



Sir Thomas Abney
PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Monday 25th September 2017

NEWSLETTER

STARS Car Free Day – Thank you

Thanks to the enormous support of the whole school community we had a really successful Car Free Day last Friday. Staff, parents and children found alternate healthier and sustainable methods of getting to school. We had a practically empty staff car park and only two cars were spotted near the school gates dropping children off to school. We managed to reduce our car transport from 18.5% to just 5%, which is fantastic.



Thank you for all the photos you sent in. The event was very well received by children and parents, some of whom suggested we run this as a regular event! Basically, what it proves is that with a little effort we can reduce congestion and improve the quality of air around our school and it is down to us to do it. Not only that, but, it keeps everyone healthy and active. We would like everyone to think about this a long-term solution by either leaving the car at home or parking away from the school and walking the rest of the way (park and stride).



Children across the school took part in classroom activities with some of the Year 6 children working on a leaflet along with Pheobe (Teaching Assistant). This was handed out to anyone parking on the yellow or zigzag lines at the beginning and end of the school day. Our two new Junior Road Safety Officers Maisie (Yr5) and Luca (Yr4) took an active role in this activity. The leaflet will go on display in the school noticeboards and on the new website. Paper copies are available in the school office.


A generation ago, 70% of children walked to school but now it's less than half.

We want to solve this problem and start using a different sort of transport. We need the people of Hackney to breathe in healthy and non-polluted air. For that to happen we would like you not to drive your children to school every day.

We need your help!

We want to create a walking zone around Sir Thomas Abney because:

- It reduces pollution in the area
- Exercise keeps us fit and healthy!
- It is fun to walk and talk on the way to school
- It stops excess traffic around school so children can get to school quicker and safer
- It's free!



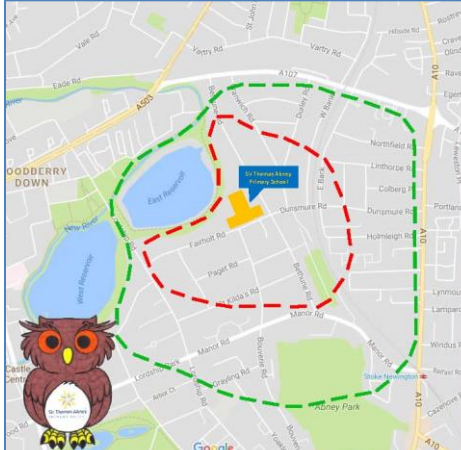
Sir Thomas Abney
PRIMARY SCHOOL

Walking Zone Map

Don't Pollute - Walk, Cycle or Scoot!

We want all the children of Sir Thomas Abney and other Hackney schools to live healthily and breathe clean air!

It would be amazing if every child could walk, cycle or use the bus on their journey to school.




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Travelling to STA

Key:

- 5 minute walking zone
- 10 minute walking zone



In order to celebrate the success of the event and reward the children we will be holding assemblies on Tuesday and are declaring a **Non-Uniform Day on Friday 29th September.**

We would like to remind parents that you must not park on the double yellow or zig zag lines outside the school. Please note that we have already made you aware of the parking enforcement camera outside the school and instant fines are being issued to those who park. We are aware that some parking fines have been issued already, so please be warned. Help reduce the traffic congestion and make it safe for children and parents to approach the school safely.

Year 6 Secondary School Transfer

If you have any difficulty making the online application please contact the school office so that they can assist you.

Ms Fitzmaurice will lead a Secondary Transfer Information Meeting for parents on Tuesday 26th September at 3.30pm in 6 Apple Classroom. Please wait to be escorted up to class by the class teachers from the playground.

Kidz Fit - Friday 29th September

We are delighted to welcome an education team from Kidz Fit who educate **Every Child** about the importance of a healthy lifestyle, physical fitness and personal wellbeing. Kidz Fit sessions educate children about how to achieve and maintain a healthy lifestyle, how the human body works, as well as the importance of giving one hundred percent and being the best we can be!

These workshops are both fun and educational. They have proved to be a fantastically effective way of getting the message across about how to increase knowledge and awareness on the importance of healthy nutrition, physical exercise, effective hydration and the inner-workings of the human body - and the ultimate goal is to improve every child's self-esteem, physical and mental wellbeing, confidence, and motivation.

All Children must bring a Full PE Kit on Friday 29th September.

Condover Hall Residential Trip Meeting and Payments

Thank you to all those parents who have either completed or part-paid for this trip. Just a gentle reminder that the closing date for completion of **full payment is Friday 6th October 2017.**

There will be a final meeting for parents on **Wednesday 11th October 2017 at 3.30pm in 4Aspen classroom** which we would urge all parents of children going to Condover Hall this year to attend. Ms Attwood will go

over last minute arrangements and what parents and children need to be aware of.

Payment arrears

We would like to remind all parents that their Parent Pay accounts must always run a credit balance. Please do not let your accounts run in to arrears. Twilight Club fees and Dinner money should always have a credit balance of a week's payment in advance.

Some parents may have recently received letters regarding running up arrears on their children's accounts. Please ensure you clear these debts as soon as possible.

Wednesday Payment Surgery

As of next week the school business manager will be running weekly Payment Surgeries inviting parents with ParentPay arrears to come and meet with her to discuss payment plans.

Instrumental Tuition in School

Letters have gone out to children in Years 3-5 offering instrumental tuition in school. If your child is interested in learning to play a musical instrument please complete the form and return it to the school office by Friday 29th September 2017.

After School Turkish Culture and Language Club

For many years now the Turkish Embassy have worked alongside the school to provide a teacher to educate children who speak Turkish as a home language about their culture. Over the years less and less children have taken part in this club. Last year the club had only 3 children attend. Obviously, we would like to see the club carry on, however, we cannot justify running a club for just a few children and the Embassy agree with us on this. Therefore, we would like to know **by Friday 29th September 2017** whether parents within the school's Turkish community are still interested in sending their child to this club and would commit to their child/ren taking part throughout the year. We would need at least 10 children to take part in order for the club to go ahead.

Class Assemblies

From next week individual classes will take part in Class Assemblies on Fridays. This term's class assemblies are all listed in the Diary Dates at the end of this newsletter. Parents of children taking part are invited to come and watch the assembly and you will receive text reminders. Please remember that photography and/or filming are not allowed during these assemblies.

No Pens Wednesday – 4th October

Every year we take part in No Pens Wednesday where we highlight the importance of good speaking and listening skills – and these are a strong indicator of later academic and workplace success.

For those of you who may be new to No Pens Days, they are a great way of exploring new activities and ways of learning. There is some more information on their website:

<https://www.thecommunicationtrust.org.uk/projects/no-pens-day-wednesday/>

We shall be telling the children about it in assembly – it is usually a day that many of them look forward to!

Also, there is a **national joke competition** which we can run around the time of No Pens Wednesday called **'Voice Box'**. I will be asking the children in assembly if they would be interested in taking part. Parents, you are welcome to tell your child a joke that they can share in school.

Black History Month

We will be celebrating Black History Month alongside Hackney Museum's theme of 'Island to island'. Classes across key Stage 2 will be attending workshops in November which will explore the various journeys that people embarked upon when moving from the Caribbean to the UK.

We would like to hold our own exhibition along the theme of 'Island to Island' – it would be wonderful if any of our families had some photographs of friends/relatives living in the Caribbean and any stories of their journey to the UK.

Questions to ask could be:

1. What did they pack in their suitcase?
2. Who did they travel with?
3. What did they miss most of all from the Caribbean or leaving home?
4. What memory do they have of the journey?
5. How did they feel when they first arrived?

Of course, we will return any photos – and make copies so that they don't get lost! Please let Ms Apcher know if you would like to donate any photographs. And if anyone would like to come in and speak to the children about living in the Caribbean and moving to the UK – then that would be great!

Here is a link for a list of events coming up for Black History Month in Hackney:

<https://www.hackney.gov.uk/black-history-month?medium=email&source=govdelivery>

Uniform

Children must not wear jogging bottoms to school, they should wear either dark grey trousers, skirts or pinafores. Only black shoes/trainers are allowed in school. Children are allowed to wear either Yellow/Gold or White Polo tops as we transition to the white tops which will be set as part of the new uniform in September 2018.

Fruit for KS2

Children in Years 3-6 are encouraged to bring a piece of fruit in to school every day to eat during morning break. Children in EYFS and KS1 receive a free piece of fruit via the Fruit Scheme which the school is subscribed to.

Contact Details

Parents must remember to keep the school updated with any changes to their contact details: phone numbers, addresses, etc. The Department for Education has advised all schools to ensure that each child has at least 3 contactable adults on record. We will be running data check exercises on a termly basis so you will receive your child's data check sheet by post for you to check, amend and return to the school office.

We would also like to inform you that the majority of information to parents is being sent out either via text messages or email. It is therefore vital that we have your correct mobile number and email address at all times. 24% of parents have not provided a working email address. We have been emailing information out since the beginning of this term. If you have not received anything via email it is because we do not have a correct email address for you.

One You Autumn Programme Announced

Hackney Council's Autumn programme of £1.00 fitness classes and free six week cook and eat course for families is announced!

There are 50 fitness classes a week taking place in 20 community centres across the borough; aimed at children, families and adults. Capoeira, Box-Fit, family street dance and family Zumba are just some of the classes taking place. No need to book and just a £1.00 or donation.

The Free cook and eat courses take place over six weeks at a number of locations and will support you and your family to cook more from scratch, learn new recipes, make healthy snacks and understand how to cook more on a budget.

More information www.hackney.gov.uk/one-you or call 0208 356 6326

Diary Dates for Autumn Term 2017				
Yr5/6 Cycle Training	w/b 25 th Sep 2017	One week course of cycle training by Cycle Confident for Year 5 and 6 children		
Yr6 Secondary Transfer Meeting	Tue 26 th Sep 2017	3.30pm-Year 6 teachers will show parents up to 6 Apple		
Non-Uniform Day	Fri 29 th Sep 2017	Whole school treat for taking part in a very successful Car Free Day		
No-Pens Wednesday	Wed 4 th Oct 2017	A whole day of learning without pens/pencils!		
Deadline for Yr4/5 Condoval Hall School Journey Payments	Fri 6 th Oct 2017	Please ensure all payments are cleared by this deadline		
4 Aspen Class Assembly	Fri 6 th Oct 2017	10.45am - Parents of 4 Aspen are invited to attend		
Year 4/5 Condoval Hall Final Meeting for Parents	Wed 11 th Oct 2017	3.30pm in 4Aspen Classroom		
4 Rowan Class Assembly	Fri 13 th Oct 2017	10.45am – Parents of 4 Rowan are invited to attend		
Year 4/5 Condoval Hall School Journey	w/b 16 th Oct 2017	1 week residential trip for 36 Year 4/5 children		
1 Lilac Class Assembly	Fri 20 th Oct 2017	10.10am – Parents of 1 Lilac are invited to attend		
Reception to Year 4 Free Flu Vaccines	Mon 6 th Nov 2017	Consent letters to go out in the Autumn Term 2017		
6 Walnut Class Assembly	Fri 10 th Nov 2017	10.45am – Parents of 6 Walnut are invited to attend		
Parents' Open Afternoon	Tue 14 th Nov 2017	3.30pm to 7.00pm – online bookings will open on Monday 30 th October 2017		
Individual Photographs	Wed 15 th Nov 2017	All children must wear a full uniform		
Parents' Open Afternoon	Thu 16 th Nov 2017	3.30pm to 6.00pm – online bookings will open on Monday 30 th October 2017		
6 Apple Class Assembly	Fri 24 th Nov 2017	10.45am – Parents of 6 Apple are invited to attend		
5 Ebony Class Assembly	Fri 1 st Dec 2017	10.45am – Parents of 5 Ebony are invited to attend		
Nativity Performance by Yr2	Wed 13 th Dec 2017	Times to be advised		
<i>Events/Activities for children in school</i>	<i>Events to which parents are invited</i>	<i>Class Assemblies to which parents are invited</i>	<i>Off-site Activities</i>	<i>Closures</i>

Term Dates		
HOLIDAY	BREAK UP ON	RETURN ON
Autumn Half Term Break	Friday 20 th October 2017 at 3.15pm	Monday 30 th October 2017 at 8.55am
Christmas Holidays	Friday 22 nd December 2017 at 1.00pm <i>PM Nursery & After-school Twilight club are closed</i>	Monday 8 th January 2018 at 8.55am
Spring Half Term Break	Friday 9 th February 2018 at 3.15pm	Monday 19 th February 2018 at 8.55am
Easter Holidays	Thursday 29 th March 2018 at 1.00pm <i>PM Nursery & After-school Twilight club are closed</i>	Monday 16 th April 2018 at 8.55am
Summer Half Term Break	Friday 25 th May 2018 at 3.15pm	Tuesday 5 th June 2018 at 8.55am
Summer Holidays	Wednesday 18 th July 2018 at 1.00pm <i>PM Nursery & After-school Twilight club are closed</i>	Monday 3 rd September 2017 <i>(time to be confirmed)</i>