Primrose Hill Primary School Weekly Newsletter

Address: Princess Road, London, NW1 8JL Tel: 020 7722 8500 Email: admin@primrosehill.camden.sch.uk Website: www.primrosehill.camden.sch.uk

Friday 17th Dec Issue No. 14 (2021-2022)







WELL...what an end to the term. It most certainly isn't what we expected to have happen. However, given the news over the past few days it does look like we are ahead of the curve in the community! It had already been a challenging term with absences, so this last week has been the icing on the cake! However, it is a true testament to the strength of this community that we have felt your support from a distance. I cannot express my thanks enough for the positive messages and huge understanding of the situation we find ourselves in! I hope that next term will be a little calmer than how this one has finished – but as ever we will be alert to any changes in guidance that we need to pass on to you. We will be reinforcing some of our safety processes initially just to make sure we are doubly safe but I will communicate that separately.

In the meantime, may I wish you a relaxing and refreshing break. Please keep yourselves safe and we look forward to welcoming all children back on Wednesday 5th January 2022. **Phil** ©

COVID-19 REPORTING: Camden have asked us to continue local reporting of positive cases up to and including Tuesday 21st December. To that end, if any child tests positive up to that date, please email head@primrosehill.camden.sch.uk DO NOT send it to the admin email as it is not routinely monitored during the Christmas break.

FIRST DAY BACK FOR CHILDREN IN SPRING TERM

WEDNESDAY 5TH JANUARY 2022

Happy Holidays everyone and have a fantastic New Year 2022

A MESSAGE FROM CHAIR OF GOVERNOR

Autumn term is complete. Like the season, this term is about laying down the foundations for growth; identifying the areas where strong roots of learning have been established; adding a little nurture to those areas that we identify may need further support or a different position in which to shine; and then sowing the seeds of confidence building. Our beautiful, old school building has even had some modifications, with both children and staff finding new places to become established. Children have settled into their classes and the teachers have got to know not only how they learn, but their personalities and their friendship bonds.

Hopefully some children will have spotted a selection of governors visiting the school, finally able to come in to see teaching in practice. Our Link Governors have been getting up to speed with developments in Maths, Literacy, Mental Health, SEND and Safeguarding, strengthening the relationships with those expert leads in the school. We've learnt about the new phonics scheme and seen early careers teachers (ECTs) being mentored in their growth. We've been getting prepared for an Ofsted Inspection and testing Phil, the SLT and ourselves on what makes Primrose Hill, not just outstanding, but exceptional! So yes, we've been learning, revising and testing too!

There's been sporting competitions, with Jordan determined to return from the injury bench to coach his teams. There's been day trips away from school and especially our new relationship with London Zoo has got so many children and teachers excited! There's been a new sense of freedom and exploration and some classes have even made it back to swimming lessons! Finally returning to Cecil Sharp House to allow the children to have the long awaited chance to show off their skills was magical. Under Tom and Rob's expert guidance they certainly did put on a star performance. It was wonderful to have our Primrose Hill School community coming together to celebrate and to smile again.

I know that parents and carers don't see as much of teachers and especially not of governors as we used to be able to do, but we will strive to find different ways to make this happen. This week we saw how agile our school has become through adversity. As the presence of Covid loomed again in Camden, resulting in many of our teachers and support staff left nervously awaiting PCR results, I spoke to those in school mustering resources and quickly putting in place the arrangements for learning to continue. I was so proud to hear that children were logged into Google Classroom on Monday, ready to start their remote learning. They knew exactly what to do! We have strong roots and we are resilient and together we've shown that we can adapt to thrive. As we say our festive greetings and spend time with our loved ones this holiday, please join me in wishing a safe recovery to those Covid-affected teachers, non-teaching staff and their families and a big thank you to all the staff who weathered the storm.

Have a safe and happy holiday! Claire Cameron, Chair of Governors



Huge thanks go to the Philological Foundation who have again this year donated the very generous amount of £3,000 towards our Year 6 School Journey trip next June. This will help towards covering the whole cost of the coaches for the trip (enabling us to keep the overall cost lower for all families), as well as supporting some of our more disadvantaged pupils with the cost. We

are so grateful for their backing each year.

The Foundation is a charity which aims to help schools and young people whose families cannot provide them with financial support, to enable them to pursue educational and training opportunities. For more information about their work, please do visit their website: https://www.philological.org.uk/

NEW APPOINTMENTS!

I am delighted to inform you that we have appointed both

Lia Moss White and Sophie Keating into Acting Assistant Headteacher roles for January. Both of them have responsibilities that cross several areas of school life already so we are excited about

what they will bring to the Senior Leadership Team from their respective areas of expertise. They will retain a 50% class commitment and their current oversight of their phases over the

next 2 terms. I am sure you will join me in congratulating them on attaining this opportunity.

Primrose Hill Primary School



Term Dates 2021 - 2022

Autumn Term 2021

6th September to Friday 22 October 2021 (35 days)

Half-term: Monday 25 October to Friday 29 October 2021

stmas break: Mon 20 December 2021 to Monday 03 January 2022

Spring Term 2022

Wednesday 05 January to Friday II February 2022 (28 days) (New Year's Day – Saturday 01 January 2022 (Monday 03 substitute day)

Half-term: Monday 14 February to Friday 18 February 2022

Monday 21 February to Friday 01 April 2022 (30 days)

Easter/Spring holiday: Monday 4 April to Monday 18 April 2022. (Including Good Friday, 15 April, and Easter Monday, 18 April)

Wednesday 20 April to Friday 27 May 2022

Half-term: Monday 30 May to Friday 3 June 2022 cluding Spring Bank Holiday 2 June, Jubilee Bank Holiday 3 June)

Monday 6th June to Friday 22 July 2022 (35 days)

INSET DAYS

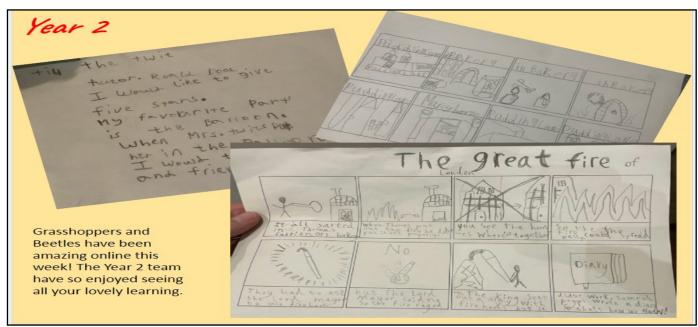
Wednesday I¹⁸, Thursday 2nd & Friday 3rd September 2021

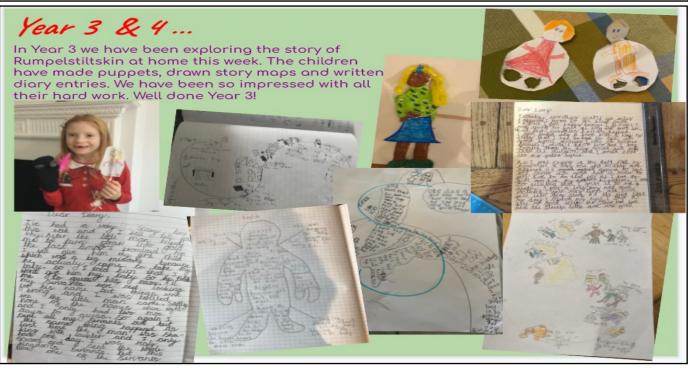
Tuesday 4th January 2022

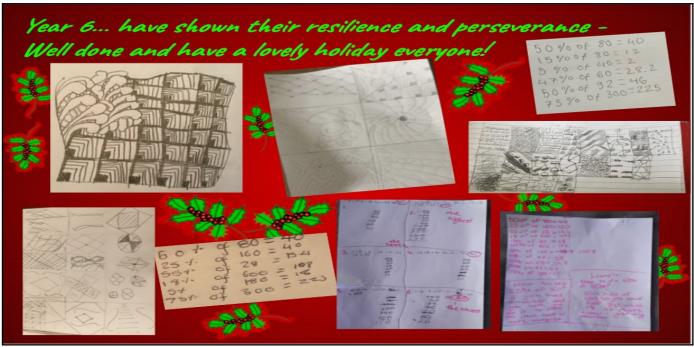
Tuesday I^{9th} April 2022











Focus on: Support available for you in Camden

Accessing mental health advice and support

Please remember that if you're struggling with your mental health, or know someone who is, a range of support and advice is available in Camden for people of all ages:

Speak to your GP, visit icope.nhs.uk or phone iCope on 020 3317 6670

Young people aged 11 to 18 can access safe and anonymous support from a qualified counsellor via a text-based conversation at **kooth.com** or they can visit **camdenrise.co.uk/emotional-wellbeing**

• If you're experiencing a mental health crisis or know someone who is, phone the 24-hour crisis line at St Pancras Hospital on **020 3317 6333**. In an emergency, call **999**

For more information, visit camden.gov.uk/mental-health

Stay warm this winter

• If you're struggling with your energy bills or need support to stay warm this winter, there are a range of benefits, discounts and support available. Find out more at camden.gov.uk/staywarm or call 020 7974 4444 (option 9)

Help accessing food

- To find a food bank or for help accessing food including if you have to self-isolate and don't have the means to get food delivered visit findfood.camden.gov.uk, call us on 020 7974 4444 (option 9) or email communityresponse@camden.gov.uk
- If you've got a child aged 5-16 who is eligible for free school meals and attends Camden schools, there are free activities taking place over the Christmas holidays that include a free healthy meal over the Christmas holidays. Find out more at <a href="https://hat.no.ndm.ndm.no.ndm.ndm.no.ndm.ndm.no.ndm.no.ndm.no.ndm.no.ndm.no.ndm.no.ndm.no.ndm.no.ndm.no.ndm.no.ndm.no.ndm.no.ndm.no.ndm.no.ndm.no.ndm.no.ndm.no.ndm.no.ndm

Food vouchers for Camden families

COVID-19 has left many families struggling financially, and we are committed to helping families over the winter. If you receive Housing Benefit or Council Tax Support and have dependent children up to the age of 18, or if your child attends a Camden school and receives free school meals, you should receive a letter next week about Government-funded supermarket vouchers to support the cost of food over the Christmas break. If you don't have access to the internet or can't download the voucher, your local library or children's centre can help. If the letter doesn't arrive, or if you need any other support to access food, please call us on **020 7974 4444 (option 9)**.

Help and support with money worries

- If you're struggling with debt or your finances, find out how to access a range of benefits, grants and discounts at <u>camden.gov.uk/finances</u> or call us on 020 7974 4444 (option 9)
- If you need support making a Universal Credit claim, call Citizens Advice Camden on **0808 278 7835**

If you earn less than £483.75 per week, you may be eligible for a council tax discount. Find out more at camden.gov.uk/council-tax-support or call 020 7974 4444 (option 3 then option 2)