

THE HAMLET HERALD



'Outstanding learning, within a glittering curriculum, where everyone matters'

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HEAD OF SCHOOL'S NOTE

I started my day yesterday receiving a super email from a complete stranger who took the time to write to school. I'm going to share it with you all:

'I have just had the delightful experience of sitting with a few of your year 6 boys as they returned to school after a visit to a local fire station. They were polite, engaging and confident, a pleasure to meet and a credit to you and their parents.'

How lovely is that! Our Y6 have attended their Junior Citizenship training this week at the Old Kent Road Fire Station which has meant travelling by public transport, like we often do. Of course we like to think that our Hamleteers are demonstrating the qualities that we talk about and discuss every day at school when we are out and about in the community and beyond. But to have it recognised in this way is very special indeed. We should all be feeling very proud of our children...

ACHIEVEMENT CERTIFICATES

The following children have received Achievement Certificates in our special Friday celebration assemblies throughout January and February. Congratulations to you all:

- 3C Bilal, Max, Seamus, Emmanuel, Saskia, Sophie, Stanley, Coco, Byron, Otto, Esme, Constance, Dela & Leyla
- 3K Lucien, Leo, Eric, Anastasia, Tiger, Max, Ella, Luke, Joshua, Matilda, Nathan, Rafael, Zahra, Arjun, Alice & Sophia
- 3J Rory, Amber, Maisy, Freddie, Tilly, Steven, Stanley, Lucy, George G, Romi, Arlo, George W, Gabriel, April & Aamir
- 4A Kitty, Louie, Tom, Rafer, Theo, Thomas, Nieve, Zac, Maya, Phoebe, Lara, Ines, John & Lottie
- 4G Justyn, Agnes, Charlie, Sam, Marlee, Xavier, Emeric, Lorna, Lucy, Rafferty, Lois, Frank, Blake, Felix & Niamh
- 4H Connie, Lilly-Rose, Camille, Gus, Liv, Rufus, Eden, Monty, Alban, Erin, Lewis, Grace, James, William, Sophia, Olivia & Noah
- 5LT Kesh, Julien, Alfie, Sophia, Raqiyah, George, Isaac H, Bela, Charlie, Tom, Jovita, Madison, Isaac T, Dorian, Joshua & Tali
- 5VT Connie, Otis, Ben, Rachel, Annika, Aidan, Sophie, Amelia, Nicholas, Amy, Mia, John, Enzo, Myles, Kaci, Finn, Lottie, Joseph & Fejiro
- 5TS Charlie, Diana, Pablo, Lila, Amelia, Lilly, Noah, Moriah, Scarlett, Jacob, Tom, Ethan, Matthew, Immy, Jodi, Alfie, Oliver & Bea
- 6S Greta, Conor, Gabriel, Barry, Sami, Carys, Otis, Kate, Abraham, Amelia, Lily, Jethro, Anya, Vidhi, Isabel, Luke, Jaime, Iris, Jason & Fabien
- 6P Jake, Tove, Alfie, Harry D, Sophie, Zachary, Elsa, Rosie & Francesca R
- 6MG Khallum, Alex, Matthew, Agatha, Gabrielle, Fin, Nina, George, Elvy, Julian, Faith, Adam, Oscar & Alara
- 6GR Vanya, Mike, Flora, Isaac, Giulia, Luca, Dan, Lyla, Nancy, Euan, Joshua, Louis, Jack, Lilou & Ariana

KEY DATES

Wednesday 28th February

8:45-9:30am 'Parent & Carer Café' for Y6 parents regarding the forthcoming SATs in May

Friday 2nd March

Dulwich Hamlet 'Book Day': come dressed-up as your favourite book character

FROM OUR FRIENDS AT THE CHARTER SCHOOL

Could you offer a Charter student a work experience placement?

Each year The Charter School's Year 10 students have to complete a week's work experience. This helps them to learn more about the world of work either generally or specifically if they already have a career pathway in mind. It also builds their 'employability skills' including confidence, communication, timekeeping, organisation and flexibility. If you are able to offer a Year 10 student(s) a placement for the week of the 14th-18th May, please contact Shalene Varcoe at The Charter School SVarcoe@charter.southwark.sch.uk or 020 7346 6636

Y3/4 MUSIC THEMED PARENT CAFÉ

You've snapped-up places for our forthcoming café on the theme of 'Practical tips for supporting your young musician' quickly! There are a few spaces left, but please don't panic if we are not able to offer you a place this time. We'll re-run the session in the summer term.

WEEKLY HOUSE POINTS

Topaz Water	Ruby Fire	Garnet Earth	Sapphire Air
			
129	101	87	125

NEW MENU

Please see our new Spring/Summer Menu below which will start next week. It will be on a three week cycle so we will publish week 2 and 3 in the next two Hamlet Heralds. You can also view the complete menu on our website. <http://www.dulwichhamletjuniorschool.org.uk/lunch-menu.html> We're looking forward to a special 'Chinese New Year' lunch one day next week, day to be confirmed.

We have worked closely with our catering provider to ensure that first and foremost what we offer meets the required nutritional standards, as well as being a good variety for the children to enjoy. We've ensured that a few of the 'favourites' remain too. The children may have informed you that we have had new chefs since just before the Christmas break. We are delighted with the food that Fabrice and Ossie have been cooking for us each day. Their food is presented beautifully, tastes great, and there are always jacket potatoes and a varied salad bar to select from on top of the main dish of the day.

DULWICH HAMLET BOOK DAY

We are hoping that our Hamleteers will get involved and come in dressed-up next Friday, 2nd March. We will have a special extended assembly to celebrate our Book Day, and we will look forward to receiving entries for our Poetry Competition and Hamlet Book Quiz. (See info emailed yesterday) The teachers are also going to swap classes during the day to share a favourite poem or short story. The children will be bringing home their £1 World Book Day token that can be exchanged for one of the ten (exclusive, new and completely free) World Book Day books, or part-exchanged towards any full price book.

TECHNICAL ISSUE!

You certainly learn something every day... For some time, a few of you have commented on typos that have been appearing in our communications. While we check everything that we send, and try to avoid human error, we have not been able to see where all of these typos have come from. We think we now have the answer! When you open a document that we have attached in your browser, for some reason bits of the original alter, hence the typos. If you download the document, it is ok. We are looking in to this technical 'glitch' as we speak!

Dulwich Hamlet

Spring/Summer 2018 Menu Week 1

	Mediterranean	Family Favourites	Traditional	Global Adventure	Fun Day
Hot Main Dish	Mozzarella & Tomato Pizza ** <i>with Pasta Salad **</i>	Chicken Mayo Burger <i>with Jacket Wedges</i>	Roast Gammon <i>with Roast Potatoes & Gravy</i>	Beef Jollof <i>with Rice **</i>	Crispy Fish & Chips <i>Crispy Battered Pollock with Chips</i>
Alternative Dish	Mediterranean Summer Beans <i>with Rice *</i>	Vegetable Biryani	Quorn Roast <i>with Roast Potatoes with Gravy</i>	Macaroni, Sweetcorn and Cheese Bake	Veggie Hot Dog <i>with Chips</i>
Vegetables	Crunchy Salad Peas	House Coleslaw Sweetcorn	Seasonal Cabbage Carrots	Broccoli Cauliflower	Baked Beans Peas
Desserts	Wedges of Melon * and Orange	Mini Chocolate Brownie * <i>with Banana and Custard</i>	Blueberry Fro Yoghurt	Berry Flapjack	Orange Shortbread <i>with Yoghurt Dipper</i>

Jacket Potato with various toppings, Cool Water, Fresh Fruit and Yoghurt served daily
 *Fruit Based **Wholegrain ***Oily Fish
 w/c 26/02 19/03 16/04 07/05 04/06 25/06 16/07

SECONDARY TRANSFER

By now, those of you who made applications to the independent sector will have received the outcome. Next week, state sector secondary school offers will be made. You should receive an email from eAdmissions after 5pm on March 1st. For further information, please visit the Southwark Admissions website:

www.southwark.gov.uk/schooladmissions

You can also make use of the Southwark Council's weekly school admissions drop-in surgery, aimed at families residing in the borough, where you can access first hand advice and support from the local authority admission officers on primary, secondary and in-year admission related matters. The drop in surgery is held once a week every **Wednesday (term time only) from 9.30am to 3pm** and operates on a first come first served basis, so there may be a short wait before meeting with an officer.

The drop in surgery is held at:

Peckham customer service point, Peckham Library, 122 Peckham Hill Street, SE15 5JR.

We do hope that as a family, you receive the news you are hoping for, but, as with primary admissions, there may be some time as places are accepted/declined and waiting lists move. Can we politely request that you do not 'sit' on a place. This is always an anxious time for children and parents alike and every year we have some of our Hamleteers waiting for places to become available. Please do decline a place for a school at your earliest convenience if you are not intending to accept it.

We ask that you keep us informed of the offer you accept, whether that be from the state or independent sector, by sending an email to: cpurcell4.210@lgflmail.org

ENRICHMENT PROGRAMME 2018

Could you teach a small group of children to sew, knit, paint or draw? Are you sporty enough to coach a group of children to play a small sided game or be athletic? Would you be willing to assist any of our staff with these types of activities? If the answer is yes, please sign up for our Enrichment programme by emailing the school office or Nikki Thomson nthomson3.210@lgflmail.org by Monday 12th March 2018. (For full details of the times and dates please see the email sent out yesterday)

ATTENDANCE MATTERS

Attendance really does matter.

Were you aware that over a five year period, a child whose attendance is at 90%, will miss a half of a school year; that's a lot of lost education, and without a doubt, will have a detrimental effect on that child's educational progress and attainment.

Our Core Leadership Team were quite shocked to learn that 36 children were absent across the school on the day before the February half-term (some absences had been authorised, some were not) We reflected on what these absences actually meant and thought we would give you a few examples: Some of these children missed a feedback session on an extended write and were therefore not present to complete this work and apply this knowledge. Some children in Y6 missed important maths homework being set. Some children had been selected to represent the school through sport on this day and missed this opportunity. All absentees missed a fantastic session with Bassistry Arts that we had planned.

Changes have been made over the past few years. Headteachers no longer have the discretion to allow up to 10 days in a school year for absence, or to agree to extend leave for parents and carers to visit their country of origin.

We have just published an updated Attendance and Punctuality Policy which you can view on our website http://www.dulwichhamletjuniorschool.org.uk/uploads/6/2/8/6/62866179/hamlet_attendance_policy_spring_2018.pdf You will find our attendance and punctuality procedures clearly detailed. A couple of changes have been made to our current system, which include writing to notify you on a term by term basis if your child's attendance falls below 95%, and putting any request for holiday in term time in writing by email to the Head of School, not less than three weeks before the intended period of leave. As per our policy and guidance from the DfE: *'The Head of School (on behalf of the Governing Body), will only authorise leave, in exceptional circumstances which will be interpreted as: "being of unique and significant emotional, educational or spiritual value to the child which outweighs the loss of teaching time". Decisions will be made on a case by case basis with reference to the child's current and historic level of attendance, punctuality and their academic progress.'*

<https://www.gov.uk/school-attendance-absence>