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## Quality, Creativity, Consistency, Collaboration

Dear Parents and Carers

I can't believe we are nearly at the end of February already! Spring is just around the corner! How time flies. This is going to be a very short half term- one of the shortest that I can remember working in the 25 years I have been a teacher- so an awful lot is being packed into a very short amount of time. Please be aware of this! As always, keep this letter somewhere safe until you get the next one in a few weeks' time- check the website as well for more regular updates.

Best wishes,

John



*Journeys Exhibition*

### Parent Governor Elections

Elections for parent governors will take place shortly at school. Parents who are elected will continue as governors for four years if they wish, even if they no longer have a child at the school.

All parents and carers of children at the school are eligible to stand as candidates and vote in the elections. Each parent will have one vote for the election.

The important dates for the upcoming election are:

- **Closing date for nominations – Friday 4<sup>th</sup> March;**
- **Nominees contacted- Monday 7<sup>th</sup> March;**
- **Ballot notification – Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> March;**
- **Voting – Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> March.**

If you want to be a candidate then please let the school know- collect a nomination slip from the office or email ([info@sunnyhill.lambeth.sch.uk](mailto:info@sunnyhill.lambeth.sch.uk)) your nomination by the end of the school day on **Friday 4<sup>th</sup> March**. You can nominate yourself to stand. If you want to nominate another parent please check with them first that they are willing to stand and ask them to sign the nomination form in the space provided or by copying them into the emailed nomination. Nominees will receive information on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> March about next steps in the election process.

Voting will take place from 8.00 am to 4.00 pm **at the school office on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> March**. If you cannot come to the school to vote you can apply for a **postal vote** which you must request in advance. If you would like a postal vote then please phone or email the school office. Otherwise no ballot paper will be sent to you and you will need to come in to the school to vote.

Parent governors are very important in the life of the school and I hope that you will consider being a candidate as well as taking part in the vote.

## Parking

We have been asked by the local surgery to ask parents not to use their car park when dropping off or picking up children from school. Please be considerate to our neighbours!

## School Council Update

We have a very well established group of pupil leaders who have different roles and responsibilities around the school. Before half term, school council organised a talent show- one of the more experienced members of this group has written a report about the planning of this event.

*Hi my name is James and I am a school councillor in year 5 in case you didn't know. I am writing to tell you about some of the things that the School Council have been up to recently, including this year's special charitable event.*

*This is the first time I have written a newsletter so I am really excited about doing it!*

*I have been a school councillor for nearly 2 years and have had lots of training about how to lead meetings, speak in front of lots of people and organise events. I even did training with 'Team London 'and 'Smart School Councils UK'.*

*I have spoken in assemblies, I am on the pupil display team and I made a display for the 'Journeys' exhibition, I have interviewed new School Councillors and I have helped judge a competition.*

*The first big thing that I helped organise was last year's eco-friendly, foodbank fashion show, in front of the school. The next big thing will be this year's talent show in February!*

*We decided to have a talent show as lots of children asked us for one and put suggestions in the suggestion box. We thought this was a good suggestion and we decided to do it.*



*We have been so busy getting ready for the show and we didn't know it would take so long. We have been making scripts, checking timings, giving out jobs, speaking in assembly, practising but we still have lots more to do! I hope that you now know a little more about what a school councillor does and that you know about our big charitable event.*

*Photos and information about the talent show will be put on the website after the show so that you can see how well we did and how we did it!*

The talent show was a huge success- well done to everyone involved!

## Friends of Sunnyhill events

The Friends of Sunnyhill are making a valued contribution to a calendar of events each term- this half term they need your help and support with:

March 1 <sup>st</sup>	Words and music concert- Recruitment event with teas and coffees
March 3 <sup>rd</sup>	World Book Day Parents to send in props for dressing up- <b>e.g. Glasses, scarves, hats, hair bands/headbands, tights , shirts, wellies, face paints, as well as books being donated</b> or a bring and swap.
March 11 <sup>th</sup>	School exhibition- Environment Recruiting parents Teas, coffees and biscuits. Can anyone do a workshop or talk about anything environmentally friendly and planting seeds with the children?
March 22 <sup>nd</sup> / 23 <sup>rd</sup>	School disco (during the school day) This will be a mufiti day where each child pays a £1 to wear their own clothes We will need 3-4 parents for each day for set up at 12.30 for the disco to start at 1.30.Also will be serving drinks during the disco. After each day there will be an Easter cake sale outside with one gazebo to raise money.

## Important Dates

The dates for this academic year have been sent out twice (at the end of the summer term and as an attachment to the newsletter at the start of the Autumn Term). If you need to refer to this information and you can't find your paper copy it is available on the school's website. The following table contains the important dates for the next few months - major dates do not change- but some information will be added as trips are booked and dates agreed over the course of the term. Wherever possible, timings for events are also given.

February	March	April
<b>22<sup>nd</sup>: Start of Spring Term2</b> 23 <sup>rd</sup> : Y1 class out at City Learning Centre- Robots and Computing <b>24<sup>th</sup>: Family Learning- EAL coffee morning (9.00)</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup>: World Book Day</b> Y3Severn and Sprint out at Horniman Museum 4 <sup>th</sup> : Y3Stour out at Horniman Museum 4 <sup>th</sup> : Closing date for Parent Governor nominations 8 <sup>th</sup> : Ballot notification for Parent Governor elections 9 <sup>th</sup> : WE day <b>11<sup>th</sup>: Spring Term Exhibition of children's work (8.30- 9.00, 3.15- 5.45)</b> 14 <sup>th</sup> : 4Arrow out at British Museum 15 <sup>th</sup> : R classes out at CLC- Investigating the World trip 15 <sup>th</sup> : Parent Governor elections <b>16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>: Parents' evenings Pea Green Book fair attending both parents' evenings</b> 18 <sup>th</sup> : Play leader sports relief challenge <b>18<sup>th</sup>: Jason and the Argonauts Y5 assembly (10.10)</b> 22 <sup>nd</sup> : Y3Severn and Sprint out at Kew Gardens 22 <sup>nd</sup> : 1.15- KS1 and EYFS disco (1.15-3.00), friends of Sunnyhill supporting. 23 <sup>rd</sup> : KS2 disco (1.15-3.00), friends of Sunnyhill supporting. 23 <sup>rd</sup> : Easter cake sale (3.15- 4.00) 23 <sup>rd</sup> : Y3Stour out at Kew Gardens <b>24<sup>th</sup>: End of Spring Term (2pm)</b>	<b>11<sup>th</sup>: Start of Summer 1</b> 13 <sup>th</sup> : School photographer in all day (individuals and siblings)

Events that you may be particularly interested in are highlighted in **blue**. If you would like more information regarding these or any other service we provide then please contact the school office. Please note- our **Spring exhibition is on 11<sup>th</sup> March** and **parents' evenings** this term are going to be held on **16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> March**. Please also be aware that the school will be closed as it is used as a polling station on **5<sup>th</sup> May for London Mayor elections and then again on 23<sup>rd</sup> June for the EU referendum**.

## Parent ideas

We are at the point of beginning to plan for our next phase of school improvement at Sunnyhill. This is when we collect the views of as many members of the school community to build into the direction that we map out for ourselves for the next two to three years. We have had a few volunteers step forward to take part in this important work- if you are able to give up any time then please contact the school office!

During parents' evenings this term we will have questionnaires and suggestion sheets out for parents to complete so that we have an idea of improvements or additions that you'd like to see to what we already offer. We will also be looking for



volunteers to give up a little time to meet with members of staff or governors to have a more in depth involvement in the school improvement planning process. This isn't the only opportunity for parents to share their ideas- suggestion sheets will be available throughout the year from the office.

Alternatively if you prefer to email ideas then please do so to [info@sunnyhill.lambeth.sch.uk](mailto:info@sunnyhill.lambeth.sch.uk). We'll use the newsletter to keep you up to date regarding any suggestions that are made.

### Attendance and Punctuality

**Our attendance target for this academic year is 96%.**

Our whole school attendance figures are going down not up- this is particularly evident in the Foundation stage and Key Stage1- which is very disappointing. We really need your support to meet our target this year- if the children are going to make progress and achieve as well as we know they can they need to be here at school unless they are unwell.

As a parent/carer you can help us achieve this by:

- **Telling your child how important school is;**
- **Praising your child's achievements and celebrating their success;**
- **Organising non-urgent medical appointments after school;**
- **Helping your child get into a routine at breakfast and bedtime;**
- **Encourage healthy eating and exercise to boost your child's immune system;**
- **Encourage your child to prepare their school uniform ready for school the night before;**
- **Organising your child's equipment (or getting them into the routine of laying everything out) the night before they're needed (E.G. Book bag and PE kit);**
- **Taking time to talk to your child about what they have done in school – showing that you are interested and what they do at school does matter!**

Our attendance for the week commencing February 8<sup>th</sup> was **95.0%** and we are running at **95.3%** since September (a drop of .5%). The KS1 class winners were **2Beam (96.3%)** and the KS2 winner was **3 Stour (with 100%)**. Well done- particularly Y3Stour!

The best attendance winners in each year group were as follows:

Reception and Key Stage 1	Key Stage 2
R Thames=96.2%	3 Stour=100%
1 Eden=94.2%	4 Avon=96.7%
2 Beam=96.3%	5 Cregg=99.6%
	6 Rother=96.2%

