



13th MARCH 2015
SPRING 2
ISSUE 14

As-salamu alaykum (peace be with you)

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to our Spring 2 newsletter. The Spring term has seen many exciting activities and events taking place across the school. On Thursday 6th March, we celebrated World Book Day. Everyone came dressed as different characters from books of their choice. There were many characters, such as explorers, Where's Wally?, scientists, royalty, superheroes, fairies, and many more! Why, you may ask? Well... World Book Day is a National Event designed to inspire a love of reading and to celebrate our rich literacy tradition. Throughout the day, the children at our school took part in lots of different activities and even received a visit from a mystery reader! Thank you for all the effort you put into making wonderful costumes for your children. Thank you also to all the parents/carers who contributed to the Zanzibar Book Appeal. We hope through your and your children's generosity, many more will have the opportunity to read. I also would like to say a huge **THANK-YOU** to all of our staff for their efforts and infectious enthusiasm!

Winston Churchill Fundraising Award

I am delighted to announce that Olive School Hackney won the prestigious Winston Churchill Fundraising Award after raising the most amount of money and collecting the most amount of food per child from all schools participating in the UK Food for All campaign. The initiative (in partnership with FareShare) aims to tackle food poverty and waste in and around school communities through the establishment of school foodbanks, breakfast clubs and food education projects. Together with a magnificent trophy, the school also received a Microsoft tablet computer, and £100 gift vouchers. This was a fantastic effort- again- from all the children and staff at the school. Special thanks must go also to all the parents/carers without whom this would have not been possible.

Parent Surveys 2015

Thank you to all parents/carers who completed this years Parent Survey. I very much appreciate the time that you spent completing them and value all your views and feedback. We will be reporting on the findings in the very near future.

Diary Dates

- 18th March—Full Governing Body Meeting
- 19th March— Headteacher's Surgery
- 20th March— Cake Sale
- 25th March—Spirituality Day 2—Respecting those who teach us
- 26th March— End of term WOW Day
- 27th March—Termly Award Assembly
- 30th March—10th April— School closes for end of term holidays
- 13th April — School Opens for Summer term
- 16th April —Headteacher's Surgery
- 17th April — Curriculum Newsletter 3 sent out —Headteacher's Surgery
- 17th April—Report Card 2 sent out
- 20th April—Summer term enrichment programme starts
- 23rd April —Headteacher's Surgery
- 24th April —Bint Qays Class Assembly

Summer 1 Newsletter Date

24th April 2015



Newsletters

This will be the last **paper copy** of the school newsletter that you will be receiving as in our efforts to make Olive School Hackney more environmentally conscious we will, from next half-term, be sending out a text message to you all with a link to the newsletter on our website. We will always display a copy of the latest newsletter in the school office and we can provide any parents with a paper copy if they request this at the school office.

Parent Workshops on RE and Music/Nasheeds

The Olive School hosted a very successful parent workshop on RE and Music/Nasheeds in the curriculum during the Autumn Term. The workshop was well attended and the faith, values and ethos of the school were discussed along with our inclusive RE curriculum which is based on the local SACRE. The Music curriculum was also discussed, and our vision of creating a school choir/nasheed group to perform on behalf of the school at competitions etc. was also shared. The session ended with a very healthy question and answer session, and the feedback was very positive. We aim to have further such workshops in future.

Parent Council/Shura Meeting

Thanks to the amazing efforts of our parent volunteers, the last cake/bake sale raised over £350! This is an amazing achievement and this money went to the Food For All campaign, for which the school has raised over £1000. Thank you all for your wonderful efforts, and please keep up the good work!

Summer Term Enrichment

We will be shortly sending out to parents the enrichment academies booklet for the Summer Term. This will be accompanied by a booking form. Please complete and return the form by the required date. Please note that we cannot accept any forms after the deadline.

Attendance

As you will all be aware now, attendance is very important to us at the Olive School. There has been a considerable improvement in attendance recently and we'd like to thank you all for your wonderful efforts. For example, the percentage of children who got 100% attendance has increased from 28% in the Autumn Term 1 2013-14 to 58% in Spring 1 2014-15. This is great news. Although our overall attendance is 96.1% (which is a little below our 97% target,) if the attendance continues to improve, we will hopefully meet our target very soon. Please keep up your great work!

Enjoy the weekend.

Mrs. Yasmin Chaudhry

Headteacher

