

Autumn

Term

Newsletter



'Engage - Inspire - Empower'
Head Teacher Newsletter
November 2020

I hope you all had a good half term break and welcome back to the second half of the Autumn term where already the children are hard at work on their new topics. I would like to reassure you that as we move into a National Lockdown from Thursday we will be remaining open as usual for all Year groups.

The only time we expect to close is if we have a positive covid 19 case in a class and then that 'Bubble' will be asked to self-isolate for up to 14 days before returning to school. During that time work would be provided online by your child's class teacher.

As it looks like the restrictions of the pandemic are going on for significantly longer than expected, we have now created class emails so that you can message your child's class teacher directly and they will be able to respond to you. This is instead of having to use the school email and should be used to relay information to the class teacher that in normal circumstances you would have been able to share at the school gate or when you came into the playground or classrooms.

The emails for each class go live on Monday 9th November and are as follows:

Conker@jennyhammond.waltham.sch.uk
Acorn@jennyhammond.waltham.sch.uk
Sequoia@jennyhammond.waltham.sch.uk
Holly@jennyhammond.waltham.sch.uk
Rowan@jennyhammond.waltham.sch.uk
Willow@jennyhammond.waltham.sch.uk
Aspen@jennyhammond.waltham.sch.uk
Juniper@jennyhammond.waltham.sch.uk
Lilac@jennyhammond.waltham.sch.uk
Maple@jennyhammond.waltham.sch.uk
Cedar@jennyhammond.waltham.sch.uk
Sycamore@jennyhammond.waltham.sch.uk
Chestnut@jennyhammond.waltham.sch.uk

The emails can also be used to share your child's work or activities they have done at home. Please be aware that the teachers will not be able to respond to you immediately as they have their teaching commitments where they will not be accessing their emails. Messages for the office should still be sent to school@jennyhammond.waltham.sch.uk

Breakfast Club

We are continuing to run a restricted breakfast club with children separated into 3 different areas of the school to avoid 'Bubbles' crossing over. This means that we are also running with fewer spaces so please only use breakfast club if you are at work and need it for childcare purposes.

School Meals

We had hoped that we would by now be back to our children being able to eat and play together but as you know this isn't the case and we are therefore continuing to stagger playtimes and lunchtimes. This means that Waltham Forest catering are still able to provide hot meals but are operating on a reduced menu that runs over 2 weeks and the choices of food are not as extensive as usual. The autumn menu, which started on Monday 2nd November, is now available on our website and was sent out by Parentmail.

Harvest Festival Contributions

Thank you to everyone that was able to contribute to our Harvest Festival, we are now ready to distribute the food to our school families and members of our local community. If you are struggling at all for whatever ever reason or know a family that is please do get in touch with the school so that we can support you. Not only will we be able to give you food and toiletries but we will also be able to help you access other services and foodbanks if necessary.

We are very discreet and recognise that in these difficult times families are struggling. You do not need to be eligible for Free School Meals to get help and we know it is often families that don't have access to this that can be struggling the most so please do get in touch.

Poppy Appeal

In support of Remembrance Day on the 11th November, we are now selling poppies and other Remembrance Day goodies, (including slap bands which the children seem to love), at the school office in return for a donation. The children and staff will hold a 2 minute silence on Wednesday 11th November at 11am and lay our Poppy Wreath on our War Memorial in the playground.



Children in Need

Friday 13th November

So far this year you have all been brilliant at continuing to support the charities that we would usually support with events in school. You have raised money for Jeans for Genes day and Show Racism the Red Card and now we would like everyone to participate in our **Children in Need** fundraiser this year which falls on Friday 13th November. We're asking everyone to come to school in clothes with **spots on or animal print** even if they're on your pyjamas, you can even paint spots on your face! We would like every child to bring in **£1** on this day so that we can raise lots of money for Children in Need. Friday 13th November is also **World Kindness Day** so we will also be spreading a lot of kindness as always!

Year 6 Shakespeare performance

Anthony Glen from Shaking up Shakespeare will be in working with Year 6 children on the Shakespeare play Macbeth from Monday 9th November for 4 days. The children last had an opportunity to work with him in Year 1. It will be a bit different and a little odd this year in that parents will not be able to physically come and watch the children perform. However we will be recording it for parents and the children in the other classes will be watching the show from their classrooms as well so Year 6 will have a virtual audience.

PE

Children are doing dance this half term and should wear navy or black shorts and a plain white T-shirt. however as they are coming to school in their PE kits they should also wear navy blue tracksuit bottoms or leggings with a school jumper and a coat of course to keep warm at playtimes and lunchtimes.

School Streets and Low Traffic Neighbourhoods, (LTN)

You may be aware that, alongside the School Streets scheme, Waltham Forest Council have launched a Low Traffic Neighbourhood in the South Leytonstone area.

As part of this scheme they have installed over the half term modal filters on Ranelagh Road and Selby Road, which means that Jenny Hammond School can now only be accessed via Cann Hall Road.

To help gather the views of local people on this scheme the Council are running an online engagement platform where people can comment on specific locations so please make sure you have your say. The web address for this is southleytonstoneln.commonplace.is

Christmas, Christmas, Christmas (Already!)



Christmas Carol Concerts

This year we are thinking virtually and how we can put together a Carol Concert for you all to enjoy. We have an idea which I think got the seal of approval in our staff meeting and hopefully you will be hearing all about it in one of my fortnightly newsletters.

Christmas Parties

All the children will have a Christmas party albeit in their classrooms this year and only with their own class however Father Christmas will still have time to visit I'm sure and it will still be a lot of fun! You will receive further details about this nearer the time.

Christmas Pantomime

I was so organised this year and booked tickets in January for all of our children to go to the pantomime at either Theatre Royal, Stratford or Hackney Empire! But all of that got cancelled **BOOOOO!**

However that isn't going to stop us having a pantomime. **'Oh Yes It Is!'** **'Oh No It's Not!'**

Thank you to *The Great British Pantomime Company* and coming in December to The Jenny Hammond Primary School, online, is ...



How exciting!!!!

Rudolf Christmas Cards Fundraiser

The fundraiser has now closed and if you have submitted a drawing your payment is now available on Parentpay. Your child's design will now be sent off for printing so please make sure the payment is made.

And finally

Thank you to the children that have already handed in their Black History Month posters, they look great. There is still a bit of time left for your child to design a poster, (either A4 or A3 size), celebrating a figure from black history or present day, someone that has inspired them. Include the name of the person and a sentence about why they are inspirational and hand them into their class teacher after the half term.

A 'winning' poster will then be chosen by the children and staff from each class to be printed and displayed around the school and the winners will each receive a small prize.

Posters should be handed in to their class teacher by Monday 9th November please

Thank you for your continued support always.

Best wishes
Deborah

Dates For Your Diary

Year 3 Trip – Jubilee Ponds, Wanstead Flats

Thursday 5th November 10am to 12 midday

Year 6, 4 day Shakespeare Workshop with Shaking up Shakespeare

Monday 9th to Thursday 12th November

This year unfortunately due to pandemic we are unable to invite parents into the hall to watch the children perform, however we will be videoing it so that you still get to see their performance.



Children in Need

Friday 13th November

Wear Spots or Animal Print and bring in £1.00

Year 5 Trip, Jubilee Ponds, Wanstead Flats

Tuesday 24th November, 10am to 12 midday



Children break up for Christmas:

Friday 18th December

Classes break up at different times due to keeping class bubbles separate

Conker: 2pm - Reception Gate
 Year 1: 2pm - Elsham Road Gate
 Year 2: 2pm - Worsley Road Gate
 Acorn: 2.15pm - Reception Gate
 Year 3: 2.15pm - Elsham Road Gate
 Year 4: 2.15pm - Worsley Road Gate
 Year 5: 2.30pm – Worsley Road Gate
 Year 6: 2.30pm – Elsham Road Gate

Children return to school

Tuesday 5th January 2021

The start times for each class will be confirmed in December depending on the situation at the time.

And hoping that everyone reads to the end of my newsletters, I have some exciting news!

Chelsea, one of our Teaching Assistants, has not returned after the half term as she went into labour early and had a beautiful baby boy on Sunday.

His name is Ocean and we are very excited to welcome him to our Jenny Hammond family.

Congratulations to Chelsea and Hugo and also to our teaching assistant Michelle who, as Chelsea's mum, becomes a Grandma!