



Looking forward to seeing your hair! We are opening before hairdressers open. Can anyone beat Coach Martin's hair growth?!

LOTS OF VERY IMPORTANT NEWS AND INFORMATION IN HERE!!

Thursday 18th June 2020

Dear everyone,

3 weeks in and all well; we are now at 87% attendance in the 4 year groups. We think it is all about hand-washing and are pleased to let you know we are installing 3 more external knee operated hand-washing stations next week! We are aware that some play-dates are happening, and that children are playing outside and at each others' houses. **Do PLEASE supervise the same level of hand-washing in these situations.**

Return to school for Years 2 3 4 and 5

We will definitely open for Years 2, 3, 4 and 5 next Monday as planned, extending our half day model. Please contact us TODAY if you did not receive your morning/afternoon email from Tania last week.

How it works!

Morning sessions are 9-12 and afternoon 12.30-3.30.

Years 1,3,4,5 and 6 will enter through the main gates.

Years N, R and 2 will use the Raveley St entrance. **Note Year 2 change.**

Please wait , physically distanced and not crowding either gate, at some point in the Home Zone. EP staff are out there to help this go smoothly. What would work best is having a regular 'position' which we can get to know and direct your child safely to. Please move out of the homezone as soon as you have picked up your child. It's working really well to date.

Bikes and scooters must stop at the gate.

For those of you in Years 2 3 4 and 5 who we really haven't seen since March 20th, our FAQs are repeated at the end of this newsletter. We can't wait to see you!

PTA news : Summer Fair - loss of income

We will not be able to have our annual Summer Fair and therefore have a loss to our income of almost £10,000. This year the PTA emptied its coffers and gave us £35,000 that, coupled with our 'Keep it EP' income of £13,000, has made a HUGE difference to balancing our budget. It is a concern that this year of all years we will sustain this loss.

The PTA committee, made up of class reps reps/key volunteers, is meeting (via zoom) tomorrow, 19 June to start putting together our "virtual" summer fair. This event is normally our biggest fundraiser of the year and it's going to be a challenge to raise anywhere near what we normally would. However, we are hopeful for some (socially distanced) opportunities to come together and raise much needed funds for the school. Please get in touch with your class reps or with Kate directly if you have any ideas you are able to organise.

Sponsor me for EP

For the PTA's first virtual fundraiser, we are inviting children (and even the whole family) to get involved in our "Sponsor me for EP" event. Choose a challenge that works for you as a family - running, cycling or walking, TV free days, learning to perform a new song or piece of music, a new "helping out at home" job, helping neighbours or the wider community - the more creative the better! Completed sponsorship form, sponsorship money (and any pictures) to be submitted to Tania via email by **Monday 13 July**.

Masks

In addition, in keeping with PTA and school focus on sustainability, some of our crafty parents are making wonderful reusable facemasks which can go in the washing machine (face coverings are now mandatory on public transport). If you are interested in purchasing an adult mask, please email Hannahkogilvie@gmail.com. We hope some children's masks will be available shortly.

Virtual Fair

Look out for our virtual summer fair, where you can buy Pimms, burgers and even have a go on the bouncy castle!

Black Lives Matter

What we're missing at the moment, is the ability to bring our school together for assemblies which are so much at the heart of EP – and key to our learning and to setting our priorities. In the current 'normal' I think therefore there hasn't been the same 'hotline' coming from school, not least about the Black Lives Matter movement. .

However I wanted to re-assure parents that we have talked about little else as a staff. As a predominately white staff we need to educate ourselves and try to understand; at the moment listening and learning are our most powerful tools. It can be easy to get used to not thinking about racial identity if it doesn't personally impact negatively during everyday life.

We have audited our books, are gathering links and resources and plan to decolonialise our history curriculum and include more black history. We have links with Runnymede Trust, the BBC and British

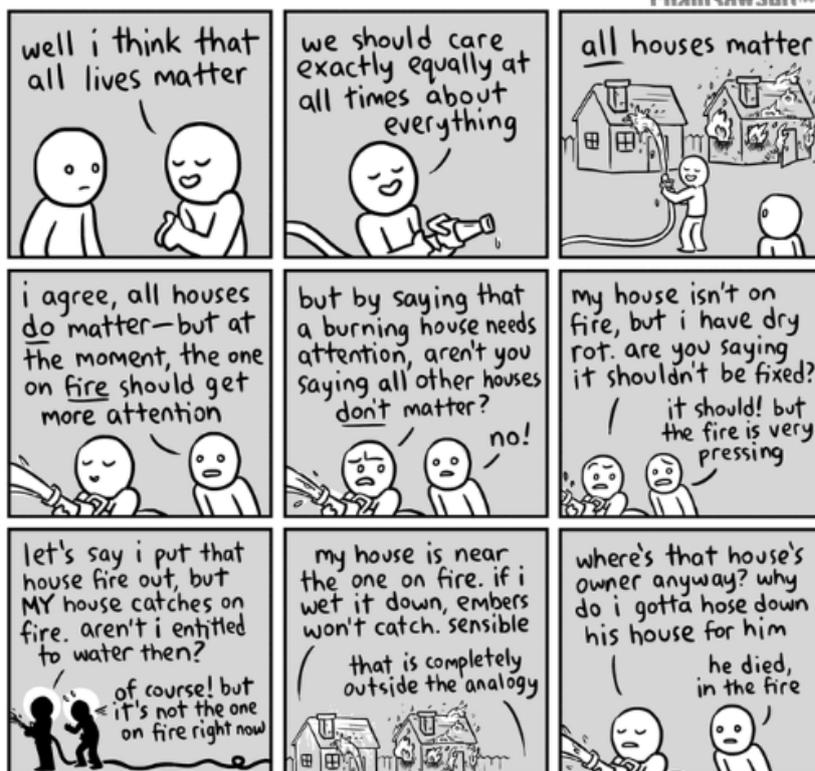


project, we are signed up the the Black Lives Matter website and are reading The Black Curriculum report.

This is a really good link for parents, full of ideas about how to talk about it with your child, books and films to share.

<https://yooopies.co.uk/c/press-releases/blacklivesmatter>

You may well have seen this cartoon on social media - it is a great metaphor with which to start conversations.



UKMT – United Kingdom Maths Challenge

A reminder about the good idea to practise for this! We are pleased that this is being made available online. We will manage this in school on **Friday 26th June** once Year 5 are fully back. I will be asking children in Years 5 and 6 who would like to try and will sort on line passwords etc.. Practising this complex challenge makes **ALL** the difference so do go to <https://www.ukmt.org.uk/competitions/solo/junior-mathematical-challenge/archive> and warm up!

We are delighted that a more accessible challenge has been launched for and we will organise this 'online entry' in the **week of 29th June**. If you'd like to have a go, the 2019 pilot paper can be found here https://www.m-a.org.uk/resources/FMC_2019.pdf. I've had a look and it is much more accessible to this age group than the main paper!

Parents' Evening and reports

Our lovely teachers have, of course, written their usual long and personal reports. Now I have to read them all! We will arrange times for appointments during the last 2 weeks of term and email the report

to you (paper copies will be given out at the gate too) prior to your meeting. Look out for details of how to book appointments – how and where yet to be decided!

Golden Book Assembly – now just for Years 2 3 4 and 5!

In our last shout out to all you brilliant home learners teachers would like to mention:

Mai in Year 2- has been a lovely creative and productive presence in the Year 2 classroom! Well done and thank you says Mr Cairns.

Skye in Year 3 – your efforts at home (esp that spooky story!) have really led to writing improvements says Miss T. Well done!

Emmanuel in Year 4 – Miss Cousins has loved your responses to work set – always original!

Isabella in Year 5. Team 5 think you have done ALL the set work! Fantastic.

A special mention to these ‘top ten progress’ children who have really improved their times table recall speed on Times Table Rock Stars. **The government definition of ‘fluent’ is answering a question within 6 seconds.** The chart below shows how many seconds they take to answer a question. We are so pleased with the progress!

		Start (seconds)	Now	Improvement
Gilbert	Y3	8.57	3.06	5.51
Riccardo	Y2	7.06	3.11	3.95
Jessica J	Y6	6	3.57	2.43
Reece	Y6	3.82	1.73	2.09
Lewis	Y4	4.35	2.38	1.97
Skye	Y3	4.69	2.8	1.89
Beab	Y3	2.84	1.17	1.64
Lawrie	Y3	2.9	1.41	1.48
Selina	Y4	3.26	2.14	1.12
Oliver	Y3	4.38	3.33	1.05

THIS NEXT SECTION IS A REPEAT OF FAQs FOR THOSE PARENTS BACK FOR THE FIRST TIME ON MONDAY. PLEASE READ.

Frequently Asked Questions

How will you manage drop off and pick up?

The morning group will arrive from 8.50-9 and must be collected at 12. Please collect promptly.

The afternoon group will arrive from 12.20-12.30 and will be collected at 3.30

We will be opening the Raveley St entrance (the blue gates) ; Nursery , Reception and Year 2 will use this entrance. Years 1,3,4,5, and 6 will use our main gates.

Smiley staff members will be dotted around the Home Zone and in Raveley Street wearing ‘high viz’ blue jackets. Staff will also be at the gate. We will gather children and guide them into school. Staff will ensure everyone then washes their hands.

Will parents be allowed on site?

I'm afraid not. Staff, including office staff, will be outside at drop off and pick up and will be available to talk. All staff will continue with their openness to email communication too.

Will my child have their own teacher?

Yes. Each class will have their own team and all our support team are here too so music, art and PE will happen within all these constraints. We are extremely lucky that all of Team EP are able and willing to work. Classes of 15 – wow! What a chance for some great learning.

How will you manage social distancing?

- Each class will be in their consistent group of 15, coined a 'bubble';
- These bubbles will stay together for the day in their own classroom;
- Playtimes will be staggered and different 'bubbles' will use different play areas;
- Classrooms will be re-organised to create a distance between children;
- We will not be having any school gatherings; assemblies, concerts, shows etc;
- As I said in a previous newsletter, whilst adults in schools are retaining a distance from each other and from parents, it really is impossible to expect our youngest children to sustain a distance from each other and from us if they need comfort or re-assurance or indeed support with their work. It is important parents accept the realities of this. The SAGE science advice on schools returning accepts this reality.

How will lunchtimes work?

Because of the constraints of the above, we will not be offering lunch at the moment other than for those 'small school' children staying all day.

Can my child bring a snack?

As the national fruit scheme is suspended until September, children may bring a healthy snack; fruit, cereal bars - no crisps, no chocolate - for break. **Please also send your child in with their own named water bottle which should come home every day for a wash.**

Will the children change for PE?

Each 'bubble' will of course have Coach Martin PE and on their set day, we'd ask children come to school in their PE kit as they do already.

Will you be taking temperatures on arrival?

No we won't. We will however be vigilant about signs of illness. See below.

Will the staff or children be wearing masks and other PPE?

No. The advice from Public Health England is that this is not necessary or indeed desirable in a school setting.

Staff will follow their normal practice when dealing with 'accidents' provided the child is not showing symptoms of coronavirus. PPE will be worn if anyone displays symptoms of suspected Covid.

Will there be trips?

Sadly no, no trips until further notice. We are in touch with Wick Court and Sayers Croft and very much hope these residentials might happen in the Autumn.

Will there be any wraparound care?

Not in this first phase. As we progress, and if guidance indicates it is ok to do so, we will return to our extended day.

Will remote learning continue if my child is unable to attend school?

Teachers will put suggested tasks and web links on each Monday.

Will staff still phone home?

We too have loved this contact! Phone calls will cease for any child back at school – and continue for those still at home. It might be a different grown up who calls.

Will there be clubs?

There will be no clubs in this first phase.

What other measures are in place to help keep our children safe?

- We will supervise proper handwashing on arrival and regularly thereafter . We think this is key. We have installed additional handwashing facilities outside;
- All water fountains have been shut off – we are asking children to bring their own NAMED water bottle;
- We have a tight cleaning schedule of all shared areas in the lunchtime turnaround – we will have additional cleaners and all our lovely staff will have key cleaning roles too. We are pleased that we have invested in a new system called Toucan Eco , a revolutionary new bio-cleaner that means we can stop using chemical cleaners and disposing of the single use plastic bottles they come in;
- Certain items of play equipment have been removed (eg playdough, soft toys);
- More learning will happen outside.

Manging our whole school health

We have now had three weeks with no one case of illness. Children have been excellent at following our new regular hand-washing routines.

However everything tumbles in our new regime if a child comes into school ill, and possibly with covid so I will persist in reminding you not to send your child in if they are symptomatic.

YOU MUST keep your child off if they (or any of you) show any of the following symptoms:

- a high temperature – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature). Your child might seem fatigued.
- a new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)



- a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

Testing is now available to anyone - including under 5s - who develops new coronavirus symptoms. To book a test, go to the **[national coronavirus testing website](#)** or phone 119. Testing is most effective within the **first three days** of a person experiencing symptoms. If you have any questions about coronavirus testing, please contact **covid-19queries@camden.gov.uk**.

We have gleaned that testing sites are mobile and locations change. We will ensure we have up to date information – just ask.

And finally, now that we are nearly normal, a reminder about attendance and punctuality!! As before all this, school starts promptly - be that 9am or 12.30 - and attendance is expected every day. Days off for birthdays or long weekends wouldn't have been sanctioned before! **Re-establishing the HABIT of school attendance is vital if we are to secure the life chances and well-being of our children.**

See you Monday!!!

Kate Ford