



ELLEN WILKINSON PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER 20 - 9th February 2022



Dear Parents & Carers,

Welcome to this week's newsletter.

Learning Fair

Last Friday we held our Quarter 2 Learning Fair, this is when children in years 1 to 6 visit each other's classrooms to hear about what children have been studying this quarter.



These sessions are run and delivered by the children and are an important part of our curriculum to help children embed their knowledge of their unit and promote children's self-esteem and confidence. However, this event meant we did not have our usual Friday Celebration assembly and so there will be double stars etc in the next newsletter.

Parent Governor Applications - We Need You!



Sadly, one of our parent governors has resigned as they have moved out of the area. We send our thanks to Monica Di Piazza for her contribution to our school and wish her well in her family's exciting new chapter.

We therefore now have a parent governor vacancy. Paper copies of the governor application form will be sent home with your child later this week. So why not get involved and help shape the education our children experience!

If you would like to know more about the time commitment and role before applying please contact the main office who will arrange for someone to contact you.

Book Fair

The book fair is in the playground for the rest of this week at the end of the day (weather permitting).

Half term

Please check the community section of this week's newsletters for information about lots of free activities you may want your child to be involved in.

If your child qualifies for free school meals you should have already received an email in relation to the food vouchers for next week. If you have any questions about this please contact Ms Doody in the main office.



It just remains for me to wish you all a lovely half term next week and we look forward to welcoming everyone back on Monday 21st February.

Take care and stay safe.

Sue Ferguson

General Information

Dress to Express - Friday 11th FEBRUARY

Just to remind you that this Friday is "Dress to Express", our apologies for the error in last week's newsletter.

For 'Dress to Express' we are encouraging children and staff to come to school wearing a colourful outfit that makes them happy. This event will not only raise awareness for children's mental health week but enable our children to explore different ways they can express themselves and share feelings, thoughts, or ideas. Children will also be completing some fun activities on Friday afternoon. We have requested for a donation of £1 is given either via the donation bucket, or ParentMail which will go to a mental health charity.





Governors' update

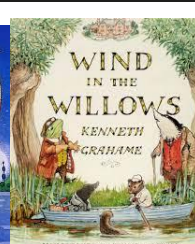
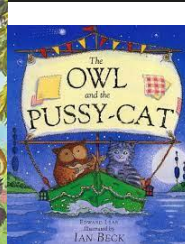
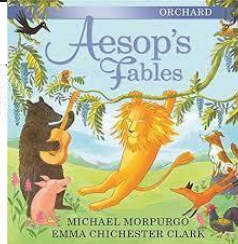
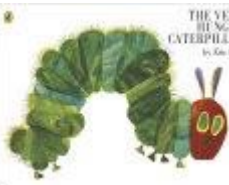
The Governing Body met last Thursday. At our meeting we have regular agenda items including monitoring the school budget, reports back from committees, provision for pupils with special educational needs, safeguarding and the latest attendance figures.

At this meeting we also discussed the results of the parent survey completed in November. We were pleased at the number of surveys handed in, thank you. In general, the results were very positive but we also considered any issues raised and how the School and governors should respond. The results of this survey will be available in the Governors Newsletter soon.

We also spent some time completing a questionnaire for Newham on governing body effectiveness. This will also help us plan for any improvement needs identified.

Marie Christie - Chair of Governors.

Advance Notice - World Book Day - Thursday 3rd March



It's that time of year again! Our Classics Week, will be taking place on the week beginning Monday 28th February, and will once again coincide with World Book Day 2022. Our theme this year will be animals in Classic Literature, and we will be reading the timeless tales of Beatrix Potter and 'The Wind in the Willows' by Kenneth Grahame.

On Thursday 3rd of March, WBD will be celebrating 25 years, which is a testament to how much we all love reading. The children will have opportunities to Drop Everything and Read throughout the day, be read to, and will compete for the title of Best World Book Day costume. **This year we are asking that children (and staff) dress up as animal characters from books.**

For those looking for ideas, Beatrix Potter and Kenneth Grahame have written of many animal characters to inspire your costumes, alternatively there are many other books which feature animals such as the 'Hungry Caterpillar' by Eric Carle, 'The Owl & The Pussy Cat' by Edward Lear, Aesop's Fables and many titles by Roald Dahl. We look forward to seeing the books your children are reading come to life!

Ms Khan, Ms Foster and Ms Burchell

Learning Tips



Well-being - Check in with your friends

Young people need to learn to take care of their minds as well as their bodies. Lots of things can damage the way they feel and think, and it's more common than people realise – one in every five children, for example, struggles with their mental health. Sending memes, jokes and messages online is easy – but finding the right words to talk to a friend who's having a hard time can be tricky.

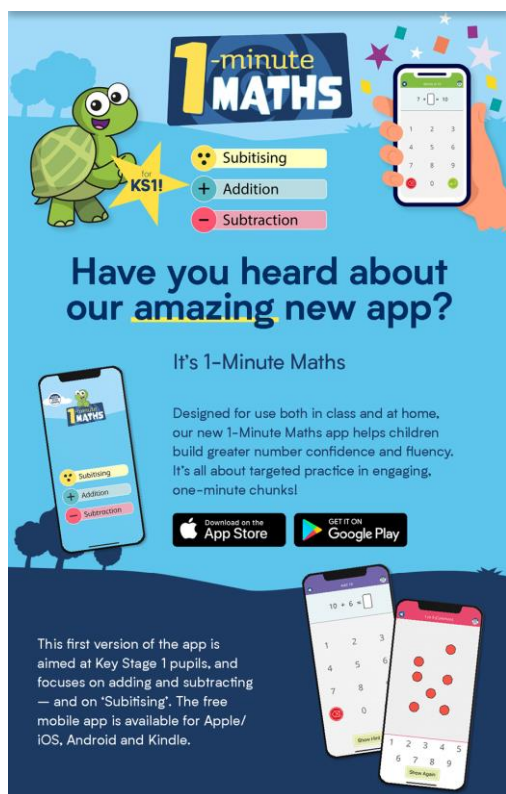
See the poster attached for some ideas that could help your child find the right time – and the right way – to check in with a friend. In the guide, you'll find tips such as sending nice messages, asking how you can help someone and being a good listener.

This guide will also shortly be put on our website parents' tab/e-safety tips

<https://www.ellenwilkinson.newham.sch.uk/page/?title=E%2DSafety+Tips&pid=136>

Maths

1 minute maths is a free app that gives children greater number confidence with 1 minute a day challenge.



1-minute MATHS

KS1!

- Subitising
- Addition
- Subtraction

Have you heard about our amazing new app?

It's 1-Minute Maths

Designed for use both in class and at home, our new 1-Minute Maths app helps children build greater number confidence and fluency. It's all about targeted practice in engaging, one-minute chunks!

Download on the App Store | GET IT ON Google Play

This first version of the app is aimed at Key Stage 1 pupils, and focuses on adding and subtracting — and on 'Subitising'. The free mobile app is available for Apple/iOS, Android and Kindle.

E- Safety

Tuesday 8th February is Safer Internet Day. The theme is:



**All fun and games?
Exploring respect and relationships online**

Safer Internet Day inspires a national conversation about using technology responsibly, respectfully, critically, and creatively. Coordinated in the UK by the UK Safer Internet Centre, the celebration sees thousands of organisations get involved to promote the safe, responsible, and positive use of digital technology for children and young people.

The UK Safer Internet Centre has lots of helpful advice for parents about how to keep their children safe online. This includes:

- Top tips
- Quick activities to do with your family
- Films to start the conversation
- Guides for different types of technology

To find out more use the link below

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/safer-internet-day/safer-internet-day-2022/advice-for-parents-and-carers>

Community, Wellbeing and Support



FREE Family Fun Days

Free family fun days are being run throughout the year by Ambition Aspire Achieve. Activities Include: Sports, Arts and Crafts, Adventure Play, Themed Activities, Outdoor Games AND MUCH MUCH MORE!

When? From Sunday 13th March (see attachment for all other dates - there are lots!) All sessions run from 11am to 3pm.

Where? At Terence Brown Arc, Hermit Road Park, Canning Town E16 4JT



Contact now to book a place and further details: Paula on 0207 511 4253 / paula@theaaazone.com



Garden Rangers - for ages 5 to 10

Grow Your Own Herbs and Vegetables, Design Your Own Flower Bed and Much Much More!

When & Where?

Saturday's 10am to 12pm at Terence Brown Arc, Hermit Road Park, Bethell Avenue, Canning Town, E16 4JT or

Saturday's 1pm to 3pm at Glyn Hopkin Abbey Hub, 6 Gay Road. Stratford, E15 2RN

**For further details contact Candy 07498768643/candy@theaaazone.com
PRE-BOOKING ESSENTIAL**

FREE Half Term Youth Club - for ages 10 to 14

Hair & Make Up Tutorials, DJing & Music Production, Sports & Games, Arts & Crafts



When? Tuesday 15th 4:00pm to 6:00pm Wednesday 16th 5:00pm to 8:00pm Friday 18th 4:00pm to 6:00pm Saturday 19th 3:00pm to 5:00pm.

Where? At Terence Brown Arc, Hermit Road Park, Canning Town E16 4JT

Booking not required, just come along, or to find out more contact Jen Walton at: Jen@theaaazone.com or 0207 511 4253 / 07398 622 505



Covid Half Term Letter

Attached to this week's newsletter is a letter to parents from Anita Stewart (the Director of Education, Inclusion & Achievement) and Jason Strelitz (Director of Public Health).

This provides advice on Covid-19, and with a specific request for secondary age pupils to take two lateral flow tests before returning to school after the half term holiday.



There are also details about how you can order home test kits.