



## PARENT UPDATES

### Sorry You're Leaving!

Sadly at the end of this term Mr Walker will be leaving us. We thank him for all his hard work and contributions over the past years. Please come and visit again soon! Best wishes and good luck from all!



### FREE SCHOOL MEAL APPLICATIONS

As you know all primary school children in Newham are allowed free dinners. All families however must be registered to the free school meals system at Newham. Even if you don't receive benefits your child needs to be registered. The application route to 'Eat for Free' using an eform via the Newham website is <http://www.newham.gov.uk/Pages/Services/Free-school-meals.aspx>. The benefits of registering are huge for the children and include the following: Each child eligible for free school meals will generate £900 for the school. This money has been used for tuition, additional booster sessions and a lot more. If we lose this funding, which was over £300,000 for this year then our excellent services and support for the children might be affected.

### TERM TIME HOLIDAY LEAVE

Please note that from 1st September 2013, heads may no longer grant any leave of absence during term time except for exceptional circumstances (e.g. being made homeless). Parents should therefore not ask for any holiday leave during term time since we are no longer allowed to grant this. Penalty fines may be issued to parents who take term time leave without permission. We understand that this will cause inconvenience to some of our parents. However, this change has come from the government. There is a £60 fine which must be paid within 21 days. If not paid within 21 days it rises to £120 if paid within 28 days. Non payment will lead to prosecution.

### UPCOMING HOLIDAY DATES

Please see the list of dates on which school will be closed for holidays. Please refer to these dates before booking any holidays. If for any unforeseeable reason these dates change, we will inform you nearer the time. All dates are updated on our website: [www.elmhurstprimary.co.uk](http://www.elmhurstprimary.co.uk)

Holiday Start Date	Return Date	Reason
Monday 3rd April 2017	Tuesday 18th April 2017	Easter Break
Monday 1st May 2017	Tuesday 2nd May 2017	May Day (One day)
Monday 29th May 2017	Monday 5th June 2017	Half term
TBC	TBC	Eid Ul Fitr
Monday 24th July 2017	Monday 4th September 2017	Summer Break

### LOST PROPERTY

Please make sure that your child's belongings have been labeled with their name and class as there has been an excess of lost property items. Please take your child's belongings home because anything that is not taken home will be thrown away. The Lost Property trolley is located in Key stage 1 area!



### EAST LONDON PRIMARY MATHS BEE 2017

On Wednesday 22nd February, the final of the very first East London Primary Maths Bee was held at Elmhurst Primary School, a mathematics competition for schools across the seven boroughs of East London. The aim of the competition was to celebrate our love for Maths and provide a fun opportunity to challenge the talented young mathematicians of East London. The competition brought together teams of four pupils from 25 schools. Before half term the heats of the competition whittled down the teams to find the final 8 schools. The final saw the schools go head to head in a battle of mathematics that combined a variety of skills across the curriculum - testing the pupils' reasoning, logic, arithmetic and teamwork! Four different teams led the running during the different rounds of what turned out to be a thrilling final, before the eventual results saw St Stephen's School in 3rd place, Scott Wilkie Primary School in 2nd place, and Nelson

Primary School come out on top, after a superb performance in the problem solving round jumped them up the ratings at the last hurdle! A big thankyou to all the staff and pupils who took part, as well as to 7puzzle.com and WeStudySmart for producing fantastic resources. We hope to see you again next year!



### WORLD BOOK DAY 2017

Thursday 2nd March was World Book Day. We celebrated by dressing up as Dr Seuss characters. Each year group read a well-known Dr Seuss book and did some lovely activities based on the text. The whole school also got the opportunity to spend their World Book Day tokens in a bookshop - either Newham Bookshop or Stratford Foyles. We ask parents to continue supporting the school in our drive to encourage reading for pleasure at home.



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## INTERNATIONAL MOTHER LANGUAGE DAY

For the first time, Elmhurst Primary has celebrated UNESCO International Mother Language Day on 21st February 2017. This day celebrates the importance of speaking, sharing and preserving our mother languages. In Elmhurst, it is great that our children do so well in their English lessons, but we should also celebrate the rich culture of additional languages spoken in our community. Children shared stories in other languages: Mrs Silverwood shared Welsh stories, and Mr Razza was speaking Pashto with Year 5! Children and families completed some PHENOMENAL home projects, creating story books and art work in two languages. It was great for so many parents to really get involved in the project, and the work was brilliant.

## EVERYDAY MATHS: A WALK IN THE PARK

This term, Reception to Year 6 classes had been involved in carrying out adventurous mathematical trails at our local park. Pupils worked in teams of three to navigate their way around designated areas of the park and engaged in measuring using standard (centimetres, metres and angles) and non standard units of measurements (hand spans, strides, foot steps, hugs around a tree). Key Stage 2 pupils particularly enjoyed calculating the height and age of trees. Years 5 & 6 pupils applied their knowledge of two and three dimensional shapes through construction work and calculated the area of irregular shaped flower beds. The focus for Reception and Year 1 classes was on using prepositional and directional language as well as counting.

One of our Parent helpers who accompanied a class visit commented, 'I could not believe how much mathematics they carried out in a park that they are at a lot of the time'.

We hope to continue to apply mathematics in everyday life scenarios in a fun filled way.



## DEBATE MATE

This term we have once again been running the Newham Debate League. Our debaters have been working hard with Mrs Colthrust and it is a huge pleasure to announce that currently, our debating team is the top team in the whole country! We hope they continue to express themselves forcefully and artfully.

### National

1. Elmhurst Primary School
2. Queensbridge Primary School
3. St John Fisher and Thomas More
4. Medlock Primary School
5. St Mary's RC Primary School
6. Morningside Primary School
7. St Malachy's RC Primary School
8. Upton Cross Primary
9. Rosendale Primary School
10. St Lukes Primary
11. Plymouth Grove Primary School
12. Cheetham CE Community Academy
13. St Clare's RC Primary

*Thought of the day: The future belongs to those who work for it today. –Malcolm X*



## GEOGRAPHY BEE

The Geography Bee ran for its third year on Thursday 9th March 2017. The Bee is designed to train up pupils from Newham schools to know more about the world around them - to study maps, to know about how the planet was formed and to understand what happens in the news. Our team was very strong this year. Burhan, Subhan and Ayesha studied phenomenally hard and only just missed out on getting into the final. In the end, the winning teams were Apex Primary School and Park Primary.

Maybe you will know the answer to the final question? What IS the capital city of Burkina Faso?

## ALL STARS CRICKET

A new after school cricket club for 5-8year olds was launched yesterday and Elmhurst was the school selected to participate.

On Monday 20th March, Elmhurst School participated in a national sports programme. The event 'All Stars Cricket, was hosted by the ECB and generated wide media interest. Pupils gathered at the base of the orbit next to West ham Park and enjoyed two hours of non stop fun and cricket related games.

During the Summer half-term pupils have also been invited to a 3-day cricket residential at Arundel. There are 4 places still available so if your child would like to attend please contact the office asap.

# RED NOSE DAY

This year on Red Nose Day, Elmhurst Primary did more than ever for Comic Relief. Children, families and teachers gave generously, and although we don't yet have the exact total, it looks like we have raised about £2800. This money will help some of the most desperate and deserving people in the world, relieving famine and giving people a chance in life. In school, we sold 1000 Red Noses this year. The Student Council decorated and sold 120 special cakes and our incredible parent community put on an absolute feast, selling their delicious home-cooked meals, including delicious biryani, samosas, curries, cakes and fruit juices. Children also spent the day taking part in the 'Comedy Classroom' project.

Thanks everybody for your generosity.



## FRENCH DAY AT ELMHURST



On 20<sup>th</sup> March pupils at Elmhurst celebrated the UN French Language Day. All pupils dressed in red, blue or white to reflect the colours of the French Tricolour flag. Before lunchtime, everyone assembled into the shape of the French flag.

The theme this year was 'La Cuisine Française' and the children took part in a range of fun and delicious activities. C'était fantastique!

In Year 3 pupils created their own French fruit market. They invited Year 1 children to come and buy fruit. The Year 1 pupils made a fantastic effort to ask for the fruit and it was wonderful to see the Year 3 pupils being so supportive. Mujahida in Year 3 said, "I'm shocked that this might be the first time the Year 1 children have spoken French!"

Year 4 pupils spent the afternoon in a French café whilst Year 5 pupils re-created a French restaurant. They role played being waiters and customers and were able to order pain au chocolat, dujus d'orange and more. Miam miam!

Year 6 pupils went to Year 2 to teach a French lesson. They created their own flashcards and taught Year 2 children how to introduce themselves in French.

## RED NOSE DAY