

Eleanor Palmer

Thank You

The Class of 2008-2016

Phoebe Cabbin
Mia Asa

Miss. Helen. Miss. Hill. Miss. Cumming. Janet. Miss. Tomson.
Dixie. Helen. Miss. Hill. Miss. Cumming. Janet. Miss. Tomson.
Miss. Helen. Miss. Hill. Miss. Cumming. Janet. Miss. Tomson.
Miss. Helen. Miss. Hill. Miss. Cumming. Janet. Miss. Tomson.

Teachers & T.A.s
Jake Renarto

What to do this summer

Have a wonderful holiday together. Remember that we set no homework in the holidays but here are some suggestions from us to ensure your children come back ready for a new school year:

- Have adventures however big or small and have stories to tell;
- Chat, chat, chat;
- Read, read, read! Use www.lovereadings4kids.co.uk. It recommends similar books if there's a genre/book you like.
- Or make sure you have an EP bookmark with you this summer with 5 suggested titles on;
- This year the Camden Summer Reading Challenge is called the Big Friendly Read, celebrating 100 years of Roald Dahl. Sign up at the library and receive a free collector's folder to keep the challenge cards in; a new card for every book read. Cards include Quentin Blake's illustrations from favourite Roald Dahl stories! The aim of the challenge is to get children to read any six (or more!) books of their choice from their library during the Summer holidays. In September we will start the year with a whole school focus on Roald Dahl so why not get ahead!
- The website www.bigfriendlyread.org.uk has lots more detail and includes book recommendations, author videos, competitions and games.
- And have FUN memorizing those number facts! To move into Year 4 with your times tables at your fingertips is THE most fantastic start....even better if you know them before Year 3. They really are the key that unlocks so much mathematics.
- Remember that our 'key mental maths skills' sheets are on the relevant Year Group page on our website, along with the 'by the end of year' detail of critical maths understanding for each class. Why not check out your next class and get ahead for next year!?
- Remember www.interactive-resources.co.uk. Username - eleanor, password - palmer. There are so many great games here to support memorisation.

Totally mental maths!

We have had 3 fantastic years of Extreme Reading photos from your summers, so this summer a new twist. After the success of Stay and Play, take a photo of some **totally mental maths**!!! What extreme location could you play cards, roll a dice, lay out your Numicon? Email photos to head@eleanorpalmer.camden.sch.uk anytime over the summer.

Camden's Summer Challenge Programme

Get ready for the school holidays with some amazing events, including strange sports and live music at Give it a Go! Festival, this Sunday from 1pm on Parliament Hill Fields. Enjoy nature trails, animal adventures and more on 21 July at Alexandra Road Park, or immerse yourself in the wonderful world of Roald Dahl by signing up to the Summer Reading Challenge.

Events tie in with the Camden Sentido and the fun continues for the whole summer with free and low-cost activities, including the Festival of Knowledge and Learning on 23 July and King's Cross Family Fun Day on 30 July, the Mais Um Discos Rio Olympics celebration on 4 August, and Project Yemanjá arts and crafts sessions at libraries around the borough.

Find out more: Visit the www.lovecamden.org website.

Thank you all once again for your fantastic support - and for your fantastic children. It has been another great year. Thanks to all our brilliant staff too who right now, really deserve a break!

Camden Sentido
With best wishes
Kate Frood and staff.

Cassidy
Aniyya
Maya
Aaron
Lara
Ava
Kitty
Kavi
Psartall
Keifer
Mathusz
Joe
William
TJ
Leila
Alice

Maave
Maddy
Beany
Sammy
Nell
Archie
Thea



14 July 2016

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a great year for Eleanor Palmer! As Tim Peake took to the skies and the nation was swept up in the space craze, we were particularly fortunate to have a truly special opportunity to connect directly with the International Space Station and astronaut Kjell Lindgren. Thank you to everyone who helped make this happen, including and especially all pupils for their insightful and creative questions. This year also saw exciting scientific activities in the form of the Solar Schools programme and the new science lab beginning to take shape. The solar panel fundraising effort was a huge success – thank you in particular to Sarah Ewins for all her hard work in this. There will be environmental benefits for many years to come. We are also looking forward to work starting on the science block imminently – watch this space!

In developments outside of the school, we are seeing changes in the way that schools are structured and funded across the country; we can't ignore the impact this might have on our own school. We want to take this opportunity to reassure everyone that the governors and senior leadership team at Eleanor Palmer are already ahead of the curve and doing a huge amount of forward planning to ensure that we retain all the things that make Eleanor Palmer so amazing. If you have any questions about this, please don't hesitate to talk to Miss Flood or to ask one of the governors (grab a parent governor in the playground, if you can!).

We say goodbye to staff members Lizzie Lumb and Beth Elliott who are re-locating out of London. A thank you from governors for all they have given to our school. Issie Denham leaves her role as teaching assistant and returns on our teacher training programme in September.

Your thoughts and feedback on life at Eleanor Palmer are incredibly important to us. Thank you to everyone who completed this year's parent survey – please see the results attached. As many of you will know, we use the same questions each year so we can assess how we are doing over time – please do take the time to read through the summary provided. The governors will be looking carefully at the results of the survey to ensure we can build on all those aspects you feel are running successfully and to ensure we address all those areas you feel could be better.

We have also carried out a staff survey for the third year running and the results were very positive, with some marked improvements on last year. For example, 100% of staff believe that Eleanor Palmer is managed well and, importantly, 100% of staff feel valued for the work they do.

Finally, I am stepping down as both a governor and from my role as Chair at the end of term. It has been a huge pleasure and an immense privilege to be involved with such a brilliant school – thank you to everyone for being so welcoming, friendly, supportive and, most importantly, enthusiastic about the continued success of this amazing school.

With all best wishes for a fantastic summer,

Alice Barling Gasson
Chair of Governors

Parent questionnaire 2016

	2016			2015			2014		
	AGREE	DISAGREE	N/A	AGREE	DISAGREE	N/A	AGREE	DISAGREE	N/A
My child enjoys school	100	0	0	97	3	0	94	4	2
The school keeps my child safe	98	1	1	97	3	0	98	1	1
The school informs me about my child's progress	90	10	0	93	7	0	94	4	2
My child is making enough progress at this school	89	11	0	96	4	0	95	0	4
The teaching is good at this school	100	0	0	96	3	1	99	0	1
The school helps me support my child's learning	95	5	0	94	6	0	93	6	1
The school helps my child to have a healthy lifestyle	95	4	1	96	1	3	93	4	3
The school makes sure that my child is well prepared for the future	91	3	6	86	6	8	85	4	8
The school meets my child's particular needs	88	9	3	87	7	6	85	10	4
The school deals effectively with unacceptable behaviour	86	8	6	74	13	13	82	10	9
The school takes account of my suggestions and concerns	86	10	4	80	8	12	88	7	4
The school takes account of pupil views	92	5	3	81	6	13	88	4	7
The range of extracurricular activities is good	83	13	4	80	11	9	79	12	7
The school is led and managed effectively	99	1	0	97	3	0	98	0	2
Overall I am happy with my child's experience	100	0	0	96	4	0	97	1	2

(The above figures are the % of responses that fell into each category)

We had a total of 77 responses from parents, which is a small increase on last year's 70. However, those responses covered a total of 113 children, which is a marked increase on last year's 78. Responses also came from a good range of year groups across the school, which is important. We are already looking into all the best ways to collect responses next year and we are exploring potential new formats for the survey.

The format of the above table combines the two degrees of agreement or disagreement, which is more relevant to the strongly agree/agree categories simply because, as with previous years, there are overwhelmingly more of these. The column "N/A" in the table above includes not just the N/A on the original survey but also those few items that were left blank.

Ofsted advises that schools need to have 85% agreement with positive statements in order to consider their provision, from a parents' point of view, as outstanding. As you can see from the table, we are showing over 85% agreement against all statements except one (which is addressed below). We are particularly pleased to see a significant increase in the number of parents who feel that unacceptable behaviour is dealt with effectively. It is also great to see 100% agreement with some statements. Where there have been any decreases in agreement, the governing body will look at these specifically and work with the senior leadership team to think about whether/how improvements can be made. For example, we regularly review progress data together to ensure that all children are making the progress they should be. If you have any feedback about the new reporting arrangements, statutory assessments and the focus on reaching 'expected levels' for each year group, please do pass it on.

It was great to see such a huge range of comments, all of which have been looked at closely by the leadership team and the governors. I have highlighted a few examples below, focusing on those aspects of the school that were mentioned multiple times.

Regarding what you like about Eleanor Palmer, the comments really focused on the community feel, the friendliness, and the supportive and nurturing aspects of the school. One comment was that there is a "sense of school community which goes beyond education" and another that "the teachers really care" and that they are "engaged, pro-active and exceptional...this shines through in everything they do."

In terms of improvements, there were a couple of things that were mentioned a few times:

- School dinners. There was a clear feeling that there could be improvements to both the quality and quantity.
We are taking this forward immediately, looking into the current provision and considering how we can ensure this important part of the day is as good as it can be.
- More after-school clubs/activities with more art and drama opportunities.
This is a recurring theme of parent questionnaires each year and something that we are always reviewing and looking in to. As a small primary school, we have obvious limitations on the range of activities we can offer (e.g. space, teacher time); we endeavour to make sure that what we are able to offer meets the needs of as many children as possible. Another principle that we continue to adhere to is to keep all clubs free - expanding the offer could necessitate charging.

If you have any questions about the survey or how the school gathers parental feedback more generally, please don't hesitate to talk to a member of staff or a member of the governing body.