

# Eleanor Palmer P.P.

## ELEANOR PALMER PRIMARY SCHOOL WEEKLY NEWSLETTER AUTUMN TERM 2018 NUMBER 1 [www.eleanorpalmer.camden.sch.uk](http://www.eleanorpalmer.camden.sch.uk)

Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2018

Dear Families,

Welcome back to the Autumn term and a new school year! I hope everyone has had a happy and restful summer holiday! Term has started well with children settling into their new classes. There are meetings next Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> with each classteacher to hear more about the year ahead, expectations and routines. See below.

A warm welcome to Lacey Cousins, our new Year 4 teacher. We also have two new support assistants, Stephanie Sullivan-Swallow and Deanna Brunyee. You will notice that almost all other support staff have popped up in different classrooms! This is great for them to keep fresh and challenged and also good for the children to avoid an overdependence on a particular person. As Fiona Crean has started her new life as a Headteacher, I am delighted that Sally Hill is our new 'co-deputy' with Natalie Stevenson...Natalie works Monday to Wednesday and Sally Wednesday to Friday. Tom Gibson will be 'floating' and dividing his time between leading groups for science in the Lab and covering Year 5 and Reception. Expect him to pop up everywhere!

Events in school next week, 10<sup>th</sup> - 14<sup>th</sup> September (clubs and 8am football start in the week of 19<sup>th</sup>)

### Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup>

8am Cross Country training! Join Coach Martin (and parent volunteers please!) this Tuesday and next, on an early morning jog to the Heath; training for the Camden Cross Country on the 28<sup>th</sup>.

3.30-4.30 First team football team trials for all children in Years 4, 5 and 6. There will be a second trial the week after on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup>. From this, Coach Martin will pick the girls' and boys' teams for the Camden League which starts on October 30<sup>th</sup>. However, all keen children will get a chance to represent EP in friendlies against other schools. We are lucky that Coach Martin is now so well networked with other schools and with Talacre.

### Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup>

8am Governors Curriculum Committee.

9am Camden School for Girls Open Morning.

6.30pm and 7.15pm 'Meet the Teacher' Evening. NB Year 6 is 6pm and 7.15pm as so much to cover as we include Wick Court and secondary transfer! Ahead of our one to one meetings with individual parents, each teacher will do a short introductory talk about the year ahead and explain what lies ahead, routines and expectations for the class and ways in which parents can support. There will of course be time for questions too. Because many of you have two or more children each teacher will talk at 6.30pm and then again at 7.15pm. I will ring a bell at changeover time! This is a good opportunity to meet up with other parents in your class too. Please note: these are adult only meetings.

### Thursday 13<sup>th</sup>

8am Governors Resources Committee.

Years 4 and 6 start swimming at Kentish Town Baths.

### Friday 14<sup>th</sup>

9am Camden School for Girls Open Morning.

Our first Cake Sale of the year hosted by Year 3.



Yr 1

Yr 2

Yr 3

Yr 4

Yr 5

Yr 6



$$\begin{array}{r} 8 \\ \times 8 \\ \hline 64 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 7 \\ \times 7 \\ \hline 49 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 6 \\ \times 6 \\ \hline 36 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 5 \\ \times 5 \\ \hline 25 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 4 \\ \times 4 \\ \hline 16 \end{array}$$

$$3 \times 3 = 9 \quad | \quad 2 \times 2 = 4 \quad | \quad 1 \times 1 = 1 \quad \star$$



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## Shed Talks

Our popular talks, on a range of subjects and led by both our own staff and visitors, are moving to Friday mornings at 9am. Look out for a programme. However we had fixed two already for Tuesdays. The headteachers of Acland Burghley and Parliament Hill schools will be coming on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> September respectively. We are incredibly lucky to get this 'exclusive', rather than an audience of 300 on an open evening. Come along and hear about their schools and ask questions about secondary transfer and education in general. These meetings are open to ALL parents not just Year 6!

## Our trip system - very important

You should all have received a pink letter attached to this newsletter detailing our system for dealing with our many trips this year. Regular trips that enrich the curriculum are essential to our style of teaching and learning. To make life simpler for you and the office, as explained in the letter, we ask for one slip and one contribution this month, *to cover your contribution for all trips, workshops, artists, storytellers and visitors for the entire year. We will not ask for any more unless you have a residential.* We will continue to remind/notify you of every trip and on each occasion, you have the right to withdraw permission (although no one ever has!). Please return slips and contributions to the office, ideally in a named envelope. If you didn't get the all important pink letter please ask! We will be nagging so this is all sorted by the end of the month: it must be sorted before your child's first trip.

## School Journey payments - Years 5 and 6 only

Final instalments are due before the residential trip departs. Not long now! Year 6 leave on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> September for Wick Court Farm in Gloucestershire and Year 5 to Sayers Croft in Surrey on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> October. Please see Tania in the office if you'd like to make more payments or find out what you still owe.

## Website

Everything is now 'rolled over' and up to date. We have set it up so that you can still access last year's photos...there are links from your new home class page. Scroll down to the bottom of your new year group page and click on 'my previous years' to be reminded of all the things you have ever done at EP; we are into our 7<sup>th</sup> year now.

## Secondary transfer

It is the season for making decisions about secondary schools for Year 6. This all happens very quickly and can become overwhelming! A poster is up at the entrance, Years 6 and 5 will get a list of all Camden school events attached to this newsletter, and I will put all dates for our local schools' open mornings and evenings in the newsletter. We positively encourage day-time visits and are happy for children in both Years 5 and 6 to miss sessions of school to be part of visits. Please let us know in advance. Such absence is coded as present and will not count in your child's overall attendance record!

Note the Camden drop-in event at the Camden Centre, on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> from 3.30 to 6.30pm where all our secondary schools will be present to talk in detail about what they offer. This is open to all interested parents. Register at [www.eventbrite.co.uk](http://www.eventbrite.co.uk) (search Camden Moving On 2018).

The latest Camden secondary schools admissions guide is now available on the Camden website too: printed copies will be sent to us soon. Having done the process over 20 times both as a head and as a parent, I am always happy to talk through options with parents. Do simply catch me/email to fix a meeting.

## Can you help?

For many years now we have offered 8am football - for Years 3-6 on Tuesdays and Years 1-2 on Mondays. It is a really popular institution. This has been possible through the generous volunteering of parents. As another core group of parents move into the Juniors we are in need of more volunteers for Mondays and Years 1-2! Are there any parents who might join the rota?



Yr 1

Yr 2

Yr 3

Yr 4

Yr 5

Yr 6



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## Newsletter border designs

Thank you to Keira Habenicht in Year 3 for this week's border design, designed last year! 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!

## Cake Sale dates

A long standing and much enjoyed tradition here, is that almost every Friday, classes take turns to buy or makes cakes and biscuits which are then sold after school with all the takings going into School Fund. You can drop cakes off in the morning, or bring them at 3.30pm. Three or four parents need to volunteer to set up and man the stall from 3.15pm as it's hectic! Here are the dates; please make a note of your dates:

Friday 14th Sept	Year 3	Friday 19th Oct	Year 4
Friday 21st Sept	Year 2	Friday 2nd Nov	Year 6
Friday 28th Sept	All - Macmillan *	Friday 9th Nov	Reception
Friday 5th Oct	Year 1	Friday 16th Nov	Nursery
Friday 12th Oct	Year 5		

\* As it is Macmillan Cancer Support's 'Big Coffee Morning' on the 28th we thought we would raise money for this brilliant charity on that day. Cakes welcome from anyone

## A few start of term reminders and nags:

- The gates open at 8.45am. Please do not arrive or drop off before then unless you are paying for Breakfast Club, in which case we can take care of your children from 8am in the hall. Again, please don't come before then! Classrooms are open from 8.55am to allow for a 'soft start' and then straight to work at 9am. If your child prefers to play in the playground until the bell rings at 9am that is fine too;
- At the end of the day a senior member of staff will 'sweep' you out of the playground at 3.45. Teachers have several hours of work to do after school and we need to get on!
- We have many ways to pay bills and a friendly and 'open all hours' office - please settle up on time;
- We don't allow any jewellery, other than simple stud earrings;
- Please ensure that long hair (boys too) is tied up - it helps focus in class and helps prevent the spread of nits;
- We are a water only school: both in school (lunchtime) and out of school (on trips). We allow smoothies, but a firm no to sugary flavoured waters;
- Scooters and bikes must be parked tidily behind Years 5 and 6. Whenever we have a fire drill, there are always bikes and scooters scattered across the space. In the event of a real fire this could cause an accident and a delay. If any bikes and scooters are left overnight (and often for days) we cannot take responsibility for their disappearance;
- We don't allow toys in school.

This is a mammoth first mail-out! PTO for a fridge list of all our fixed dates for the year. As well as that all important trip slip, also attached, once again, are this year's term dates. With such good notice of dates, in paper and on the website, there shouldn't be any 'accidental' holiday bookings!

On that note, we are brilliant at giving notice, telling you what is happening and opening up opportunities...but it does rely on pupil post! Having found a stray book bag on day 1, full of newsletters etc. from last year I wonder sometimes if letters don't make it home! **PLEASE** check book-bags; in particular make sure you get the Thursday (orange, whole school) newsletter and Friday (yellow, class) newsletter. Alternatively check our always-up-to-date website and calendar: the orange newsletter is uploaded every Thursday without fail.

Our other key communication method is texting. If your contact numbers have changed you **MUST** notify the office, not just so we can update our texting system but so that we can contact you in an emergency. We hope to launch our app soon too!

With best wishes and high hopes for another great year ahead,

Kate Froud and staff.

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### Key dates for this term (full details of each nearer the time)

- Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> September - Meet the Teacher Evening at 6pm and 7.15pm.
- Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> September at 9am Meet Nicholas John, Headteacher of Acland Burghley
- Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> September at 9am Meet Sara Creasy, Headteacher of Parliament Hill
- Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> September - PTA Meeting at 7.30. .
- Friday 28<sup>th</sup> September - Friday 5<sup>th</sup> October - - Wick Court School Journey for Year 6
- Friday 28<sup>th</sup> September - the Camden Schools' Cross Country for Years 3-6. Sadly Y6 will miss it as they will be at Wick Court. Fear not - we are organising an exclusive!
- Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> October - CBC Night
- Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> October - One to One Parents' Evening from 4.30-7.30pm. Teachers will offer alternative daytime appointments too during the same week. *Note Year 5's will be on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> October as Susie is away at Sayers Croft.*
- Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> October 6.30-8pm - Welcome party for all Nursery and Reception families
- 15<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup> October - Sayers Croft School Journey for Year 5
- **Half term - the week of 22<sup>nd</sup> October**
- Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> November - the unmissable EP DISCO!!
- Monday 12<sup>th</sup> November - Primary Maths Challenge for Key Stage 2
- Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> November - we hope to enter a team in the Camden Year 5 and 6 basketball. Exciting new event!! (Look out for a new club starting 8am Tuesdays in October!)
- Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> December - Year 5 Shakespeare production at 2pm
- Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> December at 2pm - Whole school Carol Service
- Friday 21<sup>st</sup> December - EP's Got Talent and last day of term.

### Dates already fixed for later in the school year

- Monday 7<sup>th</sup> January - Staff INSET. School starts for children Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup>.
- Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> January - EP Family BINGO
- Our annual Challenge Partners review - 14<sup>th</sup> - 16<sup>th</sup> January
- Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> January - mid-year One to One Parents' Evening
- Half term- the week of 18<sup>th</sup> - 22<sup>nd</sup> February
- Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> April - Year 4 Show
- Friday 5<sup>th</sup> April - the 16<sup>th</sup> Great Egg Race and last day of Spring term
  
- Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April - start of Spring term for all
- Friday 26<sup>th</sup> April - Camden Schools' Swimming Gala for Years 3-6
- Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> April - UKMT Maths Challenge
- Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> /Weds 8<sup>th</sup> May - Year 3 and 4 Football Tournament
- 13<sup>th</sup> - 17<sup>th</sup> May - SATs Week for Year 6
- Half term - the week of 27<sup>th</sup> May - 31<sup>st</sup> May
- Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June - Staff INSET. School closed to children.
- Monday 10<sup>th</sup> June -Staff INSET. School closed to children.
- Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> June - Camden Athletics (Y5 and 6)
- Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> June - Summer Concert
- Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> - Friday 21<sup>st</sup> June - Year 2 adventure at The Mill
- Tues 25<sup>th</sup> - Weds 26<sup>th</sup> June - Year 4 Camping survival trip
- Friday 28<sup>th</sup> June - Camden Athletics (Y3 and 4)
- Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> July - Sports Day. TBC
- Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> July - The Summer Festival
- Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> July - End of year Parents' Evening
- Friday 12<sup>th</sup> July - Year 6 Leavers' Family Barbecue
- Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> July - Year 6 Leavers' Show
- Friday 19<sup>th</sup> July - last day of term

All trip details will be in your weekly yellow newsletter (first one tomorrow) from your class.