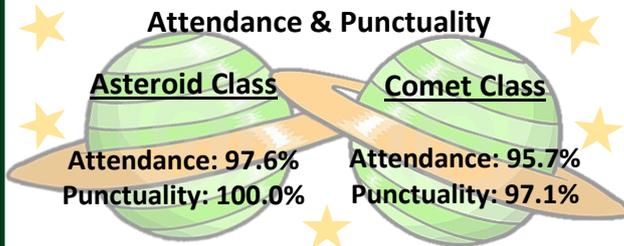




Dear Parents, Carers and Friends of Halley House School, We have had a successful start to the Summer term with our first week back complete, and are looking forward to all the adventures ahead! Don't forget to check this half term's curriculum booklets for how you can help at home – and do share your discussions and results of the weekly Monday Mission with your child's class teacher. We have our next external moderation visit next week, which will focus on Teaching & Learning, and the school's judgements on our priorities and the progress made to date. We invite a range of professionals, from within BPET, the borough and wider afield, into Halley throughout the year to share good practice and affirm and improve our own approach – we are delighted with the reports we have received to date. I am particularly pleased to note the improved attendance figures this week – we need all of your support to keep up this upward trend!

Claire Syms



Diary Dates

Tuesday 19th April

- Owl Time! Real life owls come to visit Halley!
- FOHH Little Stars Stay & Play 9.00-11.00am

Thursday 21st April

- Forest Schools @ Butterfield Green 1.15-3.00pm

Monday 25th April

- Open Morning for Reception Admissions 2016

Friday 29th April

- Science Dome – Space & Dinosaurs!

Monday 2nd May

- Bank Holiday

Tuesday 3rd May

- Swimming Lessons start at King's Hall, 10.30-11.00am

Monday 16th May

- Parents' Open Evening

Friday 27th May

- End of Summer 1

Attendance & Punctuality

Attendance was much improved last week, with both classes achieving above 95%. For three days last week we had 100% attendance, which is excellent news and something we need to keep working towards to raise our overall attendance for the year. Unauthorised absence rates were also low last week – thank you to all parents and carers for keeping us informed of planned absences (e.g. medical appointments) and for ringing the school **no later than 9.30am** in the event of unexpected sickness. Please do remember to provide copies of appointment letters or doctor's notes to the school office, as necessary.

SUPER STARS!

Our Super Stars of The Week are:

Asteroid Class:

Amari-Jordan

Tiger-Rose

Comet Class:

Jayden

Andre

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

Monday Mission!

This half term's Missions are all about using our imaginations for our topic 'Let's Pretend'. This week, we are researching astronauts!

Who is **Tim Peake**, and what do astronauts do?



FOHH Meeting – tomorrow at 3.45pm

The rearranged FOHH meeting is tomorrow at 3.45pm – a separate email was sent during last week. Please do come along if you can! Please go to the main entrance on Arcola Street at 3.45pm, where Miss Duarte will meet you.

Rocket Seeds!

Right on schedule, we received our delivery of rocket seeds today, ready for planting tomorrow!

The pack includes:

- A red packet of seeds
- A blue packet of seeds
- An experiment booklet
- A sticker to go on the classroom wall
- Stickers for participants
- An A1 wall chart to record measurements

Children will be following randomisation methods and using scientific language as part of the experiment. The seeds will be grown side by side for the next 35 days, with children taking regular measurements and making observations of any similarities or differences in plant growth between the two seed packets. This information will be recorded on the measurement chart and results will then be entered into the national database! Children will also be predicting which packet (red or blue) contained the space seeds!



Ball Court on the Hindle House Estate

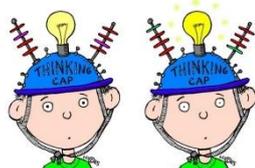
As you will have seen from separate authorisation letters sent home last week, we have now entered our trial period of using the ball court on the Hindle House Estate. We will initially be using this space for small groups of children on a rotational basis during lunchtime play. Please sign and return the confirmation slip, if you have not done so already.

New volunteer

We are delighted to welcome a new volunteer, Jesse Elias, to Halley House School. Jesse will be working with us on Mondays and Tuesdays every week – you may have seen him in the playground already or heard children talking about a new adult in school! I am sure you will make Jesse feel welcome.

Maths Homework – Problem Solving

This week's maths homework revolves around working systematically and requires access to the Internet. Please see the attached guidance for more information.



New After School Clubs for Summer

A huge thank you to all parents who signed up children for after school clubs for the final term of this academic year. We have had a brilliant start to the new clubs; children in Cookery kick-started their first lesson making delicious shortbread biscuits, which they then got to take home and children in Martial Arts started their first lesson with focus, posture and concentration training. The children thoroughly enjoyed their initial classes! A gentle reminder that **ALL** payments for after school club **MUST be paid through ParentPay by Friday 22nd April 2016. Failure to do so, may result in your child losing their place in after school club.** Miss Tali is available via the school office should you require any further assistance with ParentPay.

Swimming lessons



We have confirmed swimming lessons with King's Hall Leisure Centre on Tuesdays from 10.30-11.00am, which will commence as planned on Tuesday 3rd May. As well as

qualified teachers from the leisure centre leading the sessions, a member of HHS staff will be supporting children in the water during lessons each week. Please ensure ALL items of uniform are clearly labelled ready for easy identification should it be required – children will also need a clearly labelled swimming hat for lessons. Letters with full details will be sent home this week.

Ōlelo mai a puni ke ao nei!

...Or: *languages from around the world!*

During this week please ask children to write down/learn a couple of common phrases such as, "Hello", "How are you?", "Good Morning", "Good afternoon" or "Thank you" in a language of their choice. We hope to teach each other the greetings that we have learnt in a foreign language during our PSHCE lesson on Friday. It can be another language that you speak at home or some phrases that the children have picked up from Mandarin/Spanish classes in school or even from Miss Duarte's French club. It could even be a language that you are not familiar with by googling some of the common phrases. We can note down all the different languages covered and report back in next week's newsletter. Let's see how many different languages we can cover! A good place to start if you're stuck is here:

<http://www.newburyparkschool.net/langofmonth/>

Outdoor learning

Outdoor learning at Butterfield Green is now happening on Thursday EVERY week, instead of every fortnight (hopefully to take advantage of some better weather!). Children will also continue to use the Astroturf at The Petchey Academy for PE every Monday.

Measuring in Maths!



Martial Arts!

