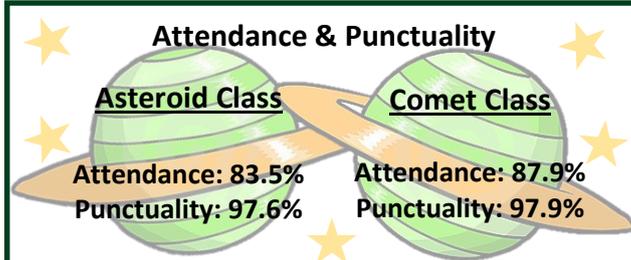




Dear Parents, Carers and Friends of Halley House School, Welcome back to the second half of the Spring term! Children have started their new topic, 'Changes' and are looking forward to lots of outdoor learning opportunities ahead – including helping to develop our ground floor playground. As part of our commitment to developing best practice, we have a number of scheduled visits from practitioners from both Bellevue Place Education Trust (BPET) and Hackney Learning Trust (HLT) throughout the year. Each visit has a different focus. Some of the comments from our most recent reports highlight the 'strong links between home and school', how children are 'focused, engaged and enjoy learning' and that the school places a level of importance on 'pride in achievement, high self-esteem and a culture of positivity.' Thank you for all your continued support in making Halley House the best it can be!

Claire Syms



Diary Dates

Monday 22nd February

- First day back of Spring 2

Tuesday 23rd February

- Little Stars Stay & Play starts for HHS families, 9-11am

Saturday 27th February

- Playground Working Party, 11am-2pm

Tuesday 1st March

- Little Stars Stay & Play open to all, 9-11am
- Trip to The Petchey Academy for Chinese Artists' Performance

Thursday 3rd March

- World Book Day! Come dressed as your favourite book character!
- World Book Day Rainbow Fish Workshop

Monday 14th March

- Parents' Evening, 3.00-6.30pm

Thursday 24th March

- End of Spring 2 – school finishes at 2pm.

Attendance Meetings

Parents and carers of children with an attendance of less than 90% for the Spring term, where a valid or approved reason for periods of absence has **not** been supplied, will be formally invited in to meet with the Headteacher to explain the reasons for their child's absence and to agree steps to ensure individual attendance figures increase in the remainder of the Spring term. **It is imperative children are in school on time, every day.** All parents and carers are welcome to book an appointment with a member of the Senior Leadership Team at any point in the year if you have any concerns about your child's attendance, or need help and support.

SUPER STARS!

Our Super Stars of The Week are:

Asteroid Class:

Alanna
Rosabel

Comet Class:

Isobella
Nickoy

Well done for working so hard and being such good role models!

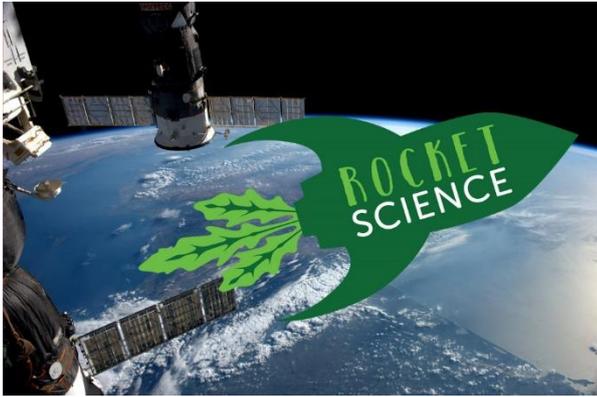
Monday Mission!

This half term's Missions are all about Changes. This week, we are learning about how **we** grow and change.

Can you draw a picture at home of what you were like in the **past**?
Can you draw what you would like to be in the **future**?



Rocket Science!



We are delighted that our application to take part in Rocket Science has been accepted! Rocket Science is an educational project launched by the RHS Campaign for School Gardening and the UK Space Agency. Halley House School will be one of up to 10,000 schools to receive a packet of 100 seeds from space, which children will grow alongside seeds that haven't been to space and measure the differences over seven weeks. Children won't know which seed packet contains which seeds until all results have been collected by the RHS Campaign for School Gardening and analysed by professional biostatisticians! The intention is for results in the national database to contribute to our knowledge of growing food in space. The seeds are currently on board the International Space Station (ISS) and will stay there until March. You can track the ISS online here:

<http://spotthestation.nasa.gov/sightings/#.VgLAf8tVhBc> and wave at them as it flies over the UK!

Baby Photos - Reminder

Remember to provide a baby photo for children to bring into school this week. Photos printed on normal copier paper, as well as actual photos, will be absolutely fine. Children will be using the photos as part of their topic on Changes. Please ensure children's names and class are clearly written on the back of the photo so that they can be returned on Friday 26th February.



Big Maths...Beat That!

Please see the attached Big Maths...Beat That! PowerPoint, which contains all the Reception tests (given out in hard copy format last half term). Remember the main aim of these is for total recall within 20 seconds, by the end of the academic year. Total recall is when no

thinking time is required – so keep practising at home to get quicker and quicker until responses are immediate!

BIG MATHS... ★
★ **BEAT THAT!**

Little Stars Stay & Play - Reminder

Tomorrow, Tuesday 23rd February, is the first session of Little Stars Stay & Play! This first session is designed for parents and carers from Halley House to get together for coffee and informal play, and to share ideas to help shape how future sessions are run. Subsequent sessions will be open to the local community, so feel free to bring friends along the following week. It's a great opportunity for people to find out about our school, and for future Halley House children to play and build friendships ahead of their school years!



Can you help us?

- **Donations needed:** If you have any good quality toys or play equipment suitable for 0-4's please bring it in to the school office.
- **Are there any designers amongst us, who could help us design a flier/ poster to promote the group?**
- **Do you have any time to help sort toys, set up our space or help host and coordinate? Please talk to Rowena (Anna's Mum) if you can help in any way.**

Playground Working Party

We already have some tyres and outdoor paint, some aromatic herbs and some wellies – but we do need lots more! If you are able to bring in resources during *THIS WEEK* it will enable us to prepare for Saturday; Alex (Darcy's dad) has very kindly agreed to help project manage the session. We will also be in need of tools (including drills) and someone who knows how to operate them! Some of the items we are looking for include:

- **Brightly coloured children's wellies**
- **External paint**
- **Planters with trellis attached**
- **Any remnants of wood/timber**
- **Fragrant/aromatic herb plants**
- **Packets of seeds for flowering plants and easy-grow vegetables**
- **Bags of compost**
- **Plastic flowerpots for seeds**
- **Large flowerpots or troughs**



If you are not sure what to contribute, but would like to make a donation instead, please do so at the school office specifying what the donation is for. Please note that as Saturday promises to be very busy, we would recommend that **adults only** attend due to the nature of some of the works taking place. Children will have lots of opportunities to contribute during school time the following week!

Parent Workshops on Stammering

Speech and Language therapists from the Michael Palin Centre for Stammering Children are running workshops on Friday 26th February and Friday 11th March. Please see attached leaflets for further details if you, or someone you know, is interested in attending.

GOSH Bad Hair Day



Safer Internet Day



"We know which information is 'Top Secret' and what not to share online."

