



**ELEANOR PALMER PRIMARY SCHOOL WEEKLY NEWSLETTER**  
**SPRING TERM 2019 NUMBER 12**  
[www.eleanorpalmer.camden.sch.uk](http://www.eleanorpalmer.camden.sch.uk)

Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> April 2019

Dear Families,

Events in school in the first week of next term, 22<sup>nd</sup> - 26<sup>th</sup> April

**REMEMBER THERE ARE NO CLUBS IN THE FIRST WEEK! BREAKFAST CLUB AND PLAYCENTRE OPEN AS USUAL**

**TOMORROW**

The 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Eleanor Palmer Egg Race, a wonderful EP tradition. This is one of the favourite events in the EP calendar and not to be missed!

Nursery, Years 1, 3 and 5 race at 9.15am and Reception, 2, 4 and 6 at approximately 10.45am; however, we can't be exact!

Special guest judge! Mike Vanis who designed our science playground and built the CCTV cameras with Year 4.

We come back to school on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April, straight after Easter Monday - there is no INSET day!

**Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> April**

Easter Monday. No school.

**Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April**

First day back for everyone. We will see you in good time for the bell at 9am.

We are being visited by the SACRE (Standing Advisory Committee on Religious Education) committee to assess our assemblies.

**Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> April**

No early morning clubs this week!

**Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> April**

No early morning clubs this week!

**Friday 26<sup>th</sup> April**

No early morning clubs this week!

The Camden Swimming Gala. Squad members have had all the details.

**Thank you!**

To Conti Hall in Year 3 for this week's border design.

**Quad Kids this Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> April**

Have an active start to the holidays at Highgate Harriers Quad Kids this Sunday. Two age groups - under 7s and 7-11s, with everyone having a go at four events: a short run, a jump, a throw and a longer run. No need to be a member of Harriers, just turn up to register at 11.30 for events from midday. £3 a child. Email Brenda at [highgateharriersquadkids@gmail.com](mailto:highgateharriersquadkids@gmail.com) for more information.

**School Meal prices**

Camden have made a small 5p increase to meal prices. Meals will cost £2.18 a day from the start of next term.



### Message from the PTA: Summer Fair - Saturday 6 July

We're gearing up for the Summer Fair, a great event and our biggest fundraiser of the year. Please do join us on Friday 10 May at 9-10am in the Shed for a planning meeting.

The Fair is a great school and community event, and that's thanks to everyone who comes along to support it on the day. Please get in touch with Hannah and Lucy if you want to know more or can help:

[hannahkogilvie@gmail.com](mailto:hannahkogilvie@gmail.com) / [lucyjw78@gmail.com](mailto:lucyjw78@gmail.com)

### Full list of important dates for the Summer term

It is always busy! Please make a note of these dates.

- Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> April. UKMT National Maths Challenge for Years 5 and 6 (and some of Years 3 and 4).
- Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> May (or possibly Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup>) Y3 and Y4 Football tournament on the Heath
- Friday 10<sup>th</sup> May 9am A PTA open meeting if you're willing and able to help with the Summer Fair
- Monday 13<sup>th</sup> - Friday 17<sup>th</sup> May Year 6 SATS Week
- Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> May - Summer Concert auditions
- Friday 17<sup>th</sup> May SHED Talk on Sleep (more dates to come)
- Weds 22 May Day for Change
- Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> May Strings Concert by Years 3 and 6
- **HALF TERM Monday 27<sup>th</sup> - Friday 31<sup>st</sup> May**
- Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June - INSET day. School closed to pupils
- Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> June - School photo.
- Monday 10<sup>th</sup> June - INSET Day. School closed to pupils
- 18<sup>th</sup> June - Y5 and 6 Athletics
- Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> June - The Summer Concert
- **Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> - Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> June Y4 camping (you may have this listed as 25<sup>th</sup>/26<sup>th</sup> but the campsite have told us this is not now possible)**
- 27-28<sup>th</sup> June - Year 2 adventure to the Mill
- Friday 28 June - Year 3 and 4 Athletics
- Monday 1<sup>st</sup> July - new Reception visit
- Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> July - Sports Day
- Weds 3<sup>rd</sup> July - new Nursery visit
- Weds 10<sup>th</sup> July - end of year parents and reports
- Friday 12<sup>th</sup> July - Year 6 BBQ and sleepover
- Weds 17<sup>th</sup> July - Year 6 show
- Friday 19<sup>th</sup> July - end of term at 1.30pm

The school year then ends on **Friday July 19<sup>th</sup> at 1.30pm**. Some other Camden schools finish early the following week but they brought forward the Christmas holidays to Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> December last year whilst we went to Friday 21<sup>st</sup> December.

And so this term comes to an end. It's been short but action packed as usual. Highlights include our visits from Mike and Dan, our engineer and scientist in the Lab, the potential to win an RIBA award for our Lab, BINGO Night, World Book Day, the Year 4 dramatisation of the Iron Man, the Year 5 Strings Concert, the dinosaur hunt in Reception, sporting success winning the boys' league and making the final; maths success in winning the Primary Maths Challenge and the Year 3 Spring Slam.

But actually, what makes our job worthwhile and what all the staff love, are the small things every day in class; the progress, the successes, the breakthroughs and the endless funny moments. We all love our job and this school but right now we are ready for a break! Enjoy the time off and let's hope the sun shines.

With best wishes,  
Kate Frood and staff

## GOVERNOR NEWSLETTER: EASTER 2019

Dear parents and carers

We wanted as a governing body to take the opportunity of this (intermittent) newsletter to update you on some the work that we have been doing since the start of the school year and to alert you to some important things ahead in the coming term.

It is vital that the governors know the school and its work well. We receive data and information on a whole range of areas from the school and from other sources. Vicky does an excellent job on showing us the financial situation, and this goes to the Resources Committee and the whole governing body. We have complete access to all the national and local statistics on standards and performance as well as the regular monitoring that the school carries out on its own priorities. I attend the annual conversation between Camden local authority (now called Camden Learning) and the school about the achievements of the previous year and the priorities for the next.

More than this, though, the governors make sure that they are seeing for themselves some of the aspects of the school's work. Regularly every term there will be, for example, governors listening to pupil focus groups, or talking to staff about their experiences or monitoring that the safeguarding processes are as they are described in the policy. On numerous occasions, governors have stepped in to help on particular issues - the building of the science block springs to mind! I am very proud of the time and dedication that all our governors show in this.

Importantly, we hear directly from you through the regular parents' survey and we discuss the findings – and all your comments – at length at our summer governing body meeting and they inform the priorities for the next year. We wanted to share with you one or two of the many examples of this in practice. We heard from the survey that there were some particular concerns about safety and well-being for pupils. So the school commissioned two external audits (on provision for special educational needs and safeguarding) to check that the practice was as good as it could be. Both reports found the provision to be outstanding. The One O'Clock club is responding to the observation that some pupils benefit from a more structured session at playtime. The school has undertaken a completely innovative project to investigate the use of the playground working in groups to observe key areas and interactions. The insights are already being taken forward through staff meeting and small changes agreed so as to ensure happy playtimes for everyone.

All this is part of what the governors do in guiding the school in line with its ethos and values. Of course, one of the most important responsibilities of the governors is agreeing the school budget. No doubt you will have heard about the school funding situation and may have heard from other schools about the challenges they are facing in terms of rising costs and limited resources. Eleanor Palmer is no different from other schools. We have the benefit of an immensely skilled, dedicated and resourceful staff and governors who have steered the school well over the years. But it is the case that the situation is, for many reasons, becoming more difficult. We have been discussing this, as a matter of priority at our recent meetings and want to talk with you about this next term.

The governors wish you a very happy holiday. We are hoping that if there is some good weather you'll be able to enjoy the longer days and the return of the sun!

Jen Allan (Chair of Governors)

