



## Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back! We hope you had a wonderful summer and are refreshed and ready for the challenges of the new academic year. A particularly warm welcome to any new children to EWPS including those in Reception and Nursery as they join our community.

As many of you may know, 2016-17 was another very successful year for the school and we are looking forward to building on that success for 2017-18. However your support is as crucial as ever in ensuring the very best outcomes for our children. Therefore in the next few weeks we will be sending out more information about areas that we are focussing on this year and how we can work together to ensure the very best outcomes for our children.

Sue Ferguson



## Communication

As we all know, children are happiest and succeed when schools and parents work in partnership. We want and need you to be part of your child's education! To support this there are several ways for us to communicate.



### **Whole School Newsletters**

These are published every Wednesday and give information about all aspects of EWPS including upcoming events. They are also put onto our website. **Please note that from October we will be emailing this to all parents and will no longer be sending out paper copies to you unless you specifically request one.** So please make sure that we have your email address!



### **Speaking to a member of staff at the gate**

We endeavour to always have staff at the playground gates at the start and end of the day, so if you have any questions or there is something you would like us to know please feel free to speak to us.



### **Speak to your child's class teacher**

Your child's teacher will be more than happy to speak to you at the start and end of the day. However if it is something that may need a little time or is confidential we would ask that you arrange a mutually convenient time to meet.



### **Home School Communication Books**

Your child will be given their book today. Important whole class messages will be sent through this. There may also be information specific to your child. The book should be kept in your child's book bag. Please ensure that you check them at least once a week and sign the page. There is also space for your comments/questions too as we realise that work and family commitments mean that not all our parents are able to collect their child each day. However if there is something urgent or confidential we recommend you ring the school instead.



### **Speak to the School Office Staff**

Our office staff are always happy to help, so please feel free to call us on 02075119414 or pop in. They can also help you make an appointment or signpost you to the best person to talk to.



### **Email or write us**

Although we would always prefer to speak directly to you, we realise that this isn't always possible so you can always email us on [info@ellenwilkinson.newham.sch.uk](mailto:info@ellenwilkinson.newham.sch.uk)



### **Attend events and/or collect the information from our website**

We run a number of parent information events throughout the year and the times and dates for these will be sent out next week so that you can put them in your diaries. However we realise that sometimes it is not always possible for people to attend particularly if they occur in the school day. Therefore we will now start putting a summary onto our website after the event so you can access what has been covered and who to speak to if you have any further questions.



### **Updated Information**

At the start of the year we ask you to update your child's contact information and permissions, these forms will be sent out later this week. Please make sure that these are returned to your child's teacher as soon as possible **even if none of your details have changed or if you have just joined the school** as it enables us to ensure your information is correct on our system. As part of this we also ask you to create a password that you will use if someone other than yourself is collecting your child even if it is another parent. This may also be used if a different member of staff is releasing the children and doesn't recognise you. We would ask for your patience in this situation as we would rather take a couple of minutes longer and make sure everyone is released safely. Please make sure your password is easy to remember!



### **Uniform & Bags**

Thank you for ensuring the children are in school uniform, however please remember that **school shoes must be BLACK** and socks and tights should be white or grey. To clarify could any hair bands and bows please be school colours. Children need to bring their PE kits in on Monday & take them home on Friday. This should be in a drawstring bag. No rucksacks or large bags please as they do not fit the storage boxes.



### **Term and Diary Dates**

We are sending out new term date cards for this academic year with this newsletter. These dates can also be found on our website [www.ellenwilkinson.newham.sch.uk](http://www.ellenwilkinson.newham.sch.uk) Please use only school issued term dates when you are planning holidays, as Newham term dates are generic and get adapted slightly by each school. The main diary dates for the year will be issued on Wednesday next week, but in the meantime please check below for some dates which are coming up quickly.



### **Flu Vaccination**

As you may be aware there is a national program to vaccinate children from Reception to year 4 against the flu. Detailed information about this will be sent out next week and members of the NHS vaccination team will also be in the playground at the end of the school day to answer any questions on **Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> September**.



### **Year 6 Secondary Transition**

The information meeting for parents about choosing secondary schools is on **Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> September at 2.30 p.m.** Secondary booklets will be distributed as soon as we receive them, however in the meantime you can access a virtual copy on our website in the parent zone/admissions.



### **Photographs**

Children's individual photographs are booked in for **Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> September**. Please note we will also do sibling groups at this point but only for children who attend EWPS.



### **Clubs**

Details of the after school clubs that are available this year will be sent out next Wednesday and we are aiming for them to start the week of the 25<sup>th</sup> September.