



## Newsletter

19th March 2021

# Fairness

Dear parents and carers,

I hope that this newsletter finds you all well. It has been lovely to end the week seeing all the pupils dressed so vibrantly in red for Red Nose Day! Staff and pupils alike have had a very enjoyable day, whilst raising money for an excellent cause. Today we raised £376! Thank you to all families who have donated so generously.

It was a pleasure to hear from class teachers this afternoon about how children have demonstrated **fairness**, our value of the week. We heard so many varied examples of how children embodied this value this week, and I am extremely proud of them all. A big well done to the children named below!

Nursery	Xaia Fevrier
Reception Apple	Emma Konya
Reception Peach	Jack Lowther
Beech	Aarvi Laddha
Maple	Anastasia Marriner
Birch	Arosha Abdul
Ash	Amelia Saunders
Lemon	Alesha Sinha
Oak	Violet Hill
Aspen	Slawa Szulc
Spruce	Fatima Mollah and Tallulah Rogers
Palm	Leyla Godfrey
Cherry	Ava Page Murray
Willow	Amelia Rahman
Cypress	Nashwa Hossain

### Packed lunches and snacks

This is a polite reminder that we are a Healthy School, and so we request that children bring in healthy packed lunches and snacks. This is to support with both their physical health and wellbeing, but also reflects the known impact that unhealthy and sugary foods can have on children's concentration and focus in school. Please do not send children into school with items such as chocolate bars, chocolate spread sandwiches, crisps and biscuits. Please could children also only bring in water to drink, and not juice. Thank you for your cooperation with this.



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## **Easter holidays**

This is just a reminder that next Friday is the last day of the Spring term. Please note that children will finish at the usual time for their year group. School resumes on Monday 12th April for all pupils.

## **Attachments**

Please find attached flyers for Energy Kidz, and their Easter holiday provision, as well a leaflet from the Anna Fiorentini Performing Arts School. They are based at St. Luke's and any students that join in April will start rehearsals for their 21st Anniversary Hackney Empire Gala Extravaganza, which will take place in March 2022, (government guidelines permitting). If parents mention St. Luke's on the Application form they get a 20% discount off their first term's fees.

## **Letter to John Biggs**

Finally, I have attached a wonderful letter to the Mayor of Tower Hamlets, John Biggs, written by one of our year 6 pupils, Amelia Rahman, about the potential closure of libraries. We are very proud of Amelia for writing to him about such an important issue that she is passionate about, and we are delighted that she received a formal letter of response from John Biggs. A big well done to Amelia for having the courage and enthusiasm to speak out about important causes that she is passionate about.

Wishing you all a lovely weekend.

With best wishes,

Cristina King

Head of School



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Dear Mayor John Biggs,

If you read this, I would like to thank you for taking time out to read this letter. My name is Amelia I am ten years old (in year 6) and live in Tower Hamlets. I am writing to you as I have heard that all the libraries in Tower Hamlets may close.

First of all, I live in the Isle of Dogs and I have been going to Cubit Town library since I can remember. Every week, I was able to look forward to getting to read new books every week but, since the first lockdown the library has been closed to all adults and children. Adding on to this, my mum used to go to Cubit town library when she was small and now, I have heard all libraries will close!

Secondly, I have tried reading online and, it is quite a tricky website to use furthermore some people may not be able to access the internet so the only way they will be able to read books is through buying them from book shops and places where books where books are sold and, this is quite expensive.

Finally, reading is a big part of many children's lives and they are able to do most of this because of the public libraries in their local furthermore, children should be **encouraged** to read **not discouraged!**

If you do not help open the libraries, many children will miss out on a huge chunk of reading because of lockdown [click here](#). After watching that, you have seen many children who are struggling to read as many books as normal. Although these children are not from Tower Hamlets, the same affect ill happen to children of Tower Hamlets.

For these reasons, I would like you to help save the Tower Hamlets libraries.

Yours sincerely, Amelia Rahman.



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MAYOR OF  
**TOWER HAMLETS**



Executive Mayor's Office

12 March 2021

Contact:  
Tel 020 7364 4000  
mayor@towerhamlets.gov.uk  
www.towerhamlets.gov.uk

Dear Amelia,

Thank you for your email about Idea Stores and Libraires.

We have had a lot of correspondence from our initial proposals and consultation and have considered this at length and as a result of the consultation have made big changes to them, with no library closure at Cubitt Town, and extended hours at Cubitt Town and Bethnal Gren Libraries and the Watney Market Idea Store. We have listened and we have acted.

It has however been a very difficult time. The background is that since 2010 we have faced a policy of austerity from central government and in that time we have seen around 800 libraries close nationally. Like all local authorities we've faced years of cuts and increased demand so we've had to save £200m since 2010 and have to save a further £30m by 2024 due to government cuts.

Locally we have fought hard to keep our Ideas Stores and Libraries open by making efficiencies elsewhere in our budget as we know how valuable these services are to residents. During the pandemic the Idea Stores adapted to keep services running and digital innovations introduced in recent years including online services mean that as much as is possible savings can be made without reducing services.

More than 800 residents took part in a two-month consultation which asked them to have their say and following the consultation I'm pleased to say we have listened and as I say revised our plans, despite the tough financial climate.

**We will now keep Cubitt Town Library, Bethnal Green Library and Idea Store Watney Market open five days a week, including a Saturday and a late night at the two libraries** which will maintain an ambitious service while delivering essential savings.

I am pleased so many people took part in the consultation and it shows us how much residents appreciate the library service and are passionate about safeguarding these important community facilities.

Thank you for getting in touch.

Yours Sincerely

**John Biggs**  
Executive Mayor of Tower Hamlets

**Tower Hamlets Council**  
Town Hall  
Mulberry Place  
5 Clove Crescent  
E14 2BG

The best of London in one borough