

# Elvington C of E Primary School Newsletter 7<sup>th</sup> January 2021



**Perseverance**  
Our Christian value for this  
half term.



@pselvington



www.elvingtonprimary.org.uk

## Mr Buttery's Update

### What a Week!

Thank you for your support, flexibility and patience following Monday night's Governmental announcement. As I am sure you can appreciate the aforementioned announcement presented considerable challenges throughout the education sector. However, I am exceptionally proud that the staff team at Elvington have risen to these challenges and achieved a huge amount in a very short time.

### SATs

Statutory key stage 1 and key stage 2 tests and teacher assessments planned for summer 2021, including the key stage 2 tests in reading and mathematics, will not take place.

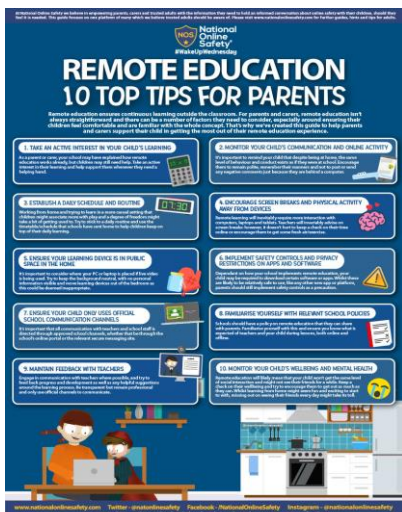
### Free School Meals

Education Secretary, Gavin Williamson, stated the following: "Extra funding will be provided to support schools to provide food parcels or meals to eligible students. The national voucher scheme will also re-open so that in the event schools cannot offer food parcels or provide an alternative local solution, every child can access free school meals while they are learning at home."

We will contact eligible parents/carers as soon as possible to arrange the aforementioned provision. I would like to point out this does not, unfortunately, include children who receive universal infant free school meals (UIFSM) in reception, year 1, and year 2.

### Home Learning

As unfortunately we are once again in lockdown, I would like to remind you of the following regarding home learning...



### Be realistic about what you can do:

- You are not expected to become teachers and your children are not expected to learn as they do in school. Simply providing your children with some structure at home will help them to adapt. Use the tips below to help you make this work for your household.
- Experiment in the first week, then take stock. What's working and what isn't? Ask your children, involve them too.
- Share the load if there are two parents/carers at home. Split the day into 2-3 hour slots and take turns so you can do your own work.
- Take care of your own health and wellbeing. This will be new for your entire household, so give it time to settle. Take a look at the links at the end of this factsheet for some advice on mental health and wellbeing.

### Keep to a timetable wherever possible:

- Create and stick to a routine if you can. This is what children are used to. For example, eat breakfast at the same time and make sure they're dressed before starting the 'school day' – avoid staying in pyjamas!
- Involve your children in setting the timetable where possible. It's a great opportunity for them to manage their own time better and it'll give them ownership.
- Check in with your children and try to keep to the timetable, but be flexible. If a task/activity is going well or they want more time, let it extend where possible.
- If you have more than one child at home, consider combining their timetables. For example, they might exercise and do maths together – see what works for your household.
- Designate a working space if possible, and at the end of the day have a clear cut-off to signal school time is over.
- Stick the timetable up on the wall so everyone knows what they should be doing when, and tick activities off throughout the day.
- Distinguish between weekdays and weekends, to separate school life and home life.

### Make time for exercise and breaks throughout the day

- Start each morning with a [PE lesson](#) at 9am with Joe Wicks – YES he is back!
- If you have a garden, use it regularly. If you don't, try to get out once a day as permitted by the Government.
- Get your children to write in a diary what they did each day – this can be a clear sign that the 'school day' has ended.

### Other activities to keep children engaged throughout the day

- Where you have more freedom in the timetable, make time for other activities. Add some creative time or watch a dance video from [Go Noodle](#) to get the heart-rate going.
- Get your children to write postcards – lots of people would be delighted to receive one, including everyone at Elvington Church of England Primary School...
- Ask grandparents to listen to your children read on FaceTime (or ask grandparents to read to younger children).
- Give them chores to do so they feel more responsible about the daily routine at home.
- Ask them to help you cook and bake.
- Accept that they'll probably watch more TV/spend time on their phone – that's ok but you might want to set/agree some screen time limits.



If you need to contact our school regarding home learning:

If you need any advice regarding EYFS/KS1 tasks please email Miss. Palmer:  
[c.palmer@elvingtonprimary.org.uk](mailto:c.palmer@elvingtonprimary.org.uk)

Please contact me for any other queries:  
[head@elvingtonprimary.org.uk](mailto:head@elvingtonprimary.org.uk)

Yours sincerely,



Mr. Andrew Buttery

*"I have come in order that you may have life – life in its fullness." John 10:10*



Let's be York  
S.E. Whiting, Curator

Let's stay safe and keep protecting each other



**HANDS**



**FACE**



**SPACE**

[nhs.uk/coronavirus](https://nhs.uk/coronavirus)

