

HEADTEACHER'S NEWSLETTER



WELCOME

Dear Parents and Carers,

Well, that's another half term over! I am not quite sure where the last seven weeks have gone, but they have certainly been busy.

It has been lovely to see the children settle into their new classes and get back into the routines of school life. A special welcome to all the new children and families who have joined us this term. I hope you are already beginning to feel part of the Central Park family.

CELEBRATING THE WONDERFUL THINGS AT CENTRAL PARK

What a fantastic half term! Our weekly celebration assemblies continue to be a highlight, recognising not just academic success but kindness, determination, progress and those who go the extra mile. Every child has something worth celebrating!

Beyond the classroom, children have enjoyed visits to places of worship, sporting competitions and Debate Mate events. Some even travelled to France to explore World War One history and French culture, including tasting frogs' legs! 😊

A huge thank you to our dedicated staff for creating these memorable experiences and opportunities that help our children grow in confidence and shine!

LEARNING AT CENTRAL PARK

It has been a fantastic half term of learning across the school! Children have worked hard in reading, writing and maths, while enjoying a wide range of other subjects and activities.

Reading remains a key priority, as it opens doors to future learning and opportunities. Please continue encouraging reading at home, whether through books, library visits or everyday activities. Make it fun!

We are also helping children develop confidence and independence. Making mistakes is part of learning, and we encourage everyone to have a go, ask questions and persevere when things get tricky. Every effort counts!

HALF TERM BREAK

The school will be closed for the Autumn half term break between Monday 26th October & Friday 30th October. The school will open for children on Monday 2nd November.

EVERY CHILD HAS SOMETHING SPECIAL TO OFFER!

At Central Park, we believe every child has unique talents and strengths worth celebrating! Whether through creativity, problem-solving, performance or kindness, every child has something special to offer.

Our wonderful diversity is one of our greatest strengths. We celebrate our different cultures, languages and experiences, ensuring every child feels valued, included and supported.

Every child learns differently, and we are committed to helping each one grow in confidence, discover their potential and shine!

ATTENDANCE - EVERY DAY COUNTS

Every school day matters! Good attendance means more learning, friendships and opportunities to succeed. Thank you to all our families who ensure children arrive on time and ready to learn!

We understand children get ill, but when they are well enough, they should be in school. A reminder: Holidays abroad during term time are not permitted without authorisation and may result in a Fixed Penalty Notice. Please plan family holidays during school breaks.

If attendance is a challenge, talk to us – we're here to help! Working together gives every child the best chance to succeed.

SCHOOL CHANGES - LOOKING AHEAD TOGETHER

Like many schools across Newham and London, Central Park is facing financial pressures due to falling pupil numbers. As school funding is largely based on the number of children on roll, fewer pupils means less funding.

This year, we have three Reception classes instead of four, and this is likely to continue next September. Over time, Central Park may move from a four-form-entry to a three-form-entry school. These challenges have led to some difficult but necessary staffing changes, meaning we now have fewer staff across the school.

What does this mean for families?

You may notice longer response times to enquiries, meeting requests and routine matters. We kindly ask for your patience and understanding as our teams manage increased workloads. Please be assured that children's safety, wellbeing and urgent concerns will always remain our priority.

While Central Park may look a little different in the years ahead, our values, high expectations and commitment to providing the best possible education for every child remain unchanged.

Thank you for your continued support as we navigate these changes together.

KEEPING OUR CHILDREN SAFE ONLINE

With growing concerns about children's photographs being misused through Artificial Intelligence (AI), we are taking extra steps to protect our pupils online.

We will gradually remove photographs from our school website where children's faces are clearly identifiable and change how we capture and share images in the future.

We will continue celebrating our children's achievements, but in ways that better protect their privacy and safety.

We appreciate families enjoy seeing school life through photographs, but our children's safety must always come first.

Thank you for your understanding and support as we adapt to the challenges of modern technology.

LOOKING AHEAD – AN EXCITING HALF TERM! 🍂

The second half of autumn promises to be a busy and exciting one! From Remembrance activities and Anti-Bullying Week to our end-of-term celebrations, there's plenty to look forward to – and Christmas will be here before we know it!



Keep an eye out after half term for important dates and details of upcoming events!

SPECIAL MOMENTS AT HOME TIME ❤️

There's nothing lovelier than seeing children's smiles when they spot their parents or carers at the end of the school day!

We know life is busy, but those first few moments together are precious.

We kindly ask parents and carers to put mobile phones away while on school premises, wherever possible, and enjoy reconnecting with their children. We understand urgent calls may sometimes be necessary.

Phones away, smiles out! A few minutes of undivided attention can mean the world to a child. ❤️

WORKING TOGETHER – STRONGER TOGETHER! 🤝

The best outcomes for children happen when school and home work together. We won't always get everything right, but open, respectful communication makes all the difference. If you have a question or concern, please talk to us – a simple conversation can often resolve things quickly.

And don't forget to share the positives! Our staff work incredibly hard, and a kind word or simple thank you goes a long way. Together, we can give every child the very best!

A FEW IMPORTANT REMINDERS

In the meantime, just a few reminders:

- Attendance and punctuality: Please continue to make sure children attend school regularly and arrive on time.
- Winter clothing: The weather is getting colder, so please make sure children have a warm coat. It also helps enormously if clothing is named.
- Reading at home: Please keep reading with your children and encouraging them to enjoy books.
- Nut-free school: A reminder that we are a nut-free school. Please do not send in birthday cakes, sweets, party bags or other food items to share with children.
- Contact details: Please let the office know if your telephone number, address or emergency contact details change.

AND FINALLY.....

I want to finish by saying a very big thank you.

Firstly, to our staff. Schools are busy places, and there is an enormous amount of work that goes on every day, much of which parents never see. Our teachers, teaching assistants, office staff, pastoral team, lunchtime staff, premises staff and everyone else who helps keep Central Park running all play an important part. Thank you for everything you do.

To our parents and carers, thank you for your continued support. We know that bringing up children is not always easy, and we really do appreciate the part you play in helping them learn, grow and succeed.

And finally, to our children. You are the reason we are all here. You make us laugh, you challenge us, you surprise us and, every single day, you remind us why working in a school is such a rewarding job.

I hope you all have a lovely half-term break. Enjoy spending time together, have some fun and, hopefully, find a little time to relax.

I look forward to seeing everyone back after the holiday, ready for another busy half term.

Paul Taylor
Headteacher
Central Park Primary School