



"...and the main thing is learning."
www.thepioneeracademy.co.uk

Dear South Norwood Primary School Community,

As we embark on another busy term, I extend a warm welcome back to all our children, parents, and staff. The academic year is already in full swing, and we have much to celebrate and share.

I am delighted to report that our Year 4 children recently enjoyed an enlightening excursion to the British Library. This educational visit provided them with a unique opportunity to participate in an interactive treasure hunt, which not only engaged their curiosity but also enhanced their knowledge about The Windrush Generation. Such experiences are invaluable in broadening our children's understanding of history and culture.

While we celebrate these enriching activities, I must address a matter of utmost importance: attendance. It is crucial to understand that regular school attendance directly impacts a child's educational outcomes and future prospects. To illustrate this point, if a child had taken a one-week unauthorised holiday in September, their attendance percentage would still be below 90% today. This level of absence not only affects learning but also risks incurring a fine from the Education Welfare Office.

I cannot stress enough the significance of daily attendance. Every school day is an opportunity for growth, learning, and development. Our commitment to maximising each child's potential can only be fully realised through consistent presence in the classroom. I urge all parents and guardians to prioritise school attendance, ensuring that our children are present and engaged every day.

Let us work together to make this term a success, fostering an environment where every child can thrive and reach their full potential.

James Looker
Headteacher

**EVERY
DAY
MATTERS**



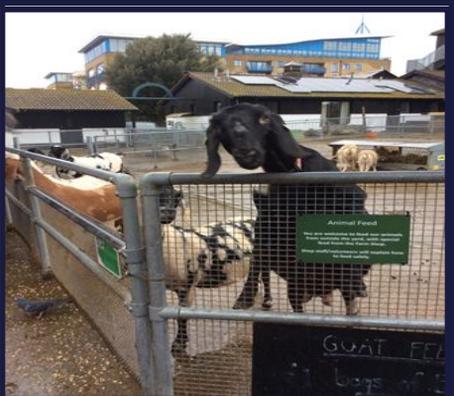
Reception went on their first trip out of school to visit the Dinosaurs in Crystal Palace Park. The children loved spotting similarities between the dinosaurs and animals alive today.



Year 4 had a great time on their British Library trip. We had a tour, an interactive treasure hunt and a Black History workshop. We even found an atlas bigger than Mr Looker!



The art club got creative by making tree branches with watercolors and straws, adding a fun mix of color and texture to their artwork. The result was a unique and playful twist on nature-inspired designs.



Year 3 had a wonderful time at Surrey Docks farm. Where they got to feed some animals and had a go at making their own butter!



ATTENDANCE MATTERS!

Attendance at South Norwood matters

What YOU must do:

Try to telephone the school before 9am each day of your child's absence.

Tell the school in advance, of any medical appointments and bring in appointment cards/letters.

If you are not sure whether your child is well enough to attend school, send them in anyway as they often perk up on arrival.

Have a backup plan for if your child misses transport, call on a family member, neighbour or friend.

If you and your child are experiencing difficulties with school attendance then talk to us as a first step so we can help!

What WE will do:

Check your child's attendance every day.

Phone home to discuss your child's attendance with you.

Invite you into school for attendance meetings if we are concerned.

If we cannot establish a reason for absence, then we may make a welfare home visit. We may involve the police if we still cannot get hold of you

Holidays during term time will NOT be authorised. Taking your child on holiday will mean a fine for both parents issued by Croydon Council.

ATTENDANCE MATTERS!

Pupil	Attendance	Days missed
Reception — 54 pupils — 16%	95.7%	177
Year 1 — 47 pupils — 14%	86.1%	543.5
Year 2 — 45 pupils — 14%	94.8%	191.5
Year 3 — 43 pupils — 13%	95.3%	173
Year 4 — 54 pupils — 16%	93.6%	292
Year 5 — 43 pupils — 13%	94.6%	192.5
Year 6 — 43 pupils — 13%	92.6%	270



ATTENDANCE EVERY DAY COUNTS!

Below 90%
Serious Concern.
Persistent absence.

90 - 95.9%
Concern. Low
Attendance.

At least 96%
Expected
attendance.



**Expected attendance means
having no more than seven
days off this school year!**