

07.06.19

**Cambrai Primary School | Team Talk****Dear families,**

It is a very busy time for us at Cambrai HQ at the moment – so I wanted to write to you all and keep you abreast of the latest happenings!

**Department For Education Visit**

On Tuesday of this week I was visited by an Education Advisor from the DFE to check on the progress of the background work for the opening of Cambrai. You'll be pleased to know that everything was in order – and there was nothing that needed to be completed that wasn't! The next stage is the 'Pre-Opening Inspection', by OFSTED. This is taking place on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> June, by Her Majesty's Inspector (HMI) Gina White. As I have explained before, this inspection does not grade the school (like a standard OFSTED inspection), but assesses all policies, procedures, building designs and leader's capabilities. The inspection does not produce a report for parents, simply indicates if anything is missing prior to opening for leaders to address. I will, of course, let you know how it goes!

**Downing Street**

You may have seen via our social media that Nick Blackburn (Our CEO) and I were invited by the Prime Minister to Downing Street during the half term, to celebrate the opening of new schools across the country – including Cambrai. It was a fabulous event, and a real honour to be asked to attend. I spoke with the Education Secretary, Damien Hinds, who knew all about Cambrai – and was pleased to see it progressing so well. We will invite him to see the school once we are in our permanent building!

**Governance**

Thank you to those of you who have expressed an interest in becoming a governor at Cambrai. Governance really is so important – and I can't wait to work with those of you who are elected. I know that Chris Bracken, the Trust's Governance manager, has been in touch – and we will be in touch with all parents around the selection process over the coming weeks.

**The buildings...**

You'll be pleased to know that the temporary classroom is ordered and we have worked with the contractors to order the furniture and outdoor resources... things are ticking along well. Because it is a modular temporary school, it will arrive almost complete – so please don't worry that it isn't there yet. The building, fencing and security will all be completed before August. As a Trust, we will get the keys the week before opening, so we can put up displays, unpack and make it perfect for our children. Visible work on the permanent school will begin soon, as much of the site surveying, preliminary investigations and planning are all now all in place. Because it is an internal refurbishment, it won't take as long as full 're-build'.

**Nursery Visits**

Mrs. Guest has already visited Jigsaw, White Rabbit and Banana Moon settings over half term. I will be visiting the remaining settings before the end of the month, with most visits pencilled in for 27<sup>th</sup> June. These visits are just a chance for us to talk with pre-school staff about your child's likes, dislikes and how they learn – so we can hit the ground running in September!

You're hired!



## Recruitment

We had a huge response to the teaching assistant advertisements, so I know that we are going to recruit well. Shortlisting has taken place – and we are interviewing on Tuesday of next week. I'll let you know who we have appointed as soon as those appointed say we can! It is so exciting to see Team Cambrai growing! We will also

appoint a cook on Monday of next week. Part of the interview is to bring us some home cooked food that they would cook or the children... so rest assured, I have my 3 year old little girl in my mind during the taste testing! Again, when we can, we'll let you know who got the job.

## Transition Events

You should all have received your transition event information with your child questionnaire. If you cannot attend any of the transition events, please let us know as we really want everyone to attend if they can – it is the first time that all of the children and parents will get to meet each other! **Please remember to bring your questionnaires back – and your child's birth certificate** to one of these events. As a reminder, the information is below:

**Thurs 27<sup>th</sup> June**

3.30pm – 5.30pm

### 'Together we are Cambrai' Party @ Little Messes

(6 Battalion Ct, Catterick Garrison DL9 4QN). Children will meet each other, Mrs Guest and myself, enjoy a variety of arts and crafts sessions and have a sandwich and drink. Parents are welcome to stay and chat too – with tea and coffee available. We cannot, however, provide spaces for siblings – as it is a special night for our children to be together without brothers and sisters!

**Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> July**

6pm-7pm

### Parent Event @ Catterick Leisure Centre

This session is aimed at answering any questions that you may have, as well as a presentation from Cambrai Staff about some of the common things that parents ask as their child is about to start school. This session is not aimed at children, so if possible, try and attend without them so you can relax and ask away!

**Thurs 18<sup>th</sup> July**

1.30pm – 3.30pm

### Ready for School Session @ 'Principal Teachers'

(11 Bailey Ct, Catterick Garrison DL9 4QL) Children will come to the classroom and be left by parents to enjoy a range of fun activities with Mrs Guest and Mr Dent – in preparation for the big day after the holidays! Please make sure we have your questionnaires by this point, so we have contact details etc.

**Thurs 18<sup>th</sup> July**

3.30pm-6pm

### Meet the Teacher @ 'Principal Teachers'

(11 Bailey Ct, Catterick Garrison DL9 4QL) If you would like an individual appointment to speak with Mrs Guest and Mr Dent, you can request an appointment during this time. Simply book a slot at one of the earlier events, or email [office@cambraiprimaryschool.co.uk](mailto:office@cambraiprimaryschool.co.uk) to arrange a time suitable for you. These are not compulsory, simply an opportunity to talk through anything about your little one in private and at a time dedicated to you.

**Tues 3<sup>rd</sup> September**

1pm-3pm

### Launch Party @ The New School

Come on down to take a look at the temporary building and see the classroom for the first time! This is a 'drop in session', with activities for the children to try, some snacks and drinks to enjoy and a chance to meet other staff members of Team Cambrai – the teaching assistants and cook!

**Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup>**

**September – Friday**

**6<sup>th</sup> September**

### The Big Day – and first week!

Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> September will be the first formal day of school. Children will come to the school, for an 8.50am start. Children will stay for lunch, and will be picked up at 1pm on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday of that week.

**Monday 9<sup>th</sup>**

**September**

### Full Days Begin!

Children will now experience full days, from 8.50am to 3.15pm each day.

As always, if you need to get in touch – please do so. It's what we are here for.

Yours sincerely,

Mr. M. Dent  
**Executive Headteacher**  
Cambrai Primary School



[www.cambraiprimaryschool.co.uk](http://www.cambraiprimaryschool.co.uk)



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