

Camden Learning Schools Newsletter

Dear Colleagues,

Welcome to issue thirteen of the latest Camden Learning Schools newsletter.

The aim of sending this newsletter is so that we can keep you up to date on Camden Learning developments, school specific issues, competitions and upcoming conferences. It is a digest of operational and professional matters and school management issues of relevance to Camden schools.

If you have any suggestions for items and issues you would like to see included for the next schools newsletter, please email: SchoolSupportServices@Camden.gov.uk

If you have any queries regarding any Camden Schools news items, please do not hesitate to contact us.



The Assessment Hub's get started!

The Assessment Hub had its first meeting this month at Rhyl Primary School. 11 schools have signed up to be part of a research project on finding the most effective ways to raise standards in writing through teacher and pupil led feedback.

The first meeting was an opportunity for teachers to meet one another, to lay out the aims of the hub and to discuss and plan their collaborative enquiry together.



There was a great level of discussion and participation. Comments included; "really helpful to speak to colleagues from other schools and revisit theory behind marking and feedback, very excited to be taking part in the project". " Great to find head space to talk through trends and success in our schools". The energy of all the teachers involved showed their commitment and enthusiasm for shared working to make collaborative research a real success in achieving even better outcomes for our pupils.

For more information, please contact: Tracy Goldblatt, Tracy.Goldblatt@camden.gov.uk or call 0207 974 7331.

Early Years leaders

The Early Years leaders meeting on October 3rd was extremely well attended, there is even photographic evidence!



Contrary to what many people may predict, the 2017 EYFS Profile data analysis indicates that the biggest gap between Camden and national outcomes is in the aspect managing feeling and behaviour. In response to this, Jo Lund from the early years intervention team was invited to talk to participants about using an emotional coaching approach with young children. This approach moves the focus from “behaviour management” to emotional self-regulation with evidence this supports long term mental wellbeing. It was a fascinating presentation giving Early Years leaders much food for thought.

For more information, please contact: Leonie Holt, Leonie.Holt@camden.gov.uk or call 0207 974 7328.

Celebrating Parents event at Haverstock School

More than 250 parents and children attended the annual free Celebrating Parents and Carers fun day at Haverstock School on Saturday (21 October), which was organised jointly by Camden Parent Council and the school. The event helped to get half-term off to a great start for local families.



Local children and families enjoyed face-painting, arts and crafts including pottery, fitness challenges with the army cadets, games, a cheerleading display, information stalls and more. The theme this year was ‘community safety’ with stands by the police, fire brigade and Camden Safeguarding Children Board, who held a raffle.

Guests include the Deputy Mayor of Camden, Councillor Jenny Headlam-Wells, and Councillor Angela Mason CBE, Cabinet Member for Best Start in Life.

For more information, please contact Camden Parent Council: cvkidsuk@aol.com

Student mentoring

Havas Media, the global communications group, based in Kings Cross, is the latest business to volunteer to act as mentors to Camden Sixth formers.



Many Year 12 students say that having a business mentor has helped raise: their business awareness (including how to build professional relationships); communication, confidence and drive and motivation. They have enjoyed - “talking about how to prepare yourself for when you’re out of school” ; “discussing the future and career goals”; “learning new things and understanding the working world”.

Camden Learning works in partnership with two organisations ORT/JUMP and the Big Alliance to deliver mentoring programmes. They provide support including – training for business volunteers and students, and carry out DBS checks.

For more information about mentoring, or employer support for careers fairs, curriculum projects etc, contact Lorraine Lawson, Schools Brokerage Manager: Lorraine.lawson@camden.gov.uk or call 0207 974 1264.

Supply agency project

The first half term of the Supply Agency Project has seen the majority of schools using the new arrangements to fill their supply needs, with an average of one supply staff per school per day being provided. The new full time Contract Manager, Becci Zapala, has been busily visiting schools to understand any teething issues and has already implemented a number of improvements to the process with de Poel as a result. She has visited de Poel’s headquarters over half term to meet the full team working on the project and agree further changes that will be made as a result of your feedback; more detail of these changes will follow soon.



We have several new agencies (including Randstad) joining the panel for this half term, which shows that word is spreading to agencies on Camden schools’ commitment to the project. There are nearly 60 long-term agency staff currently working in schools through the new arrangements, which is a good indication that we have quality staff being provided.

For more information, please contact: Kat Miller, Kat.Miller@camden.gov.uk or call 0207 974 5318.

School Workforce Census

The 2017 School Workforce Census will commence on 2nd November and runs until 1st December 2017. The attached ‘School Workforce Census FAQs’ and ‘School Workforce Census 2017: Guide for School Employed Staff’ provides



information on the 2017 Census including the relevant contact details for HR and the DfE School Workforce Census Team.

As Schools need to upload part or all of the data directly into the DfE's COLLECT system, please ensure that the account details you used last year to login to the system are working. If they are not working or you are unsure what the login details are, please contact the DfE School Workforce Census team via their secure access form:

https://form.education.gov.uk/submitform.php?self=1&form_id=hGz7nZcsdnX&noLoginPrompt=1

For more information, please contact: Leanne Batsford, Leanne.Batsford@camden.gov.uk or call 0207 974 2844.



School Workforce FAQs 2017 V2.docx

[Download](#)
20.4 KB



School Workforce Census-Guide for School Employed Staff.pdf

[Download](#)
856.0 KB

FM Contract consultation

The Council's Schools Property Service team will be hosting two consultation events in relation to the Facilities Management building repairs and maintenance service level agreement (SLA) offered to schools.

The first session is for all schools currently in the FM SLA and the aim is to look back over the current BAM contract and undertake a 'lessons learnt' exercise. We would welcome your views and feedback about the service, which has been provided by the Council and BAM FM to date.

The second session is open for all schools and Camden will present to you what the new FM offer is likely to look like and how we have used feedback to shape this offer.

The details of the sessions are:

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Lessons learnt – for schools currently in the SLA

Wednesday 1st November 2017 3pm – 5pm at the Crowndale Centre – Alex Jack meeting room.

Looking forward – for all schools

Monday 13th November 2017 3pm – 5pm at the Crowndale Centre – Alex Jack meeting room.



If you would like to attend one or both sessions please can you inform Corrine Sinfield by e-mail to corrine.sinfield@camden.gov.uk

If you are unable to attend but would like to provide feedback for the lessons learnt session, then please send your feedback to Steve Anstee Steve.Anstee@camden.gov.uk

Camden Shout Out

Camden Shout Out – 6 November, 5.30pm

Have your say - make a difference Camden's Youth MP and Youth Council are inviting young people in Camden to have their say at this year's Shout Out.



Young people attending the event at Central Saint Martins college of art and design, in Granary Square, will be able to take part in workshops about:

- a more connected Camden (how to make communications with young people better)
- choices beyond education (career pathways and aspirations)
- making the invisible visible ('hidden' illnesses and disabilities)
- being 'street smart' (safety and wellbeing in Camden)
- the impact of recent cuts to services and the challenges ahead.

This free event is for 13 to 19-year-olds (aged up to 25 for young people with a learning disability) and food from Global Generation will be provided.

Book your free place now

Choose from the five workshops above when you [register for your free place on Eventbrite](#)

Renewing Healthy School Recognition

Congratulations to Argyle, Frank Barnes, Gospel Oak, Our Lady's and Primrose Hill who renewed their Healthy School Recognition for another 2 years. They have successfully met all the criteria in the Health and Wellbeing Review which reflects the policies and practices they have in place to support children and young people's health and wellbeing.



Schools have found that completing the review has helped them develop their health and wellbeing work including;

- Teaching more cooking lessons
- Involving more children in the Daily Mile
- Teaching about mental health in Years 5 and 6

- Having training on drug education using the Drugwise resource and then updating the drug education curriculum
- Celebrating birthdays in school with fruit or non-fruit items eg a book for the class
- Introducing the Camden PSHE and Citizenship scheme of work and having one dedicated lesson for every year group for PSHCE
- Monitoring PSHCE more closely and evidencing discussions through a class PSHCE book

If your Healthy School Recognition has expired please contact Gill.Morris@camden.gov.uk or call 0207 974 7302.

Primary SENDCO forum 7th December 3-4:30pm



Please note that for 2017-2018 we have added a shorter Primary SENDCO forum as essential information briefing session.

This forum is a one stop shop for SENDCOs and/or Inclusion Leads. SENDCOs and Inclusion Leads will receive updates and be briefed by all the relevant services that work with pupils with SEND. In addition will have opportunity to discuss latest developments in practice with other schools.

If you can only release staff for one SEND session, 7th December is the session they should attend.

If you require further information, please do not hesitate to contact: Helen McNulty, Senior SEND Adviser Helen.Mcnulty@camden.gov.uk or call 0207 974 6114.

Healthy lifestyle programmes for families- host one in your school



Recently Camden Health and Wellbeing team ran a **Families for Life** programme at Kingsgate Community Centre with eight families and their children from local schools.

This is a 4 week healthy eating and active play for families with children aged 2- 4 or 5-11 years which includes fun physical activities and some cooking and tasting of simple healthy recipes for the family. The sessions are opportunities for children to try different vegetables, cook and eat together as well as for parents to learn about healthy eating and fun ways for children to do more physical activity.

Why not host a programme? Schools can host Families for Life and also Family Kitchen programmes (a 6-week programme for families to cook and eat healthy meals together),

one of the Team can work with a member of staff to deliver the programme or we can train school staff to lead it themselves. If two members of staff are trained and decide to run the programme themselves we pay £400 towards ingredients and staff time.

If your school is interested in hosting one of the programmes or would like to know about programmes in community venues near your school, please contact healthandwellbeingteam@camden.gov.uk or call 020 7974 6736.



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