

Friday 9th September 2022

Dear Parent/Carer

The death of Queen Elizabeth II

We are saddened to hear about the passing of her Royal Highness, Queen Elizabeth II. Her sense of public duty and service is an inspiration to all of us and, as a mark of respect and remembrance, Eastbrook School will be observing a period of mourning by holding assemblies, form time reflection, a book of condolence and a minutes' silence at the end of next week.

This will be reflected across the borough. Councillor Darren Rodwell, the Leader of Barking and Dagenham Council, has said the whole borough will be united in grief at the passing of Her Majesty, The Queen. He said:

"Our borough, the country and the world I'm sure will be united in grief with the news of Her Majesty's passing...In 2015, the Queen visited the borough to mark our 50th anniversary as a London Borough and thousands flocked to see her...Meeting the Queen was undoubtedly one of the proudest moments of my life and certainly the highlight to date of my time as Leader of the Council...For 70 years the Queen reigned with grace, dignity and wisdom and she will be sorely missed worldwide."

The formal notification of her death was issued on 8 September 2022 by Buckingham Palace. In line with official protocol and as a mark of respect, the Union Flag is flying at half-mast at the Town Hall and will remain so until the official Proclamation, when it will be flown at full mast from 11am until sunset. It will then be lowered again to half-mast until sunset on the day of the funeral, the date and arrangements for which will be announced in due course.

There are of course opportunities for you to pay your respects locally.

Books of condolence are available for members of the public to sign. The books are open from 9am to 5pm, Monday to Friday at Barking Town Hall and Dagenham Library at the Heathway (which will also be open on Saturdays). In addition, a <u>Borough online condolence book</u> is available. Buckingham Palace have also published an online book of condolence on the <u>Royal Family website</u>.

The books will be available to sign until the day after the funeral.

More information on the local proclamation event will be available on our website soon. <u>Online book of condolence | London Borough of Barking and Dagenham (lbbd.gov.uk)</u>

https://www.lbbd.gov.uk/proclamation-sunday-11-september

I hope this information is helpful to you.

With best wishes

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