



The Camelot

Monthly Newsletter No. 143

February One 2022-2023



Page One printed for circulation—other pages sent by email to all parents/carers

Important time to remember to thank the Camelot Staff Team

We are all so blessed at Camelot School by an exceptional staff team who do so much both on the school's 'front line' as well as 'behind the scenes'. We so hope that all our parents/carers are aware of the staff members who they can contact regarding many of the key areas of school life. We would like use this opportunity to introduce to some of these staff members as follows:

School Office/Administrative support: Miss Raven and Miss Patrice

Contactable on office@camelot.southwark.sch.uk

School Finance support: Mr Zlajac Premises support: Miss Maribel

Family support: Miss Wilkinson **gwilkinson@camelot.southwark.sch.uk**

School chef: Mr Carlos **kitchen@camelot.southwark.sch.uk**

+ a Message to schools from the Secretary of State for Education,
Right Honourable Gillian Keegan MP (31 January 2023)

"Dear school leaders, teachers, support staff, and volunteers

I wanted to take this opportunity to say a big thank you to everyone who is working so hard to prepare for the NEU's planned industrial action in schools tomorrow."

Spring Term Parents Evening

Thank you to all for your attendance.

"At the heart of a child's life chances is parental engagement in their every effort, their education and the overcoming any challenges together"

If any parent/carers was unable to attend their appointment and would like to arrange to see their child's class teacher please contact the school office

The important school dates for your attention

1. **Monday 13th—Friday 17th February**—Spring Half Term Holiday Week: One week
2. **Thursday 2nd March**—World Book Day
3. **Teacher Strike Action Dates—Thursday 2nd March, Wednesday 15th March and Thursday 16th March**—see separate letter regarding school opening on these dates.

The school will aim to be open on all Teacher Strike Dates if possible

4. **Friday 31st March**—last day of Spring Term—early closing from 12.00 noon
5. **Monday 3rd to Thursday 6th April**—Spring CHAMPS



The Camelot Spring CHAMPS aspiration:

Four days of Free Fun and Food for all Camelot pupils in Year 2 to Year 6
Monday 3rd April to Thursday 6th April

At Camelot School.. and in local swimming pools, around local parks, in cinemas and theatres, on buses and on trips around our local area... and all for free!

Places will be limited but we are now opening up booking for the month of February for all Year 2 to Year 6 pupils. From the end of February, remaining places will be offered to Year 1 pupils.

Apply via the school office or by texting the CHAMPS mobile number on 07931616456

Daily School Attendance is essential.... and expected

It is important to note it is essential for pupils to attend school to get the most out of their school experience, noting the impact on their attainment, wellbeing, wider life chances. The pupils with the highest attainment at the end of Key Stage 2 have higher rates of attendance over the key stage compared to those with the lowest attainment. Generally, any pupil attending more than 95% is far more likely to achieve or exceed targets set based on prior achievements and potential.

At Camelot, we are proud of our pupil attendance which is regularly above the national average and we need to all work together to sustain this. Whilst we understand the impact Covid has been having, we need to ensure that this impact is not extended by allowing any potential small symptoms, such as colds or tiredness to prevent students from attending school. We are grateful to the many parents/carers who understand this, and who do their best to arrange any medical appointment to have the least possible impact on time spent in school.

We also extend our thanks to all those parents/carers who let us know of any absence by 8.45am of the morning of absence, and to help clear up any queries that may affect daily attendance and plans for your child's education.

100% Punctuality and Attendance is another phrase for Exceptional Everyday!

What we want to do with your lovely 'photogenic' children?!

- ♦ We hope all Parents/Carers support our use of the photos of your children on our website, in our newsletters and on our posters and displays around school... but not on any social media. If you do not give your permission please inform the office team.



Holiday Free School Meals - February half term 2023

Again, Southwark Council are supporting all families entitled to additional holiday food vouchers (note other councils have begun to remove this support and Southwark may have this funding removed going forward). This funding is for all children entitled to Free School Meals (FSM) support (Nursery to Year 6) and if your family is entitled to No Recourse to Public Funding (NRPF) support. Please do claim this £15 per child half term support—over 50% of the Camelot community are already benefiting.

FREE FEBRUARY HALF TERM HOLIDAY CYCLE TRAINING FOR CHILDREN IN SOUTHWARK.

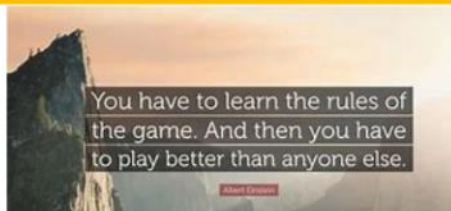
Southwark Council are providing free cycle training courses to all children who live or go to school in the borough during the February half term holidays. Locations include Burgess Park and bikes are available to borrow. Children must be able to attend training for every session. Places are limited and to secure a place, parents and carers need to book on Cycle Confident's website <http://www.cycleconfident.com/courses/child-group/>

Tower Bridge Family Day £1 Entry!

Following the success of last year, Tower Bridge is launching an all new interactive Activity Trail starring Bella the Tower Bridge Cat! The trail is part of the normal entry ticket to Tower Bridge & Southwark families can buy a community ticket for just £1 each!

From Saturday 11th February, join Bella and the characters from the award-winning books as you make your way through Tower Bridge. The Bridge Master and Bella's team will all help you answer key questions about the history of London's defining landmark.

For 2023 we have new school rules introduced to our children and staff this week



The importance of following concise, consistently applied rules are at the heart of success.

We are respectful. We are responsible. We are ready to learn.



Britain is a country of Castles. We hope your children will visit British Castles in their lifetime. At Camelot School all the children are now earning Castle Points for exceptional work, behaviour and choices. Every child has been put into Castle Teams and each week we have a Castle Team winner.



and finally,

Our Reception Class were met on the bus this week on the way back from their Unicorn Theatre trip. We thought we would share with you all the feedback we received from a member of the public.

"today I had the joy of experiencing the school as I attended the unicorn theatre today with my son, to see Anansi the Spider and we met at least one of your classes first on the bus, and then at the theatre.

I just wanted to say how impressed I was at the group. The children were happy, following directions and considerate to other passengers and visitors. The teachers and staff were fantastic with the group. Some children clearly felt overwhelmed or struggled with the amount of passengers on the bus/ the volume in the theatre and the adults (who I assume were working as one to ones) met those children's needs with so much kindness and understanding. It was a wonderful show of inclusion. I just wanted to share how impressed I was,"

Please note that due to our additional teacher training day taken on Tuesday 3rd January and the King's Coronation Bank Holiday in May, the new term dates for the year ahead will be as follows:

Camelot and Cobourg School

Term and Holiday dates

Academic year 2022/2023

Autumn term 2022

- Monday 5th September 2022* to Friday 21st October 2022 (35 school days)
Half Term Monday 24th October 2022 to Friday 28th October 2022
- Monday 31st October 2022 to Friday 16th December 2022 (34 school days)
Mid-term Inset Day Friday 25th November 2022

Spring term 2023

- Wednesday 4th January 2023 to Friday 10th February 2023 (28 school days)
Half Term Monday 13th February 2023 to Friday 17th February 2023
- Monday 20th February 2023 to Friday 31st March 2023 (30 school days)

Summer term 2023

- Monday 17th April 2023 to Friday 26th May 2023 (28 school days)
Half Term Monday 29th May 2023 to Friday 2nd June 2023
- Tuesday 6th June 2023 to Thursday 20th July 2023 (33 school days)

Inset Days: 5 days for staff only

Thursday 1st September 2022
Friday 2nd September 2022
Friday 25th November 2022
Tuesday 3rd January 2023
Monday 5th June 2023

Public holidays

- Good Friday - Friday 7th April 2023
- Easter Sunday – Sunday 9th April 2023
- May Day Bank Holiday - Monday 1st May 2023
- King Charles Coronation Bank Holiday – Monday 8th May 2023

Please remember holidays are not expected to be taken during the 190 school days of a child's annual educational entitlement