase,



## Curlew Class

The Fabulous Foursies started February fantastically!

In art, the children looked at work by the artist MC Escher. Well done to Miss Brailsford for managing to shoehorn in an excerpt from the 80s masterpiece 'Labyrinth' to illustrate this unique blend of meticulous realism, mathematical principles, and surreal optical illusions. The children investigated tessellation and created their own tessellating patterns, both on whiteboards and in their sketchbooks.

In English, we finished our unit about the Iron Man. The children all created their own giant creature/machine and then planned and wrote their story starters about these. Much imagination and creativity was used and fantastically expressed with descriptive vocabulary.

In geography, both last Friday and this week, the children have demonstrated fabulous teamwork and presentation skills. On Friday, they worked in groups to research the climate in particular countries which are found between the Tropic of Cancer and the Tropic of Capricorn. This week, groups each researched a different country (other than the UK), which is found on the Prime Meridian. On both days, the groups presented their findings to the rest of the class to share their findings.

Well done Fabulous Foursies for another successful week.

Miss (Jareth) Eakins, Miss (Hoggle) Brailsford and Mrs (Didymus) Allen



## Sanderling Class



This week the Sanderlings started writing about instructions and explanations and gave Dragon's Den style pitches for some whacky inventions in English; embedded decimal knowledge in Maths; extended their knowledge of grid references in Geography; painted like Michaelangelo in Art; mirrored and matched in Gymnastics and ate Oreos in Science to understand the phases of the moon.

Happy weekend everyone!

Mrs Emmings and Mrs Mistry

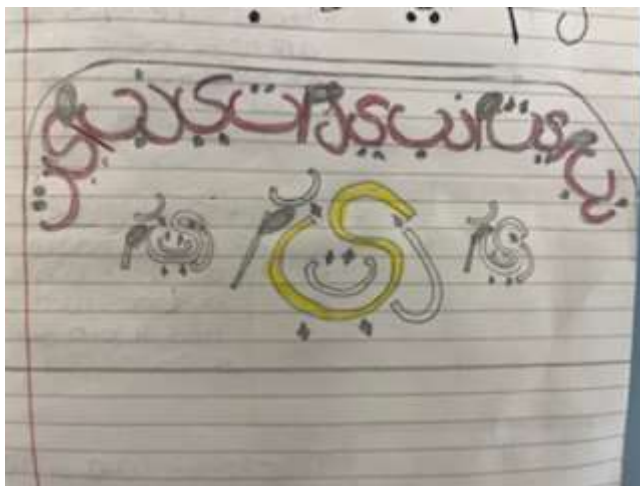
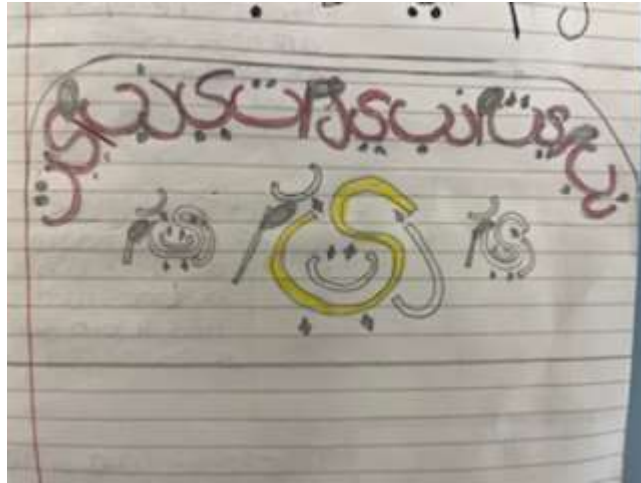


## Avocet Class

This week in Art, Year 6 have used their designs created in the style of William Morris to produce a press print tile. Some children had the opportunity to begin printing with their tile and the designs are looking lovely.

In RE, we explored the Arabic alphabet and Islamic calligraphy which is often found in the mosque and on Islamic artifacts. The children then had a try at writing Arabic letters and creating their own artistic design using them.

Mrs Calvy, Ms Hardy and Miss Brailsford





Together we achieve

TOGETHER WE ACHIEVE

# St Vincent's Centre Southend

ST VINCENT'S CENTRE INVITES YOU TO

## Afternoon Tea

AT

**THE ROSLIN BEACH HOTEL**  
Thorpe Esplanade, Thorpe Bay, Southend-on-Sea, SS1 3BG

**MONDAY 7<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2026**  
1:30PM  
**£39.50 PER PERSON**  
(ADVISE DIETARY REQUIREMENTS WHEN BOOKING)

To Book Contact  
Phone: 07549128877  
Email: nesperm@svp.org.uk  
Charity No: 1053992




**QUIZ NIGHT**

**£5 PER HEAD**

**TERRACE BAR & RESTAURANT**  
1 Richmond Ave, Southend, SS1 1JE  
(Just off the High street)

**THURSDAY 26<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2026**  
**ARRIVAL 7PM FOR A 7.30 START**

Join us for a lively Quiz Night filled with excitement and challenges! There is a well stocked bar. Enjoy a night of fun with friends. Secure your spot now by registering and reserving a table.

**REGISTER YOUR TEAM TODAY!**  
Please email Nesperm@svp.org.uk




ST VINCENT'S CENTRE INVITES YOU TO

## Special Italian 2 Course Dinner

at **Ricci's Taverna**

**WEDNESDAY 25<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2026**  
6:30PM FOR 7PM START  
**£21.99 PER PERSON**  
(ADVISE DIETARY REQUIREMENTS WHEN BOOKING)

To Book Contact  
Phone: 07549128877  
Email: nesperm@svp.org.uk  
Charity No: 1053992




Southend Catenians INVITES YOU TO **CATENIANS**

# ST PATRICK'S DAY

AT CHALKWELL PARK ROOMS

Chalkwell Park, London Road, A13, Southend-on-Sea, SS0 8NB

**FRIDAY 20<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2026**  
7PM FOR 7.30PM START  
**£20.00 PER PERSON, BUFFET PLUS THE SOUTHEND CEILI BAND PLAYING**  
(ADVISE DIETARY REQUIREMENTS WHEN BOOKING) RAISING MONEY TO SUPPORT ST VINCENT'S SOUTHEND

Booking Contact  
Phone: 07549128877  
Email: nesperm@svp.org.uk  
Charity No: 1053992






Southend East Community Academy Trust

## 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 Chloe in Avocet Class on achieving her Bronze Catch Me! Award.

Congratulations to Reggie in Seahorse Class, Effie, Ivy and Jasper in Oyster Class, Arthur in Heron Class, Maya and Emily in Curlew Class on achieving their Silver Catch Me! Award.

Congratulations to Alfred in Seagull Class on achieving his Bronze Times Tables Certificate.

Congratulations to Kendria, Pixie and Ava in Seagill Class on achieving their Silver Times Tables Certificate .

Congratulations to Louis, Harry L and Eden-Grace in Seagull Class on achieving their Gold Times Tables Certificate .

Congratulations to James in Seagull Class on achieving his Platinum Times Tables Certificate .

### Reading Champions

Well done to Albie in Heron Class who is 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 95.66%  
and in KS2 Sanderling Class with 94.18%

### 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 97.24% and in KS2,  
the attendance cup was awarded to  
Heron Class with 95.56%.

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**

**NATIONAL**  
TENNIS ORGANISATION

**JUNIOR  
TENNIS CAMP**

**Chalkwell  
Park**

16<sup>th</sup> - 18<sup>th</sup> February 2026  
9:00am-11:30am  
5-15 years

Action packed holiday  
camps with team  
challenges, tennis skills,  
games and prizes.

SCAN THE QR CODE TO  
BOOK OR CLICK ON THE  
LINK BELOW

<https://nationaltennis.org.uk/camps/london/>  
CONTACT FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:  
hello@nationaltennis.org.uk

YOUTH





# 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
<b>Final Year 6 Residential Meeting</b>	<b>Thursday 30th April 3.30pm</b>
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 : 1 September—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**

