



‘Engage - Inspire - Empower’

Head Teacher Newsletter

September 2019

Welcome back to the new academic year, I hope you all had a good summer break. The children have already settled beautifully into their new classrooms and are working hard. We are excited to welcome our Reception children and families joining us on Monday and we are all looking forward to the year ahead.

I would like to welcome 4 new members of staff to our school team. Gemma Tanna has joined us to teach alongside Andrew in Year 3, Rosie Loveland is teaching in Year 2 and Bilkis Abdullah is teaching in Year 1. Sam O’Nions has joined us to support children in Year 4. Welcome to our Jenny Hammond team.

We also welcome our 2 newly elected Parent Governors, Richard Messingham, parent of Connie in Year 4 and Leo in Year 2 and Francesca Gkotsi, parent of Reya who starts Reception on Monday. We look forward to working with you to support the school over the next 4 years.

New Classroom Names!

As we become 2 forms of entry we have decided to move away from just naming the classes by the year group and the initial of the teacher and each class will now be named after a tree which we are still learning and trying to remember who is who!

The classes will now be referred to as the following:



Reception Louise – Conker
 Reception Gilly – Acorn
 Year 1 Bilkis – Sequoia
 Year 1 Anita – Holly
 Year 2 Peter – Rowan
 Year 2 Rosie – Willow
 Year 3 Ashleigh – Juniper
 Year 3 Andrew and Gemma – Aspen
 Year 4 Hannah – Lilac
 Year 4 Georgia – Maple
 Year 5 Alyson – Sycamore
 Year 6 Stephen – Chestnut

A Growth Mindset

You will hear the staff talking to the children about having a growth mindset where the children have a love for learning, emotional resilience and high expectations of themselves. When they can’t do something, they can’t do something ‘yet.’ They make ‘fantastic’ mistakes, have ‘brilliant’ brains and they support each other as Learning Partners.

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Having a growth mindset enables your child to flourish both socially and academically and we believe it has a positive impact on the children at Jenny Hammond.

A parent guide can be found on our website which tells you a bit more about it.

The first 10 minutes of the school day

We have arranged the class timetables so that on a Monday, Wednesday and Friday morning the children will go straight in to their first lesson to enable more teaching time. This means that on Monday, Wednesday and Friday there will be no parent reading time in Key Stage 1 or Early Bird sessions in Key Stage 2 as the children will be registered at 9.10 am. Please say goodbye to your children in the playground on those days. All parents are welcome into the school for the first 10 minutes of the day on a Tuesday and Thursday. Reception parents are also invited in on Tuesday and Thursday to read with your children.

It is important that the children are in school on time and ready to line up when the bell is rung in the playground at 9.05am each day. Reception children should wait in their own outside area.

End of the School Day

Children in Reception and Key Stage 1 finish school at 3.30pm. Children in Reception Acorn and Conker and Year 2 Rowan, (Peter), are collected from their classrooms and parents should wait outside these areas. Children in Year 2 Willow, (Rosie), are collected from the playground. The children are brought out in a line to a meeting point in the main playground and the children are then dismissed. The children have been told today that they shouldn't leave the line when walking out so please do not take your child from the line. The teacher will dismiss from the meeting point. Children in both Year 1 classes will be dismissed from the hall so please wait near to the bike track at the end of the day and the teachers will send your child out to you. **Children in Key Stage 2 finish at 3.35pm.** Children in Year 3 and 4 should be collected from the sports pitch and Year 5 and 6 collected from their classrooms.

Parking, Dropping Off and Collecting Your Child

Where possible we would encourage all of our families to walk or cycle to school. All the surrounding roads around the street are permit parking and you cannot park on any of the roads unless you already have a permit for the zone CHE or CH. It can get very busy in the mornings and afternoons but I must stress that you cannot park on the zigzags between 8am and 4pm or drop your children off in the middle of the road no matter how in a rush you are. It is important that we keep all of our children safe when they are coming into and leaving the school.

Jeans for Genes Day is all about raising money to help some of the most vulnerable children in the UK who have life threatening genetic disorders.



On **Friday 20th September** we are asking that all the children and staff wear their jeans and bring in £1.00. All money raised will go to the charity.

Macmillan Coffee Morning

After the great success of the last few years' fundraisers we are once again holding a coffee morning in support of Macmillan cancer Research. It will be held on **Thursday 26th September at 9.20am** in the dining room. Donations of homemade and shop bought cakes are gratefully received and will be sold at the coffee morning. Last year's contributions were absolutely fantastic so we hope to match that success or even better if that is possible! I hope this will be the first of many social occasions throughout the year and we look forward to seeing lots of you there.



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Universal Free School Meals

Since the beginning of September 2014 children in **Reception, Year 1 and Year 2** are entitled to free school meals regardless of income. This is known as Universal Free School Meals and means that if you have a child in any of these 3 classes then you do not have to pay. If your child is in Key Stage 2 and you are in receipt of income support/universal credit then you are still entitled to Free School Meals and should apply on the council website at www.walthamforest.gov.uk.

If you are in receipt of income support/universal credit in Reception or Key Stage 1 can I ask that you still apply through the council website for free school meals as this gives you an entitlement for other things such as some reduction on the cost of trips and clubs.

Schools meals are **£2.00 a day, £10.00 a week**. Dinner money can only be paid on Parentpay. If you do not have a Parentpay account then please see Jacquie Reid, Business Manager, who will give you an activation letter. The school does not profit from school meals and contributes to the full cost of each individual meal.

Please note that once your child is in Year 3 School dinners are no longer free and will cost you £10 a week unless you are eligible for free school meals which needs to be applied for.

Please **do not** hand in money to the school office.

Children bringing in packed lunches are reminded that fizzy drinks, sweets, chocolates or nut products, (including chocolate spread and peanut butter), are **not** allowed in their lunch box.

Reading Books

In each class there is a selection of books that children are encouraged to take home and read, these are called Core books and have been especially selected for the age group of the class. These books have green stickers on which the children take home. Every year we expect to lose some of these books where they have been lost at home or through natural wear and tear however we had lost a lot of books before the summer and would ask all parents to have a look to see whether you have any school books at home. All our books should be stamped with the school name. Can you please hand in any books to the school office.

Class Newsletters

The class newsletters will be sent home with your child on Monday 9th September which details all the information regarding the teaching and learning in that particular class. The newsletter also includes information on trips, PE times and some information on the curriculum. Dates for this term can be found at the end of this newsletter. Individual class timetables and the academic school calendar can be found on our website at www.jennyhammond.waltham.sch.uk

POWER projects for Year 1 to Year 6 will be attached to your class newsletter and can be found on our website.

The school weekly newsletter is published every Friday starting on the 20th September. If you are on Parentmail then you will receive an electronic version of the newsletter and a copy is published on our website and on our App. If you haven't already signed up for Parentmail so that information can be sent out to you electronically then please give your email address to Jackie or Marie in the office.

All newsletters and POWER projects can be found on our website so please check it regularly

The Jenny Hammond App

Our school app is available for Android and Apple devices.



With the app you can:

- Get in touch with us
- View our calendar
- Read our newsletter
- Watch JHTV
- View your child's Power Project



Absent Children

If your child is absent from school for any reason can you please phone the school office before the start of the school day. If we have not heard from you after 9.30 am we will phone you at home. We cannot authorise any absences during term time except in exceptional circumstances. If you miss school due to a change in flight details you will be asked to produce your original flight details and confirmation of the change so we can authorise absences that are out of your control.

School Uniform

School uniform can be ordered on line from Speedstitch at www.speedstitch.co.uk. You are also able to get our uniform from the Speedstitch factory outlet in Walthamstow, details from the school office. Please note that children should not be wearing jewellery or make up at school. Stud earrings or small hooped earrings are allowed if your child already has their ears pierced. Our uniform colours are white shirt or polo top, red jumper or cardigan and **navy blue** skirt or trousers.

PE Kits

Please ensure that your child's clothes are appropriate for the activities they are doing in PE. The children should have either blue or black shorts and a plain white T-shirt, all of these items can be bought from any major supermarket. PE kits should be kept in a drawstring PE bag which can be purchased from the school office and brought into school every Monday and taken home on Fridays. Class newsletters will give you more information on the days your child has PE. **Year 3 will be going swimming once a week every Thursday as part of their statutory PE curriculum.** Year 3 children should bring in their swimming kit on Thursdays including swimming costume/trunks, towel, a swimming hat which is compulsory and goggles which are optional. Swimming lessons take place at Leytonstone Leisure Centre.

May I stress how important it is that all uniform is clearly labelled with your child's name so that lost items can be returned to the correct owner. Lost property is kept on a trolley in the Year 5 and 6 teaching block and brought out into the main playground at the end of every day.

Parental Consultations

Parental Consultations are changing this year and will now be held on alternate Tuesdays after school. Please see the sign-up sheet on the class notice boards for the appointment times and the dates will also be included in your class newsletter.

Book Bags & PE Bags

It is very important that your child brings their book bag to school each day in every year group. Reception and Key Stage 1 keep their word lists and reading diaries in them and Key stage 2 will keep their reading and writing journals in them as well as their reading book and these are used both at home and at school. Please check your child's book bag each day for any letters that may have been sent home.

If your child needs a new book bag they can be bought from the school office for £5.00. PE Bags are £4.50. The school does not make any profit from the sale of these bags.

Breakfast Club

Breakfast Club has already started and runs from **8.00 am** each morning with breakfast served **until 8.45 am** and children supervised until the bell rings for class. There is a range of breakfast foods on offer including crumpets, toast, cereal, yogurts etc which is included in the cost of the childcare which is **£3.00** a day for Reception aged children and for children in Years 1, 2 and 3. Unfortunately we cannot supervise any children before 8 am and ask that you do not bring your children to school before then. Children are also not allowed in the classrooms with parents before the start of the school day and children should go directly to breakfast club.

Children in Year 4 and above are charged at **£2.00** a day which covers the cost of their breakfast and supervision.

If you would like your child to attend breakfast club then please ask for a form from the school office.

Playtimes

Reception, year 1 and 2 are provided with free fruit at morning play. Children in Year 3, 4, 5 and 6 (KS2) are encouraged to bring in a piece of fruit for playtime as well.

Music Lessons

Music lessons, including the piano, violin and guitar, are run directly by the company PianoFunClub. You will be able to book and pay directly to them and the lessons will take place at our school during the school day. You can find out more at www.pianofunclub.co.uk.

Updating your Child's Details and Medical Records

Can you please ensure that if any of your details have changed the office is informed as soon as possible so that we can update your child's records. Please see Jackie or Marie if your details have changed including any childcare changes. This includes any changes to medical conditions or allergies.

If your child has medication that we keep in school can you please ensure that it is in date. If your child is in Year 5 and 6 and has an asthma pump they will look after their pump themselves in preparation for when they move on to secondary school. Asthma pumps for children in other year groups will be kept in the medical room as usual.

Code of Conduct

At Jenny Hammond we have high expectations of behaviour from our children and the school community. When your child joins the school you, your child and the school sign up to our home school agreement where we expect all our staff to act professionally and staff, children and parents to treat each other and talk to each other with respect. We ask that if you have any concerns you bring them to the attention of the class teacher or Leadership Team for the school to act upon and that you do not approach other children to discuss it.

And finally



**Celebrating 25 Years
1994 - 2019**

We are 25 years old this year with the school opening in September 1994 with just 6 children, 1 Head Teacher, 1 teacher, a nursery nurse and someone in the office I think!

To commemorate the 25 years we are having a whole school photo taken on Thursday 19th September and hopefully arranging a bit of a party for our children.

Best wishes
Deborah
Head Teacher

Dates For Your Diary

Year 6 trip: Chessington, Friday 6th September. 8am to 6pm

Reception Phonics Workshop: Friday 6th September at 3pm

Year 4 & 5 trip: Legoland, Monday 9th September. 8am to 6pm

Year 4 Lilac Trip: Sir John Soanes Museum

Wednesday 18th September

Year 4 Maple Trip: Sir John Soanes Museum

Thursday 19th

Whole School Photo: Thursday 19th September

Jeans for Genes Day: Friday 20th September

Year 6 PGL Trip: Friday 20th September – Monday 23rd September

Year 4 Trip: Museum of London, Wednesday 26th September

Macmillan Coffee Morning: Thursday 26th September

POWER Projects handed in: Thursday 10th October

POWER Projects open morning: Thursday 17th October

Half term: Monday 21st – Friday 25th October

Year 6 Shaking Up Shakespeare – 4 day workshop

Monday 4th to Thursday 7th November

Performance to friends and family Thursday 7th November at 5pm.

Individual Photos: Friday 15th November

Whole School Flu Nasel Spray Inoculations - Tuesday 3rd December

Year 2 Trip – Panto – Theatre Royal Stratford

Wednesday 4th December

Year 3 Trip – Panto – Theatre Royal Stratford

Thursday 5th December

Reception & Year 1: - We're going on a Bear Hunt, Stratford Circus

Thursday 12th (R Conker & Y1 Sequoia)

Monday 16th December (R Acorn & Y1 Holly)

Children break up for Christmas: Thursday 19th December at 2.30 pm

INSET Day – School closed to children

Friday 20th December

Children return to school on **Monday 6th January 2020**

For more information on everything that happens at

The Jenny Hammond Primary School

visit:

www.jennyhammond.waltham.sch.uk