



WILLIAM ELLIS SCHOOL
HIGHGATE ROAD
LONDON
NW5 1RN

HEADTEACHER: MS IZZY JONES

TEL: 020 7267 9346
www.williamellis.camden.sch.uk
info@williamellis.camden.sch.uk

Friday 9th December 2022

Dear families

In advance of an end of term newsletter next week, I'm writing with updates on work that has happened in school and practical arrangements for the end of term.

Transport strike details

We know that there are rail strikes next week, but these affect network rail and overland services rather than the tube and therefore the school day will run as normal. However, students should prepare for buses and some trains to be slower and leave more time for their journey in the mornings. If any students do travel on services that aren't running and expect significant problems getting to school on strike days, please send them with a note that they can give to their tutor on those days to explain their lateness.

End and start of term arrangements

Students will be dismissed from school on Friday 16th December between 12:30pm and 12:45pm by tutor group, following year group assemblies. Students will be able to get lunch before they leave, and all students will need to be off the school site by 1pm.

Students are expected back in school on Wednesday 4th January for a full school day – it will be a Week A.

Winter Entertainment Evening

This celebration of music and drama with performances from students of all ages will take place in the main hall on Thursday 15th December, starting at 6pm. It is free for attend and families do not need to buy tickets, but WESPA will be taking a donation and also selling refreshments on the evening. Please do come along to our first concert on this scale for three years – it will be great to have you there!

The Winter Entertainment will be a final opportunity to make donations to the **Camden Foodbank**. As a reminder, the items they require urgently to help local families in need are:

- Tinned Meat and Fish – Hot Dogs, Meatballs, Meat in Sauce, Tuna, Sardines, Mackerel, etc
- Tinned Fruit and vegetables
- Pasta Sauce
- Long Life Milk – Whole, Semi, Soya, Oat or Almond
- Cereal – Cornflakes, Coco Pops, Rice Krispies, Fruit and Fibre etc.
Jam, Peanut Butter, Chocolate Spread
- Longlife Juice and squash
- Cooking Oil
- Coffee, Tea and Hot Chocolate
- Christmas Sweets, Biscuits and presents suitable for children
- Toiletries – Shampoo, Shower Gel, Toilet Rolls,
- Washing Powder for Laundry and Washing up Liquid.

Families who may find themselves in a position where they need support may also seek assistance from other nearby food banks, including:

- Chalk Farm Foodbank, Eglon Mews
- Finchley Food bank, High Road
- The Trussel Trust, who have a number of food banks locally, including Phoenix Road, Pratt Mews and Ronalds Road Islington

A directory for food banks across London can be found at www.helpLondon.co.uk/food-banks

Support for families from Camden over the winter break

Supermarket vouchers will be posted by the Council in mid-December to families living in Camden with children aged up to 18 who are receiving Housing Benefit or Council Tax support. Any families whose children attend Camden schools and receive free school meals will also receive vouchers. Families will be sent £40 per child and those with more than one child will receive multiple vouchers. The vouchers can be used in a variety of supermarkets. If you have not received them by 21st December 2022, they should call Camden Council on 020 7974 4444 (option 9). An additional £15 supermarket voucher per child will be sent in February 2023.

To support residents with the cost-of-living crisis, Camden Council has developed an advice and support booklet which is attached to this letter. If you haven't already done so, please share this with staff, parents and carers. If you would like some printed copies, please use the contact above. Similarly, if parents, carers or staff are asking specific questions related to the cost-of-living crisis that we haven't answered or included in the booklet, please let us know. It is also worth noting that printing copies of the booklet are available in our libraries and have been delivered to Council tenants and leaseholders.

Christmas dinner menu



Halal meat and vegetarian alternative available

Christmas dinner will be served in the canteen on Tuesday for all students – this will be at the normal main meal price, and therefore at no cost to free school meal students.

All students are encouraged to come for Christmas dinner – there will be no other options served in the canteen on Tuesday.

Yours faithfully,

Izzy Jones, Headteacher