



# HINGUAR SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

TOGETHER WE ACHIEVE

Spring Term Newsletter Week 20 27th February 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been lovely to see all the children back following half term—with a tiny glimmer of sunshine!

I mentioned before half term that I would welcome feedback from you. Please see the link below which you can complete to let me know about your child's experience here at Hinguar. If you have specific queries then these should still be brought to the class teacher but if you have any general feedback about school life I would love to hear from you.

[Parent Survey February 2026 – Fill out form](#)

Have a lovely weekend.

Mrs Goy

## World Book Day Friday 6th March

We will be celebrating on the day after the published event so that children can dress up if they wish on the Friday as a favourite book character.



We understand that dressing up is not for everyone, so this is not compulsory.

If children would rather wear their pyjamas for story time or are more comfortable in their uniform, this is absolutely fine.



Southend East Community Academy Trust



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## Young Voices



On Tuesday, the KS2 Choir attended the Young Voices 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary at the O2 Arena. The children were utterly amazing and Mrs Wilson and I were so incredibly proud of how well they behaved and how energetically they joined in with the concert.

The singing wasn't bad either!

A big thank you to all the family and friends who came to support us – the picture below shows our view of you .

Despite the incredibly late return, we all had a fantastic time and are already looking forward to doing it again next year.





Together we achieve

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## Young Voices



Southend East Community Academy Trust



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## Special Achievements



Willow successfully completed the NatGap Centre Scheme. (Gymnastics)  
She worked incredibly hard in the lead up to it and was so proud to pass and receive her certificate and medal.

It was a wonderful achievement for her and a real confidence boost.  
We're very proud of her dedication and perseverance.

Well done Willow!



## Turtle and Starfish Class

This week in Turtle class we have been singing 1,2,3,4,5, Once I Caught A Fish Alive and learning the actions. We fed a friendly 'hungry' shark some fish and tried to count how many he ate. Some of the children thought this was hilarious. We looked at the colours and patterns on real fish and pretended to be fish swimming. We had lots of different small world fish 'swimming' in water in the tuff tray. The children used little nets, developing their motor skills whilst catching the fish and talking about who had more or less and what colours they were. We shared puzzles with our friends and made some food for the fish using 2D shape cutters in the playdough. Next week our book will be Brown Bear, Brown Bear.

Mrs Cochrane, Mrs Loe and Mr Burgess



In Starfish class this week our story focus has been 'The Rainbow fish'. We have explored and discussed what it means to be a kind friend. The children commented "we can play together" "we help each other" and "we can share". We watched a video of some tropical fish and noticed the different colours and patterns. The children enjoyed talking to each other about their favourite colours. In maths we have been joining in with the counting rhymes 1;2;3;4;5 once I caught a fish alive and 5 little speckled frogs. Our water tray was set up with frogs and logs so the children could experience 'jumping' the frogs into the water as they counted down. We have also explored how we can show 5, using finger numbers in different ways. Following on from our learning about the weather, we have noticed the seasons starting to change and have been looking closely at the natural world and how things grow. This has inspired us to begin creating a surprise for Mother's day!

Next week our story focus will be 'The Gruffalo' and our sound of the week will be 'o'

Well done Starfish class!

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

## Seahorse



This week Seahorse Class have explored dinosaurs through fiction and non-fiction texts. We began by listening to the story 'The Dinosaur who pooped the Past', where the main character and his dinosaur travel back in time and meet other dinosaurs. The children were unsure what was meant by 'the past'. After a discussion we discovered that 'the past' described something that had already happened, it could be recently as in this morning or a long time ago such as when the dinosaurs were alive. As a class we then went on to talk about what the word 'the future' meant. We found out it meant something that has not happened yet.

As a class we used a search engine to discover more facts about dinosaurs. The children were shocked to discover that humans and dinosaurs did not live at the same time-period. We also learnt that most dinosaurs were herbivores rather than carnivores and those that ate both meat and plants were omnivores. We learnt that Scientists who look for clues about dinosaurs are called Palaeontologists. We also learnt about Othniel Charles Marsh an American Palaeontologist who discovered and named dinosaurs such as Diplodocus, Pterodactyl, Stegosaurus and Triceratops among others.



A mysterious egg appeared in the classroom. The children were extremely excited to see what would hatch from it. This created great discussion about what could be inside and why. In particular, the children made good observations regarding size, texture, colour and animals that did lay eggs. In Literacy, the children wrote a sentence about what they thought was inside the egg.



In Maths, we have recapped 2D shapes and introduced 3D shapes. We began by finding out the names and the properties of the 3D shapes. The children were then challenged to build using 3D shapes, while discussing which shapes are more practical to build with and why.

Throughout the week, the children have built with Duplo, cut out dinosaurs, dug in our new sandpit and drew what they thought was in the egg in anticipation of its hatching!

**Please read the tapestry post regarding the changes in how we will be reading in class from next week.**

Mrs Newman, Mrs Bowser and Mrs Penny



## Oyster Class

This week we have been busy planting some beans. We are excited to watch them over the coming weeks and see how they develop and grow.



In our maths lessons this week we have been looking at numbers up to 50 and thinking about what the digits represent. We tried counting a large group of cubes in ones and found out it was much trickier than we thought.

We discovered it was much easier to make groups of ten and count these first. We moved on to represent 2-digit number using practical apparatus and then using our own drawings to show the correct amount of tens and ones.



Also this week we have started learning about invasion games in our PE lesson. This week we focused on moving the ball without losing it! We tried dribbling the ball with our hands and then with different parts of our feet. We Also took turns to attack and defend.

A great week well done Year

## Seagull Class

Welcome back everyone!  
It has been wonderful to hear  
about everyone's half term  
fun!



In Maths, the children have been learning to measure in centimetres and metres. They were especially enthusiastic about using the metre sticks to measure objects around the classroom.

In both English and Science, we have been learning about habitats. The children are already really enjoying the topic, and we are looking forward to seeing all they have learned when they write a non-chronological report about habitats at the end of the unit.



This week, we were also very lucky to be visited by the Conductive Music Team, who led a fantastic workshop. They taught the children different ways to make music using technology, and the children had a fabulous time taking part.

Well done, everyone, for such a fantastic week.



Mrs O'Donnell, Mrs Mota  
and Miss Caly.



## Heron Class

We have certainly had an incredibly busy first week back!

In English, we have begun our unit on 'Skeletons and Muscles'. We looked at an example of a non-chronological text and identified its features. For one of our sentence stacking lessons, we focussed specifically on a glossary. We spoke about the purpose of a glossary and its format. The class then used dictionaries to help them to create their own glossaries.

In maths, we have been continuing to focus on our unit on length and perimeter, focussing specifically on comparing units of measurement.

In computing, we began our unit on email safety. This lesson focussed on different methods of communication. The class thought about each method of communication and considered both its advantages and disadvantages. We then looked at the importance of communicating clearly and effectively. A message was passed verbally around the circle to each member of the class. It helped everybody to consider how communicating verbally has both advantages and disadvantages, as the person speaking must be able to communicate clearly and the recipient must also be listening carefully.

We have also spent some time this week practising for our upcoming show! We practised some songs, as well as rereading the script. We have also begun rehearsing in the main hall which has been very exciting! For everybody that has a speaking role, make sure to continue practising your lines at home and bring in your scripts each day because we will be rehearsing lots over the upcoming weeks!

Have a great weekend.

Miss Venables and Mrs Merton



## Curlew Class

Year 4 have made a fabulous start to the second half of the school year.

The children were delighted to welcome the lovely Summer to our class.

She has settled in fantastically and is a lovely addition.

On Tuesday, the class revisited the fact that the number 42 was indeed the answer to the ultimate question of Life, the universe, and everything! They considered different questions that could possibly be asked to get this answer.

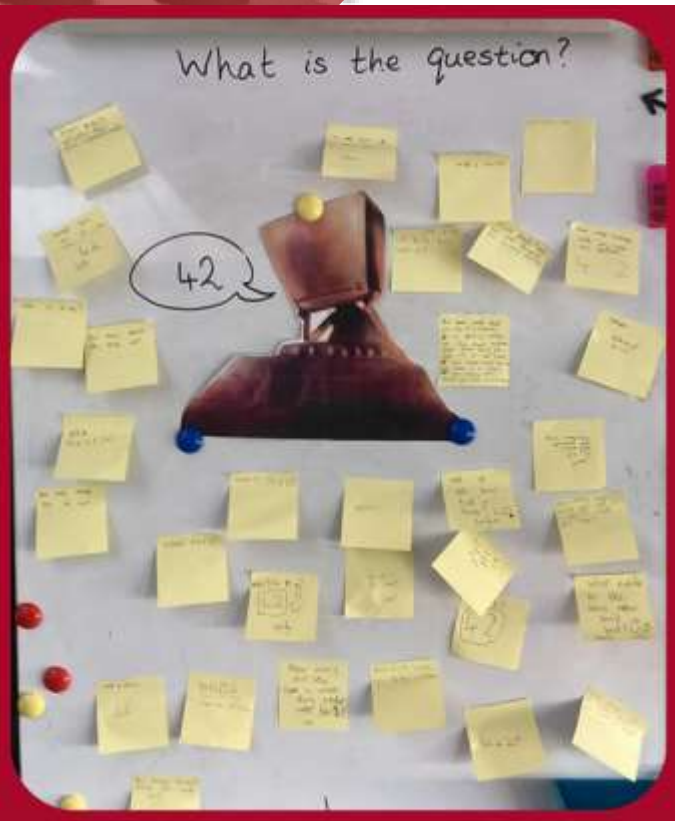
We have hit the road running with our show rehearsals. Only a month to go!

On Thursday morning, the class enjoyed a 2-hour conductive music workshop.

It was incredibly interactive and everybody had immense fun (despite the technical difficulties).

Well done for a successful first week back at school.

Miss (Arthur Dent) Eakins, Miss (Ford Prefect) Brailsford and Mrs (Zaphod Beeblebrox) Allen



## Sanderling Class



Year 5 have launched into the second half of this term with their usual gusto! They have continued with their unit of fractions, decimals and percentages in Maths and started a new unit on biographies in English. They had a Geography Scavenger Hunt and did some space fact orienteering, started our new Big Question in RE and started a new unit playing basketball in PE. They also squeezed in a conductive music workshop and started a piece of art based on the Fibonacci sequence □

A fun packed 4-day week! Enjoy the weekend,  
Mrs Emmings and Mrs Mistry



## Avocet Class



Welcome back!

In English this week, Year 6 have been working on their editing skills, as well as continuing with their novel *Street Child*.

In Maths, work has continued on developing our skills when using the language of ratio and applying this to word problems.

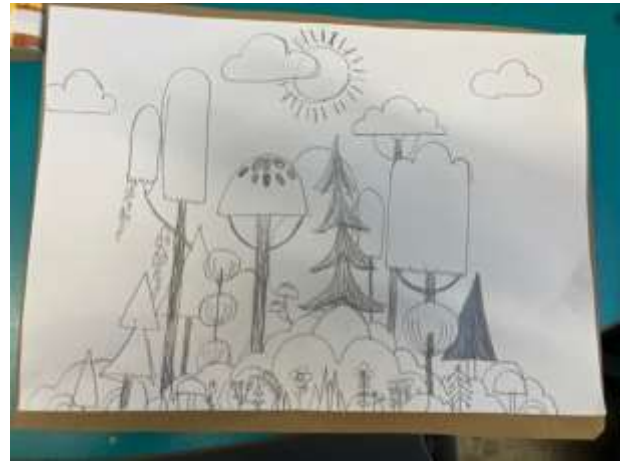
It has been a very 'arty' week with children continuing their printing in the style of William

Morris, which are looking lovely and colourful.

With Miss Brailsford they have been looking at geometric collages created by the artist and illustrator Patrick Hruby. Inspiring them to create their own designs in a similar style.

Please check your MCAS app for the sign up information for Bikeability sessions.

Mrs Calvy, Ms Hardy and Miss Brailsford.



## 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 Jensen in Heron Class on achieving his Bronze Catch Me! Award.

Congratulations to Maisie in Seahorse Class, Bethany, Ivy, Millie, Alfie, Alfred, Naila-Rose, Harry L, Harry G, Max, Thaila, Jude, Teddy, Pixie, Jessica, Leo, Noah, Mila and Eden-Grace in Seagull Class and Ava P and Wyatt in Curlew Class on achieving their Silver Catch Me! Award.

Congratulations to Ayva D in Curlew Class and Mattas in Avocet Class on achieving their Gold Catch Me! Award .

**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 Max, Freya, Parker, Hugo, Heidi, Joey, Indie, Darcie-Blu, Archie, Ariana, Maisie, Billie-Grai, Henry Mc, Oliver, Charlie M and Ellie in Seahorse Class on achieving their Silver Times Tables Certificate .



### Reading Champions

Well done to Kendria and James in Seagull Class and Lily in Curlew Class who are this week's Reading Champions.

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

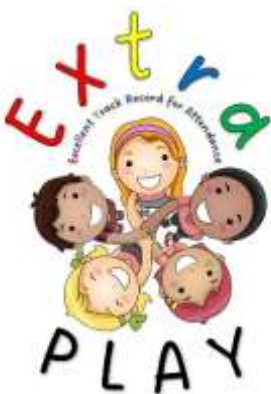
In the lead so far this half term are EYFS/KS1 Seahorse Class having an attendance of 98.78% and in KS2 Avocet Class with 97.22%

### 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 98.78% and in KS2, the attendance cup was awarded to Avocet Class with 97.22%.

The classes will be rewarded with an extra turn on the play equipment.





# Term Dates for Your Diary

## Spring Term Diary Dates

Starlight Planetarium Workshop Yr 5	Monday 2nd March ( All Day)
World Book Day ( Dress Up)	Friday 6th March
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
Year 3 & 4 Performance (Spring Chicken the Musical)	Wednesday 25th March 6.30pm
Year 3 & 4 Performance (Spring Chicken the Musical)	Thursday 26th March 9.30am
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 C

### 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

**Year 5 Swimming**

Y6 Bikeability

Dance Festival (pupils only)

Final Year 6 Residential Meeting

Y6 SATs Week

Y6 Residential

Pupil Advocate Meeting

**Year 6 Swimming**

EYFS FUDGE

Class Photos

Sports Day

Transition Day

Reserve Sports Day

Pupil Advocate Meeting

Open Evening

Nursery Leavers' Assembly

Hinguar's Got Talent

Volunteer Afternoon Tea

Y6 Graduation

Y6 Leavers' Disco

End of Term (non-uniform day)

**Every Tuesday from 14th April—19th May**

Wednesday 15th and Thursday 16th April

Thursday 30th April 12.15pm—3.00 pm

Thursday 30th April 3.30pm

w/b Monday 11th May—Thursday 14th May

w/b Monday 18th—Friday 22nd May

Friday 22nd May 1.30pm—2.15pm

**Every Tuesday from 2nd June - 14th July**

Friday 19th June 2.00pm—3.00pm

Monday 22nd June

Thursday 2nd July

Friday 3rd July

Thursday 9th July

Friday 10th July 1.30pm—2.15pm

Thursday 16th July 3.30pm—4.30pm

Friday 17th July 3.30pm—4.30pm

Monday 20th July - am

Tuesday 21st July 2.15pm

Wednesday 22nd July 2.00pm

Wednesday 22nd July 6.00pm—7.30pm

Thursday 23rd July—school closes at 1.00pm

**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**