



Sir Thomas Abney
PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Friday 31st January 2020

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NEWSLETTER

Themes of the Month:

Jigsaw – Dreams & Goals

British Values - Tolerance

REMINDERS

School Closed for Half Term Break –
Monday 17th to Friday 21st February 2020

SCHOOL CLOSED FOR STAFF TRAINING:
Monday 23rd March 2020

Attendance & Punctuality

(for the first 4 weeks of term)

Overall School Attendance
95.2% (target 97%)

Highest Attendance
1 Cedar, 3 Juniper & 4 Sycamore

Most Punctual
FS Willow, 4 Redwood & 6 Rowan

Come Dine with Me

Don't forget to book a place on this term's Come Dine With Me. Have lunch with your children in the school dining hall. Spring Term dates are as follows:

Monday 3rd February 2020 – Fully Booked!

Wednesday 12th February 2020

Thursday 12th March 2020

Thursday 26th March 2020

Bookings can be made via our **Parents Evening Booking System** on:

<https://sirthomasabney.parentseveningsystem.co.uk/>

Class Assemblies this term

Parents are invited to attend their child's class assembly.

Please note that class assemblies will take place at **2.30pm** on the following days for:

1 Cedar on Friday 7th February 2020

4 Sycamore on Friday 14th February 2020

1 Beech on Friday 6th March 2020

3 Lilac on Friday 20th March 2020

6 Aspen on Thursday 2nd April 2020

Parents attending the assemblies will be allowed to collect their child after the assembly if they wish, however, siblings will not be allowed to leave class before 3.15pm.

Parent Governor Elections

The deadline for Nominations for the 2 Parent Governor Vacancies is **Monday 3rd February 2020**. Nomination information was distributed to all parents via email. Nomination forms can be collected from the school office. If you would like to know more about the role of a school governor please go to:

<https://www.nga.org.uk/Knowledge-Centre/Governance-structure-roles-and-responsibilities.aspx>

Class Trips & Workshops

With the start of the new curriculum in September we have been committed to providing a wonderful range of trips and workshops to enhance what is being taught in class. These provide an

opportunity for children to bring alive their half termly topics.

Over the last couple of weeks classes across the school have visited:

National Gallery – Reception

classes travelled to Trafalgar Square to the National Gallery where they took part in a workshop called 'Mini Masterpieces'. They learnt all about the story of St George and the Dragon. The story tellers played musical instruments as the children walked through the gallery and listened to the story. They then had the chance to paint their own dragons in the Gallery classroom using different painting techniques.



National Portrait Gallery – Year 1

The year 1 topic this half term is **Who I Am?** In class children were going to be drawing self-portraits, so they went to the National Portrait Gallery to get some inspiration! They started off thinking about why people create portraits and then looked at different styles and materials that they could use in their own self-portraits.



London Transport Museum – Year 2

Year 2 children spent a day at the London Transport Museum learning about how transportation has evolved over the years. The mini tram ride had the children extremely excited.

Natural History Museum – Year 4 & 5

Year 5 went to the Natural History Museum. They found out more about tectonic plates and earthquakes which links to their topic 'what a wonderful world'. The children particularly enjoyed seeing how the continents were formed and learning all about [Pangaea](#).



Alongside the above trips, we have also had children take part in the following sporting events:

Boccia Tournament:



Some of our children took part in an inter-school Boccia tournament with fantastic results! Boccia is precision ball sport not dissimilar to Bowling. The word Boccia comes from Latin and means Boss.

Football Match against Woodberry Down School – results will appear in the next newsletter

EYFS Library Visits

The Nursery and Reception children have been enjoying regular visits to Stamford Hill Library to attend storytelling sessions. We would like to thank all the parents who have been helping support the children on these trips.

Trips that have been booked so far are listed on the **Diary Dates in this newsletter**.

Knowledge Organisers

The Knowledge Organisers for each year group from 1-6 which were emailed to parents are available to view on the school website at:

<https://sirthomasabney.hackney.sch.uk/classes/>

Weekly homework is set for spelling, grammar, Mathematics. Children are expected to read their book every day. All children have creative homework linked to their half termly topic. Please take some time to go through these with your child. Some of the children have been bringing in some very well thought out pieces of work which they are proudly sharing with their class.

School Funding and Pupil Premium Grant

The Department for Education has released information which you may find interesting. It outlines the way schools are funded and how the Pupil Premium Grant (PPG) supports disadvantaged pupils.

<https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/UKDFE/bulletins/278f4ff>

This PPG is allocated to children with a means tested authorisation for Free School Meals – this is NOT the same as the Universal Free School Meals

which all children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 receive. We constantly encourage parents to apply for Free School Meals/PPG via the Learning Trust Website on:

<https://www.learningtrust.co.uk/content/apply-free-school-meals>

It is very important that parents who meet the criteria for free school meals/PPG actually apply for it even if their child does not have a school meal. The extra funding that the school receives does help a great deal. Information on how the school uses the PPG can be found on the school website at:

<https://sirthomasabney.hackney.sch.uk/about-us/school-policy/pupil-premium/>

World Book Day – 5th March

We will be celebrating World Book Day with another **Favourite Book Character Dress** up event. Staff and children are invited to dress up as their favourite book character or one that has inspired them. There will be various reading activities across the school.



Uniform Exchange

Following the success of the **Uniform Exchange Stations** last term we would like to organise another one before the Half Term Break. However, we are short of unwanted uniform items. Please donate any uniform items **ONLY** that your children can no longer use. Bring donations to the school office. Thank you

Health and Wellbeing

Parent Coffee Morning – Healthy family lifestyles– Thursday 13th February at 9am

This coffee morning for parents will be run by a nutritionist from Everyone Health and our school nurse. If you want to learn more about living a healthy family lifestyle, get advice about healthy eating and exercise or if you have any concerns about your child's weight or if you just want to learn more, please pop along after you've dropped your child off. Please sign in at the school office.

COFFEE MORNING

ALIVENKICKING
BY everyone HEALTH

FREE FAMILY HEALTHY LIFESTYLE PROGRAMMES IN HACKNEY

Join Ffion Hayward, Nutritionist from Everyone Health and your school nurse for a taster session and more information about the Alive N Kicking programmes that run throughout Hackney

Date: Thursday 13th February
Time: 9:00am
Location: Sir Thomas Abney School

Sign in at the office on arrival

Does your child have a packed lunch at school? Are you stuck for ideas about what to put in their lunch box? Would you like to make their lunch box healthier?

Start making healthier changes today!

Healthy Lunch Box Checklist

Follow the checklist to ensure your child is having a healthy balanced packed lunch to give them the best nutrition for learning in school!

- ✓ A portion of **starchy foods** such as wholegrain bread, pasta, rice, couscous, potato or other starchy foods; they provide the main source of energy
- ✓ A portion of **protein** including lean meat, fish, eggs, or pulses are essential for children's growth and development.
- ✓ **Vegetables or salad** should always be included and contribute to their 5 a day.
- ✓ **Fruit** in the form of fresh, dried or canned in natural juice.
- ✓ A portion of **dairy food** such as milk, cheese, yogurt or dairy free alternative should accompany the meal to support bone development.
- ✓ **Healthy drinks** such as water, milk or 150ml 100% fruit juice should be used for hydration.

Foods high in salt, saturated fat and refined sugar should **not** be included in a packed lunches. They have no nutritional benefits and are high in calories. These include...

Crisps	Sausage rolls	Sweeties	High sugar smoothies
Chocolate	Crustless bread	Cake	Chocolate based rice cakes
Biscuits	Eggs	Highly processed fruit products	Rice
Icecreams	Crustless bread		

Healthy Lunch Box Ideas

Monday

Wholemeal pasta with tuna and sweetcorn
Banana
Milk carton

Tuesday

Mini pizza with hummus and salad
Apple and yogurt
Water

Wednesday

Home made pizza slice with ham, pepper and cheese
Peaches in juice
Water

Thursday

Chicken with lentil and vegetable curry
Box of raisins
Yogurt and water

Friday

Wholemeal sandwich with egg and cucumber
Handful of grapes
Milk carton

Sir Thomas Abney Primary School – Newsletter

Parent Workshops – A survey will be sent out next week to ask for your feedback on what topics you would like to see covered in our next programme of parent workshops. Please do respond and let us know what you would find helpful.

Congratulations....

To Oscar in Year 5 for completing his Grade 3 Piano exams. This is a wonderful achievement!



STA's Modes of Travel Survey

We have just conducted our annual children's travel survey and the results are very encouraging as they lean heavily towards **Active Travel**. The vast majority of our children either walk, cycle or scoot to school. We have seen a significant shift in

children using their scooters. With that in mind we have organised some **Scooter Safety Training** for the **Year 1 and 2** children in March and are bidding for a grant to erect some more scooter parking. We would like to thank parents and carers for supporting their children to keep active and healthy.

Method of Travel	Percentage of children
Car	3.4%
Cycle	4.5%
Dedicated School Bus	1.1%
Park & Walk	11%
Public Bus	6.2%
Scooter	13.2%
Train	0.28%
Walk	61.1%

Diary Dates 2019				
Come Dine With Me	Mon 3 rd Feb 2020	FULLY BOOKED!		
Nursery AM/FT – Stamford Hill Library	Thu 6 th Feb 2020	Morning - Spring Term Library Visits to exchange books		
FS Chestnut – Stamford Hill Library	Fri 7 th Feb 2020	Afternoon - Spring Term Library Visits to exchange books		
1 Cedar Class Assembly	7 th Feb 2020	2.30pm – Parents of 1 Cedar are invited to attend		
Wellbeing Week	10 th - 14 th Feb 2020	Activities and workshops in school		
FS Willow – Stamford Hill Library	Tue 11 th Feb 2020	Afternoon - Spring Term Library Visits to exchange books		
Come Dine With Me	Wed 12 th Feb 2020	Bookings to be made via Parents Evening Booking System on: https://sirthomasabney.parentseveningsystem.co.uk/		
Parent/Carer Coffee Morning	Thu 13 th Feb 2020	9.00am – Family Healthy Lifestyles		
Nursery AM/FT – Stamford Hill Library	Thu 13 th Feb 2020	Morning - Spring Term Library Visits to exchange books		
4 Sycamore Class Assembly	Fri 14 th Feb 2020	2.30pm – Parents of 4 Sycamore are invited to attend		
Scholastic Book Fair	27 th Feb to 4 th Mar 2020	3.15pm in the Infant Foyer		
World Book Day	Thu 5 th Mar 2020	Favourite Book Character Dress-up Day		
1 Beech Class Assembly	Fri 6 th Mar 2020	2.30pm – Parents of 1 Beech are invited to attend		
British Science Week	9 th – 13 th Mar 2020	Science activities in school		
Come Dine with Me	Thu 12 th Mar 2020	Bookings to be made via Parents Evening Booking System on: https://sirthomasabney.parentseveningsystem.co.uk/ek		
Parents' Open Afternoon	Thu 12 th Mar 2020	3.30pm to 7.00pm – Bookings to be released from 24 th Feb		
Parents' Open Afternoon	Tue 17 th Mar 2020	3.30pm to 6.00pm – Bookings to be released from 24 th Feb		
Scooter Safety Training for Yrs 1 & 2	Thu 19 th Mar 2020	Consent letters to be sent out after the Half Term Break		
3 Lilac Class Assembly	Fri 20 th Mar 2020	2.30pm – Parents of 3 Lilac are invited to attend		
Come Dine with Me	Thu 26 th Mar 2020	Bookings to be made via Parents Evening Booking System on: https://sirthomasabney.parentseveningsystem.co.uk/		
6 Aspen Class Assembly	Thu 2 nd Apr 2020	2.30pm – Parents of 6 Aspen are invited to attend		
<i>Events/Activities for children in school</i>	<i>Assemblies or performances to which parents are invited</i>	<i>Events to which parents are invited</i>	<i>Off-site Trips & Activities</i>	<i>Closures</i>

Term Dates 2019-20		
HOLIDAY	BREAK UP ON	RETURN ON
Spring Half Term Break	Friday 14 th February 2020 at 3.15pm	Monday 24 th February 2020
Easter Holiday	Friday 3 rd April 2020 at 1.00pm <i>After-school Playcentre is closed</i>	Monday 20 th April 2020
Summer Half Term Break	Friday 22 nd May 2020 at 3.15pm	Tuesday 2 nd June 2020
Summer Holidays	Friday 17 th July 2020 at 1.00pm <i>After-school Playcentre is closed</i>	Wednesday 2 nd September 2020 (Years 1-6 Only)