

Weekly Newsletter: Friday 7th June 2019

Dear Parents, Carers, and Families,

A big welcome back to all our students and families. We hope you had restful half-term break.

Here's a roundup of the news in the first week back of the second half of our summer term.

Equine Therapy

Learners in the Upper School journeyed to the royal stables in Hyde Park for a session of equine therapy on Wednesday this week.

The stables work with a charity to invite students to ride and groom horses and benefit from the intuitive bond that develops when working with these intelligent animals.



Eid Mubarak

We'd like to say Eid Mubarak to all those who marked the end of Ramadan this week. We hope you enjoyed spending time celebrating with family and friends and wish you well in the year ahead.

Junior Sports Day: this Saturday

A reminder that this exciting event for young people is taking place this Saturday 8th June in Camden.

The junior Sports day is free and open to young people with disabilities and their families. It takes place from 11.30am to 3.30pm and there is a whole range of exciting, accessible sports on offer from adapted bikes, to trampolines, boccia and archery. For a full list of the day's activities

and for more information please see the flyers at the end of this newsletter, or contact Ben Dorsett on 020 7974 5892 or at Ben.Dorsett@camden.gov.uk



The event will also include information stalls where you find out about disability sport opportunities and other disability services in Camden.

Come and join in the fun at Talacre community sports centre, NW5 3AF tomorrow from 11:30am.

International Evening

Our International Evening is getting closer with less than two weeks to go. Make sure you have the date in your diary as we would love for as many families to come along and celebrate the incredible diversity of our school community together.

The event will be taking place on Wednesday June 19th between 4.00pm and 5.30pm. Our theme is **'World Music Day'** which also takes place in the same week and will allow all sorts of opportunity for musical creativity, performances and sensory-sound fun.



As always we would love parents and families to be involved as much as possible, so if you have suggestions or want to get help with decorations, dance, music, performances or any element of the evening then please speak to Rozenn Himri on the Specialist Team.

The evening will include stalls, performances, games, food and activities. Students and classes will be working hard to decorate different areas of the school themed by all the countries that make up our school community.

Come along on June 19th **and don't forget to wear traditional dress, or bring some traditional food to share if you feel able to.**

CAMHS Coping Workshop

Camden Special Parents Forum would like to make you aware of an upcoming workshop they have for parents or carers of a child with Special Needs.

The workshop has been developed by CAMHS (Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services) specifically to support parents in dealing with the pressures of having a child with SEND.

It will take place on Thursday 20th June from 11-12.30pm at The Greenwood Centre, 37 Greenwood Place, Kentish Town, NW5 1LB,

For more information and specific details of the content of this workshop please see the flyer at the end of this newsletter.

School Photos Reminder

A reminder that on Friday 14th June we will have a school portrait photographer coming to the school to take class, individual, family photos and any other groupings on request.

If you would like your child to be photographed please make sure you have signed and returned the consent forms that went home in your home/school diaries. If you cannot find the form, please contact your class team to request a new one.

Best wishes,

Monika Gaweda
Head of School

Catherine Shipton
Deputy Head of School

Camden Active

Junior Sports Day

For disabled people aged 5-25 and their families

Talacre community sports centre NWS 3AF
Saturday 8 June 2019
11:30am to 3:30pm

If you are aged between 5-25 and want to try out lots of fun sports activities, come and join us at this exciting Junior Disability Sports Day

Come and enjoy a range of new and exciting activities including:

- Gymnastics
- Basketball
- Athletics
- Trampoline
- Football
- Tennis
- Archery
- Adapted Bikes
- Drumming
- Dance
- Soft Play
- Boccia
- New Age
- Kurling

You can visit our information stalls to find out about disability sport opportunities and other disability services in Camden.

Swiss Cottage School
Development & Resource Centre

Special Olympics
Camden

BETTER
the best good place

Camden

Camden Active Junior Sports Day



**For disabled people aged
5-25 and their families**

**Talacre community sports centre NW5 3AF
Saturday 8 June 2019 - 11:30am to 3:30pm**

Come and enjoy a range of free activities

Bus: 46, 393

Train: Kentish Town West

Tube: Kentish Town

For more information
contact Ben Dorsett on
020 7974 5892 or at
Ben.Dorsett@camden.gov.uk



CAMHS Coping Workshop for parents or carers of a child with Special Needs

When Thursday 20th June 11-12.30pm
Where The Greenwood Centre, 37 Greenwood Place, Kentish
Town, NW5 1LB



Do you feel overwhelmed by parenting a child with special needs?
Do you feel that you are running out of steam?
Do you feel stuck in your situation and that things are never going to change?

If you answered yes to any of these questions, then this workshop is for you.

The following topics will be covered in this workshop:

- Expectations of yourself and your child
- Relating back to your experiences as child
- What your child's behaviour brings up in you
- Modelling thinking things through and communicating, even if your child doesn't seem to be listening
- Separation and loss
- Social support – friends and (extended) family
- Time for you ...
- Mindfulness and stress management

This CAMHS workshop will be delivered by Susan Cottam, clinical psychologist, and Adele O'Hanlon, child psychotherapist, who are working with many Camden families.

To book onto this workshop please email maria.schultz@kids.org.uk, call or text 07826 671 523, or call the KIDS office on 0207 431 8476 and ask for Maria or Rachel.
<https://www.facebook.com/CamdenSpecialParentsForum>



Dear Parents and Carers

School funding

We are Headteachers in Camden. Our schools serve very diverse communities and one thing we all have in common is our determination to provide every child with the best possible education.

Over the last few years, this ambition has become more and more difficult to achieve. We are struggling to make the money we get cover the costs of running our schools the way we want to. Every year our bills go up but our income does not increase at the same rate, and in some cases decreases.

In order to ensure that our schools do not go into debt, we have to make savings. All of us, over the last few years, have had to reduce the amount we spend on staff and resources. This often means that children are not able to access the kind of learning opportunities that they need and deserve.

Our staff teams are our most important resource and paying them is, quite rightly, the largest cost. Many of us have had to stop recruiting new staff, and in some cases schools have had to make staff redundant simply to balance our budgets.

The situation does **not look like it's going to get any better. All our staff and governors will** continue to do everything we can to ensure that children do not suffer as a result of the financial situation.

We are writing to you to let you know that we need your support. We are not asking you for donations, although our PTAs are vital in helping us financially. We are simply asking, as we continue to struggle on, for your understanding, patience and support. Please write to your MP, local councillor and local newspapers and tell them how much you **value your children's education.**

Signed

John Hayes
Gospel Oak