

ELEANOR PALMER PRIMARY SCHOOL WEEKLY NEWSLETTER  
SPRING TERM 2020 NUMBER 3  
[www.eleanorpalmer.camden.sch.uk](http://www.eleanorpalmer.camden.sch.uk)

Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2020

Dear Families,

Events in school next week 20<sup>th</sup> - 24<sup>th</sup> January:

**TOMORROW**

Cake Sale hosted by Year 2.

Additional afternoon appointments for Year 6 parents, and in the morning for Year 1 and Reception.

**Monday 27<sup>th</sup>**

8am Dodgeball Club for Years 5 and 6.

8am Early morning football resumes for Years 1 and 2. Please note: there will not be a session if it is raining or icy, on either Monday or Tuesday.

Year 4 are going to the Science Museum.

**Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup>**

8am Multisports Club for Years 1 and 2.

8am Early morning football for Years 3-6.

After school the Football Squad play at Castlehaven. Kick-off is at 4pm and pick up from there at 6pm. Supporters welcomed!

**Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup>**

Year 6 visit South Hampstead Synagogue.

Reception visit the CLC.

6pm Full Governing Body meeting.

**Thursday 30<sup>th</sup>**

9am First Reception Maths Pack session for parents. See over.

Year 2 are going to the October Gallery.

Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> January @ 6.30pm EP BINGO Night!

Please sign up at the board if you can volunteer to serve food or drinks on the night. It's a great way to meet other parents and catch up with other volunteers AND we depend on parents to make these things happen.

It starts at 6.30pm and we are usually done by 8pm. Entrance is £3 which buys you 9 consecutive games of BINGO. Food, drinks and very special 'BINGO blobbers' pens will be on sale! Please bring plenty of change. This is a really fun family event. Come and join in the fun with our wonderful community event as an antidote to it being Brexit-eve! Cash prizes for every round!!

Matches for our Thursday football squad after school at Talacre. Pick up at 5.40pm at Talacre.

**Friday 31<sup>st</sup>**

8am Girls' Multisports Club for Juniors.

Cake Sale hosted by Year 1.

### Reception Maths Packs - don't miss the chance to get a bespoke maths goody bag!

Eleanor Palmer is unique in its love of maths and how we share this with you from an early age, through Stay and Play. We also have a tradition of making 'maths packs' for Reception parents: carefully put together resources and ideas that will really help develop your child's all important mathematical foundations. We ask for a voluntary contribution of £10 towards the cost of this pack. Sally Hill will be introducing the packs and giving them out on 2 occasions: the first is **next Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> at 9am** and repeated at **3.30 on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> February**. Please make every effort to attend a session and get your pack! The meetings will be held in the Shed. Please sign-up on the sheet outside the Reception classroom to indicate which session you can attend.

### Relationships Education

From September 2020, we have a new statutory Relationships Education Curriculum. You may have seen some of the controversy from Birmingham in the national press caused by misinterpretation and schools and parents in conflict. You are invited to come to the Shed at 9am on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> February to hear more about the intent and content of this new document.

### Challenge Partners Review 2020

We have our report, our 'annual health check' and we are very proud! It will be posted on our website today to save paper so do please read! We think it really captures the pride and spirit of EP and all that we try to do. We are particularly pleased that it acknowledges the depth and connected structure of our topic work approach.

This week in assemblies we talked about Articles on the UNCRC that exist to protect children, such as the right to a name, a birth certificate and a nationality - and what it means when this doesn't happen. If your child has been asking to see their birth certificate it's because we told them to! We also listened to some Gregorian chants. We quite liked them!

With best wishes,  
Kate Frood and staff

Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2020

Dear Parents,

As a staff, we were depressed to read the recent statistic that only 10% of children now enjoy a bedtime story regularly. Modern life with parents' busy lives and screens/earphones play a large part in this. We have to join the growing voice of authors and academics citing the daily 'read aloud' as key both at home and school. Every class at EP has story-time at the end of the day – and it should be a routine at home too!

So coming home tomorrow is an Eleanor Palmer exclusive that we developed several years ago, and update regularly, entitled 'You Choose, We Choose'. It is a collection of books recommended by teachers at our school. Some are personal favourites read as a child, others favourites read to a class and some are even favourites listened to as a child!

We offer it to you with one huge piece of advice, from all of us, a group of hugely experienced and passionate teachers: **reading aloud to your child and encouraging a personal reading habit is a huge gift for future academic success.**

Please don't stop 'once they can read to themselves'.

Why?

- Learning to read is our number one priority. But learning to love reading and books is as important for lifelong learning and pleasure;
- Reading aloud books **above what your child could manage independently**, extends vocabulary and can facilitate rich chat and discussions, themselves vital to success;
- Sharing the same book again and again with a young child is a vital stepping stone in learning to read and learning 'book language' to use in writing;
- Reading novels allows a vicarious exploration of 'other worlds'; a safe place to discuss issues from modern refugee life to life during World War 2 to parents getting tattoos (!);
- It is a wonderful way to end the day; screen free, cosy and close. I lost count of how many times I fell asleep on the bed too!

So please, whether your child is in Nursery or Year 6 find time to read a story each evening.

With best wishes,

Kate Frod and all the staff at Eleanor Palmer.