

Inset Day

A reminder that Monday 2nd November is an Inset Day (Staff training). The first day back for children is Tuesday 3rd November.

Dear Parents and Carers,

Primary schools are open – hooray! - and at Canonbury we have enjoyed a marvellous half term of learning. The highlight for me has been our Black History Month events, more of which below. I have also been impressed with our children and teachers who have been working so hard together on restoring and extending learning in English and Maths. Everyone has earned the half-term rest - I want to thank staff and children for making Canonbury thrive during this time! Thank you also to families for the patience about the important risk controls in place to keep our community as safe as possible. They are under constant review and by following them you give us the confidence to make changes that relieve some of the inconvenience.

Arrival/Departure after half-term – using the main gate

Now that everyone is settled into routines, we have been testing opening the main gates and using the forecourt for pick up at the end of the day with some year groups. We believe it can work for all if everyone arrives on time (not early or late), then picks up and leaves straightaway. We hope you will feel an improvement here.

Black History Month

A highlight of this half term has been our performance poetry in celebration of **Black History Month**. You will remember that in the summer term I share our commitment to combating racism and improving representation of our diverse community in our learning. We thought that it would be powerful for every class to learn by heart and perform a poem by a black author. Every class posted their performance on **ClassDojo** for families to see - I am sure you will agree that they made strong connection with the words by speaking them with their own mouths.



Speaking of **ClassDojo (Y2-6) and Tapestry (YN,R,1)**, I am pleased to see that almost all parents and carers have joined their classes and some are now at 100%. You will see that we are continuing to use these platforms to keep you in touch with the learning of your child and the class. This is especially important at this time and we will carry on developing ways to provide an up to the minute window on the school day. If you are having any problems joining, please contact us and we will



help you. Let's reach 100% sign up across the school!

Parent Conferences

Parent Conferences will take place next half term and we will share the dates with you as soon as we can. We are currently looking at how we can. They will be remote meetings and we are in the process of choosing the platform that will help us to have the most effective and purposeful discussion.

Dixon Clark Court

Works are due to start next door at Dixon Clark Court from next week. I can reassure parents that the contractor, with Islington, is liaising with the school on the timetable and programme of works in order to minimise disruption as much as possible. The development is for 27 units of social housing and 14 private properties. Some parents have asked if the school will support the protest over the trees that will be cut down. As educators, we intend to approach this more as a debate about the benefits of social housing next to the importance of protecting the environment, with children thinking about both arguments.

Have a happy half term.

Patrick Milder

Year 6 Secondary Transfer

Year 6—Secondary Transfer Application —deadline 31st October 2020

Please make sure you have submitted your application before the deadline. You can submit at anytime and continue to submit until the deadline.



PTA and Canonbury Foundation

Our Campaign for a Safer Entrance to Canonbury

We are beginning our campaign to improve the entrance to Canonbury Primary School, proposing a wider pavement outside the main gates and a second entrance where the playground meets the road by Highbury Corner and Dixon Clark Court. We believe that the investment is fair when so many schools on back roads are benefitting from the 'school streets' scheme. We will keep you up to date.



Playground Project

This week Patrick and Tracie met with the team who developed our 'Canonbury Village' playground to discuss what we could achieve for the 'woodland area' of our playground with the £10,000 raised during Run Canonbury Run. The aim is to create some spaces for quiet activities such as reading and games. We will keep you informed about developments.



Important Dates and Information

Inset Day, Monday 2nd November (staff training—no children to attend)

Lost Property—Please ensure that all your child's school uniform is clearly labelled to make it easier for us to get belongings back to them.

School Lunch— If your child brings a packed lunch from home, it has to be provided for the whole week—they cannot choose to have a school dinner on a particular day, as there will not be enough food ordered to cater for them.

Home time— Please remember to notify the school office if your child is being collected by someone else, either call or email admin@canonbury.islington.sch.uk by 1pm.