ELEANOR PALMER PRIMARY SCHOOL WEEKLY NEWSLETTER
SUMMER TERM 2014 NUMBER 7
www.eleanorpalmer.camden.sch.uk

Thursday 12th June 2014

Dear Families,

TOMORROW
Cake Sale hosted by Year 1
Camden Athletics all day at the Running Track . If you're in the squad, note that it is going to be hot and sunny so please dress appropriately, bring sun cream, a hat and enough water! Good luck!

Events in school next week, 16th - 20th June:

Monday 16th
Year 2 are working with a visiting artist all week to create giant mini-beasts for the playground!
Year 5 have a visit from two extraordinary brothers - Finn and Rory McCann who will share their stories and their thoughts on achieving life's goals.
Year 6 are going to the Royal Courts of Justice.

Tuesday 17th
Year 5 are off to the Royal Institution to extract their own DNA!
3.30pm Art Club and French Club

Wednesday 18th
Year 1 are going, by train, to Eagle Heights Bird of Prey Centre in Kent.

Our Summer Concert at 7pm. Gates open at 6.45pm and it is fine for performers to arrive then too *unless Laura specifically requests an early arrival for any reason.* There will be a bar both before and during the Concert. As many of you know, this is always a LONG evening but a real highlight of the school year celebrating all our musical talents. We will put the youngest children in the first half. Please stay right to the end if you can, to support all performers.

Thursday 19th
Year 3 are visiting Kew Gardens
Year 4 have an Archery lesson.
3.30pm Code Club

Friday 20th
Reception host the Cake Sale.

Thank you!
To Kara O'Kane in Reception for this week's border design.

Congratulations!
To Year 4 Girls football -Well done to our Year 4 Girls' Football team who narrowly missed out on the Camden Schools Cup, only losing to Gospel Oak in the final! A special well done to Leila Shafiq who played on, unwittingly, with a broken foot!

To Ben Harrison who came 3rd in the English U11 Squash finals - EP takes no credit for this but my goodness, what an achievement!

Unicorn Theatre
We are delighted that after a pan-London application process, we have been selected, from hundreds of schools, to be the Unicorn Theatre's 'Collaborate' partner school for the next academic year! The Unicorn Theatre is at London Bridge and is a leading centre for innovative and high quality children's theatre. This partnership means hundreds of free tickets for shows there, including press nights; workshops in schools related to each show; and for one lucky class, the chance to create and perform on their stage! Year 4 have already started the partnership by having a workshop about a new play, 'How Nigeria Became' that they will all go to see in the Autumn. Thanks to Nancy Cumming for leading on this!

Summer Fair 5th July!

Attached to this week's newsletter is a flier for this year's Summer Fair! Please read it and then put it up in your window! Over the next few weeks our brilliant PTA will be after offers of help, goods, time....all sorts of things that will help to make our Summer Festival the brilliant community event it always is. Even if you're short of time, could you donate an item for the auction? Cook a dish for the international food stall? This is the time when we expect **EVERY** family to play a part as a way of showing support to the school! Remember our long term goal is to raise the funds to convert the playground shelter into a multi-purpose space.

Estate agents Burghleys will make a donation to the Fair if 40 families display a board promoting the Fair outside their houses for 3 weeks. Please let the office know ASAP if you can help by having a board up.

Parent Governor Election

We are losing three of our long standing and most effective governors at the end of this term. Sarah Hodgetts and Sophie Harrison (both parents here) have done extended periods and been hugely significant in shaping and leading the successes of recent years. We also lose Dame Jane Roberts our local authority governor who has been equally supportive and significant. I am personally so grateful to them all for their clear vision, wise words, insightful questioning and practical support that has been so invaluable to me as headteacher here for many years.

After the last governor election, we had feedback that included a request for more direction from me/the school about what we were looking for in new parent governors. **If we look at current 'gaps' it is probably governors with time during the day that we lack. If you would have the capacity and flexibility at work to, for example, join Kate in interviewing for staff and/or meet with children to review curriculum initiatives during the day, that would be a real plus.**

More generally we are looking for candidates who want the opportunity to give their time and energy to the school in what is a very personally rewarding and responsible role. Governors at our school come from diverse social, employment and skills backgrounds, but what they have in common is the energy and interest to devote to challenging and supporting the school to be the best that it can be. You need to be able to commit to the annual schedule of committee and full governing body meetings (a total of 12 meetings a year: six at 6.30pm and six at 8am) and additionally take on monitoring and development projects across the school - for example supporting the teachers in the Rights Respecting agenda, reviewing the science curriculum, handling the parental questionnaire or looking to improve community engagement.

Please don't be put off by the fact that candidates have to go through an election process! Just showing your interest is greatly valued! Interested parents and carers should please complete the nomination slip below and write a 300 word pen picture of yourself setting out why you would be good in the role and send it with a recent portrait photo to Tania in the office (Tania@eleanorpalmer.camden.sch.uk) **by noon on Friday 20 June.** Candidate's details will be shared on **Monday 23 June** for an election on **Friday 4 July.** If you want more information about what being a governor entails please do contact Sarah Hodgetts, our current Chair of Governors, shodgetts@googlemail.com, talk to other parent governors or talk with me.

Please also find attached this year's governors' questionnaire to parents that forms a vital part of our self assessment each year. Please complete and return into questionnaire post box below the blackboard by Friday 20 June.

With best wishes,
Kate Frood and staff.

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ELEANOR PALMER PARENT GOVERNOR ELECTION 2014

Name..... Parent of .....

Nominated by.....Parent of .....

Seconded by ..... Parent of .....

I attach a personal statement and photo. Please return to the office by noon on Friday 20th June. Thank you!

ELEANOR PALMER

FIESTA

SUMMER FAIR

SAT 5TH JULY

COME ON → GET INVOLVED

We Need; SOFT TOYS / TOYS / CLOTHING / SHOES
BRIC-A-BRAC → ANYTHING YOU'VE HAD LYING AROUND THAT YOU DIDN'T GET ROUND TO EBAY-ING YET!!! DONATE IT TO SCHOOL ♥ ♥ ♥

We ALSO need; WINE / CAVA / CHAMPAGNE!) FOR TOMBOLA

ALL OF THE ABOVE CAN BE DROPPED OFF AT THE SCHOOL ENTRANCE AS OF NOW ♥ ♥ ♥

CAN YOU OFFER ANYTHING TO OUR SILENT AUCTION?!

- do you have a HOLIDAY HOME you are willing to donate for a week? Are you a season ticket holder who will give up a match? Do you create beautiful things and are willing to donate one of them? Are you a hairdresser who is prepared to donate a free haircut? Rack your brains... there may be something ♥ ♥ ♥

PLEASE SIGN THE VOLUNTEER BOARD WHICH WILL BE IN THE ENTRANCE HALL, THE MORE THE MERRIER ♥ GET INVOLVED ♥

Eleanor Palmer School

2014 Questionnaire for parents and carers

Questions 1-15 are consistent with the questionnaire for parents that OfSTED circulate prior to an inspection.

Please read the following statements and tick the answer which best fits what you think about the school. Please only tick one box per statement.

	(Please tick.)	Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	n/a
1	My child enjoys school					
2	The school keeps my child safe					
3	The school informs me about my child's progress					
4	My child is making enough progress at this school					
5	The teaching is good at this school					
6	The school helps me to support my child's learning					
7	The school helps my child to have a healthy lifestyle					
8	The school makes sure that my child is well prepared for the future (for example, changing year group, changing school, experience of life beyond this school)					
9	The school meets my child's particular needs					
10	The school deals effectively with unacceptable behaviour					
11	The school takes account of my suggestions and concerns					
12	The school takes account of pupils' views					
13	The range of extra curricular activities is good					
14	The school is led and managed effectively					
15	Overall, I am happy with my child's experience at this school					

PLEASE TURN OVER

One thing we really like about Eleanor Palmer School is:

One thing we'd like to see improved at Eleanor Palmer is:

Are there any other comments you would like to make?

Your child (ren)'s year group (s) .....

Thank you! Please return this to the box at the school entrance by **Friday 20th June .**