

ELEANOR PALMER PRIMARY SCHOOL WEEKLY NEWSLETTER  
AUTUMN TERM 2020 NUMBER 2  
[www.eleanorpalmer.camden.sch.uk](http://www.eleanorpalmer.camden.sch.uk)

Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> September 2020

Dear Families,

It was lovely to see so many of you on site last night! It almost felt normal, bar the masks. After school today and tomorrow, teachers will record their presentations with added slides in response to questions. We will let you know when these are live and where to find them.

Events in school next week, 14<sup>th</sup> - 18<sup>th</sup> September:

Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup>

Year 6 start their amazing design and make project working with The Goldfinger Factory and entirely funded by Hermes Paris! This historic (and hugely expensive!) international store is keen to bring its 'Manufacto' project to the UK whereby children learn traditional crafts. Each child will make a working wood and leather bedside lamp. It will run for 12 consecutive Tuesday mornings. Amazing!

Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup>

8am Governors PPC Committee

9am Year 3 cross country practice on the Heath

1.30 Spanish lesson for Years 5 and 6 with Mr Morley.

Thursday 17<sup>th</sup>

8am Governors Staffing Committee

EP Cross Country Event

As we work to retain all the enrichment that EP traditionally offers, we are delighted that Coach Kane has suggested and devised an EP cross-country event in the absence of the annual Camden schools' event. Each Junior class will have a practice session (Wednesday mornings) - Year 3 next Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> at 9) and then each class will run a final event in the week of October 19<sup>th</sup> during their usual PE lesson.

We'd love parental support as marshals for this event - do let Coach Martin or Coach Kane know!

French and Spanish

We were delighted to welcome Mr Matthew Morley into EP on Wednesday. He is head of modern foreign languages at South Hampstead School for Girls with whom we have a partnership for Latin and now MFL! This came out of a suggestion at last year's PTA meeting - thank you! Mr Morley will be teaching French to Years 3 and 4 and Spanish to Years 5 and 6 on Wednesday afternoons.

Secondary transfer - key reminders

- You must visit the school websites to see how each school is organising open mornings and evenings. You will need to book.
- Year 5 are strongly encouraged to have an early look; it won't count as absence.
- The closing date for decisions is 31<sup>st</sup> October
- Look carefully at specific schools' systems for any banding/specific admissions arrangements
- Year 6 - please avoid Tuesday morning visits as that is the Hermes day!
- Full details at [www.camden.gov.uk/secondary-school-admissions](http://www.camden.gov.uk/secondary-school-admissions)
- We are always happy to help and/or discuss options at more length!

Snacks

The free national fruit scheme is back! A piece of fruit is provided every day for our younger children; Junior aged children may only bring fruit as a snack. In our early years classes, we are always grateful for healthy snack donations (rice cakes, more fruit, breadsticks). Children do not need to bring in any snacks.

We're back!!

### Phones in school

Whilst we strongly discourage primary aged pupils having phones (don't let them grow up too soon!), we do accept that a few might be walking home alone and it affords you some sense of security; do tell them not to have them out as they walk alone though. If this is your decision as a parent then we ask that:

- A) you complete a consent form via the office/app
- B) your child hands the phone in to the office on arrival

### Guitar lessons

Professional musician Sam Amidon (Arthur Year 5) already offers fantastic guitar lessons to some EP children and he has room for a few more! Contact Sam directly on [samidon@gmail.com](mailto:samidon@gmail.com)

### Covid update

- If your child displays any of the Covid symptoms, *they must stay off school until they have had a test - and it is negative - even if the temperature (cough) disappears. If you are unable or unwilling to get a test, they will have to miss the full 10 days;*
- *Given that there are currently some issues with testing capacity in Camden (and beyond) this will be very frustrating. We hope this is rectified soon;*
- *If it is positive, we must know immediately and your child must quarantine for 10 days. The family must quarantine for 14 days;*
- *If during that time, another family member has a positive test, the 10 day rule starts for them from that day;*
- *The child's class (bubble) has to quarantine for 2 weeks and we will start google classrooms again. The above advice applies to all members of the bubble;*
- *You can see why we are, unusually, asking that children stay at home if they seem ill!*
- *However there are other viruses out there and we will trust your judgement if you're sure it is a mild cold. I think investing in a new decent thermometer at home is a must!*
- *On a positive note, only 1.2% of Camden community testing has been positive and to date, no cases in our schools;*
- *And another, the children are being fantastic and adjusting to our new regime as are the staff - and you. Thank you.*

### Packed lunches

Things are going well with our new regime at lunch, ensuring children eat in their bubbles, and separated. 2 things would help keep us on track:

- Easy to eat simple packed lunches;
- Small packed lunch bags that simply contain lunch - and clearly named

A reminder about trying to limit packaging and plastic too. Thank you.

### Breakfast Club and Club EP

We're off! We have had a great start running our own playcentre and numbers are growing fast. Places **MUST** be pre-booked so that we have accurate records of who has attended. We will follow all the same hygiene routines and Covid expectations as school.

### Newsletter border designs

Thank you to Libby Spickernell in Year 2 for this week's border design. I need to build up stocks for this year please. Please come to my office and help yourself to a blank border if you would like to see yours in print!

### Two important date corrections

- The Spring term ends on Thursday 1 April - not Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> March.
- Sports Day is on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> July and not 29<sup>th</sup> June.

With best wishes,  
Kate Frod and staff.

We're back!!