

22 June 2020



— THE —  
**ELMGREEN**

Dominic Bergin BA(Hons) NPQH  
Headteacher

Dear Families

Last week I said that we would have some news this week and we do of sorts. We listened with interest to the Government plans around funding for schools in September and the small group and 1 to 1 tuition programme. The Education Endowment Foundation that is running that programme is an organisation that I think generally does an excellent job. When the plans become clearer and we know more about how the funding is going to work then we will let you know. The Government are also going to give us some more information about September reopening in the next fortnight.

One announcement that was largely unnoticed last week was the idea that schools could invite students in for a face to face meeting even if they aren't in Year 10 or 12. We will be inviting some students in who have found the last few months particularly challenging, but also we are aware that there are many families who might have slipped under our radar who may well have found the last few months difficult. If you would like a face to face meeting with one adult accompanying then please contact us with the heading 'MEETING REQUEST' to [admin@the-elmgreen-school.org.uk](mailto:admin@the-elmgreen-school.org.uk) by Friday 26 June. This should primarily be about academic progress but of course we are here to listen to you.

We have also been thinking a lot about how we move forward on the Black Lives Matter movement. I am very proud of many of the things we have achieved here but there is still so much to do. This week I have been looking at the Senior Team job descriptions for next year and I have put as one of my main focuses, to think about what to do and how it must permeate throughout the school. I have looked at how lots of organisations have been looking at this and think that we should commit to the following based on the ideas I have gleaned from them:

- Create a properly resourced and structured focus group/s for students and families as well as staff to look at how we effectively become an anti-racist organisation
- Develop an action plan, in collaboration with you, with clear goals and timescales attached on how we do this
- Continuing our commitment to diversifying our workforce at all levels of the school and reporting on our actions annually
- Reaffirming a zero tolerance culture of and introducing anti-racism training alongside unconscious bias and structural racism training for staff and students
- Looking carefully at our curriculum to think about what changes we can make

Elmcourt Road  
London SE27 9BZ  
Telephone 020 8766 5020  
Fax 020 8761 2312

email [admin@the-elmgreen-school.org.uk](mailto:admin@the-elmgreen-school.org.uk)  
website [www.the-elmgreen-school.org.uk](http://www.the-elmgreen-school.org.uk)



Company Number 10679690

These are my initial thoughts. As soon as we put an action plan in place then we will start to share them through a range of formats and ask for your contributions. This will be a major part of how we move forward next year.

My fortnightly assembly talks to the students about this and also shares the fantastic display that we have outside of our school.



Today is of course also Windrush Day and our students will be working on resources this week. We also had an attempt at singing along at 10:27 (this reflects the 1027 passengers on the Windrush when it docked in 1948) to Desmond Dekker's 'You can get it if you really want' along with lots of organisations this morning. I know that Desmond Dekker is buried in Streatham Park Cemetery and although I am sure he wasn't turning in his grave at our rendition it is fair to say that we might have been a little more polished.



Finally, please keep safe and well and of course if you have any queries about home learning please continue to contact the school.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'D Bergin'.

Dominic Bergin  
Headteacher

Elmcourt Road  
London SE27 9BZ  
Telephone 020 8766 5020  
Fax 020 8761 2312

email [admin@the-elmgreen-school.org.uk](mailto:admin@the-elmgreen-school.org.uk)  
website [www.the-elmgreen-school.org.uk](http://www.the-elmgreen-school.org.uk)

Company Number 10679690

