



EARLHAM *echo*

October 2017

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am pleased to confirm that we have formally joined the Eko Trust following final approval from the DfE. As you know, there will be very little change for you or the pupils, and we are confident that joining the Trust will help us become an even better school. This is already happening—for example, we have set up a Curriculum Team, who are working across all the Trust schools to make sure the curriculum we offer challenges and excites the children; and a School Improvement Team, which involves some of the most skilled teachers from each school working across all the schools to help us improve specific areas of learning. We have a joint training day planned for November where there will be a wide variety of workshops, so all members of staff will learn something new to improve their practice.

Thank you for your support with our new start and finish times, it has made the process of coming into and leaving school much smoother. Now we have opened the hall doors, **KS1** children can come in at **8.50** as well and will make this the formal start time for yrs 1 and 2 after half term. It will save you and your children having to wait around in bad weather. If your children are in Nursery please make sure you are here at 8.40 so you can take your children in, and for Reception please remember the start time is 8.45, again to make sure children can go in safely before the older children enter.

Yours sincerely,

Laura Hewer

Headteacher

Key Dates

Half term—Monday 23rd October—
Friday 27th October

Safeguarding workshops for parents—
Wednesday 8th November

Staff training day (school closed for
children)—Friday 17th November

Christmas concerts—December 13th
and 14th

Reports to be sent out on December
15th

End of Term—Tuesday 19th December

Parents Evenings—Wednesday 10th
and Thursday 11th January

Bike security

The bike store is open only between 8.40—9.05, and after 3.10 in the afternoon. If your child needs to collect their bike at any other time they will need to ask in the office. We also have a CCTV camera for extra security, but would remind you that all bikes still need to be securely locked.

Bike and scooters in the playground!

Please make sure your children do not ride their bikes or scooters in the playground at any time, it gets very crowded and is potentially dangerous.

Earlham Primary's
Website!

Visit our School website:

www.earlham.newham.sch.uk

Where you can find pictures, important messages, curriculum information and much more...



Mr Derbyshire managed to get us free tickets for Premier League matches at the stadium in Stratford! These lucky children watched West Ham vs Swansea.

Uniform reminder
Sweatshirts/cardigans are available from the school office on Tuesdays at 3.30. Please make sure that you write your child's name on the label!

Attendance

Last year at Earlham we met the government's attendance target of 96%, achieving 96.1 percent –many thanks for your support in making sure your children attend school regularly. Please remember that we cannot authorise holidays at all, and can only give permission for leave during term time for the most exceptional and unforeseen reasons. Any request for leave should be made in writing to Mr Jacob. Please be aware that Newham will issue fines for unauthorised holidays.

Educational Visits

As you know, last term we cancelled trips into central London following the terrorist incidents, as safety has to be our number one priority. This does need to be balanced against continuing with every day life and giving the children the best possible experiences. The decision we have reached with the school governors is that any trips into town must not involve use of the underground, where (in the very unlikely event of an incident occurring) it would not be easy to get the children to safety. What is more likely is a false alarm, or minor disturbance, which would result in long delays and staff underground being unable to contact the school, which could cause distress to your children and yourselves.

We will keep the situation under review and inform you promptly of any further changes. Please be assured that every trip is thoroughly risk assessed on an individual basis, to minimize any potential hazards and ensure the children's safety and enjoyment.

Termly Tests

I wanted to let you know that we are introducing termly tests to help us assess the children's progress in reading, maths and science. We expect this to give us an additional measure of progress, which will help us plan the children's learning. The outcomes of the tests will be included in the end of term reports. Please be assured that there is no pressure attached to the tests for the children—it is not a case of pass or fail, and we hope that the children will be encouraged to see the progress they make over the year. We have completed the first round of tests and the children did not find it a stressful experience. If you have any further questions please speak to your child's teacher.

New school times—reminder!

	Start	Finish
Reception	8.45	3.15
KS1 (yrs 1 and 2)	8.50	3.20
KS2 (yrs 3-6)	8.50	3.25