



The Eliot Bank and Gordonbrock Schools Federation



Executive Headteacher: Ms Maria Gilmore

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23 October 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you are safe and well.

This half term in school has been like no other. There has been so much to get used to – staggered start and end times, different entrances to school, one way systems and not least, for parents, being unable to come on to the school site. I am sure that, like us, you are ready for a well-earned rest!

It has been exhausting for all of us, but as a whole school community, we have approached the changes with determination and resilience. Because of this, life for the children has been as normal as we could possibly make it and they are happy in school. Thank you for your continued support.

Despite the significant changes to the way that we work, we have been committed to ensuring that the following has happened:

- A smooth transition into school for our new Nursery and Reception children.
- Parents' Evening – by telephone.
- Learning Meetings – on Google Classroom.
- Home Learning – on Google Classroom.
- Weekly Newsletters – by email and on the website.
- Termly Learning Ladders.
- Assemblies – virtually.
- PE and Music lessons with specialist providers
- Hot meals from the first day of term.
- Black History events – virtually.
- Wear Red Day, Show Racism the Red Card – a national day of action to help fund anti-racism education for young people and adults across the UK.

We know that many of these things are usually a 'normal,' part of life in school but with everyone's safety at the forefront of our thinking, they have taken much more time and planning than usual. We are pleased that we have been able to provide them and I would like to take this opportunity to thank every member of staff in school for the exceptional dedication and commitment they have demonstrated to school this half term.



During the half term holiday, can I please remind you to email the school at info@eliotbank.lewisham.sch.uk if you, your child or anyone in your household tests positive for coronavirus. This is so that we can contact the local health protection team for advice and take any necessary action that they may recommend. If you, your child or anyone in your household becomes unwell with coronavirus symptoms during the half term week, stay at home, arrange for a coronavirus test as soon as you can and follow the advice of any medical professionals. In this case, please do not send your child or anyone in your household to school on Monday 2 November 2020 unless you, your child or the member of your household has had a coronavirus test and received a negative test result.

As times continue to be uncertain and as we continue to face many challenges, working in partnership with you is more important than ever. Please look out for our Parent Questionnaire after half term – we value your feedback and we will use it to inform both our daily practice and our strategic school improvement planning.

I sincerely hope that you are able to enjoy the half term break and I look forward to working with you in the future.

Yours sincerely,



Maria Gilmore
Executive Headteacher

