

Elvington C of E Primary School Newsletter 29th January 2021



Perseverance
Our Christian value for this
half term.



@pselvington



www.elvingtonprimary.org.uk

Mr. Buttery's Update

Wider Opening Delayed

As I am sure you will be aware, the Prime Minister, Boris Johnson, has stated that there is insufficient data to show it would be safe for more pupils to return next month. Setting out broad plans for the easing of lockdown restrictions, Boris Johnson said it would not be possible for schools to fully reopen immediately after half-term. He added: "I know how parents and teachers need as much certainty as possible, including two weeks' notice of the return of face-to-face teaching."

The Government hopes schools can start reopening to more pupils from 8th March 2021.

I would like to reassure you that through these challenging and uncertain times, we will continue to do all we can to support our families.

February Half Term

I received the following information from the DfE on Tuesday afternoon (26/01/2021): "Schools will close as usual over February half-term and are not expected to remain open to vulnerable children and the children of critical workers during that week."

Please remember that under this current lockdown, child care bubbles are permitted...

Mr. Buttery's Challenge of the Week – please share with you child/ren

I know that your teachers are keeping you busy and giving you lots of exciting opportunities to learn. However, I would like to set you an extra challenge that you could do – sometimes I might ask a special guest to set the challenge instead! These challenges are optional and will be separate from your daily learning.

The challenge this week is to capture the early signs of spring.

Many of us love to watch the annual rite of nature awakening after winter. There's the first snowdrop and daffodil, then everything gathers pace into a rich bubbling up of green growth in fields, woods and hedgerows.

You could go on a nature walk to identify and photograph the early signs of spring such as plant germination; flower buds; leaves beginning to grow on trees etc. This could be part of your permitted daily exercise or take place in your garden. This clip should give you some inspiration: www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/clips/zydkjxs.

Remember this is an optional challenge; if you do attempt it please send in your photographs to head@elvingtonprimary.org.uk. I will share some of your images in next week's newsletter...




Remote/Blended Learning


There is no substitute for children being in school. Throughout the primary phase they learn so much from instant feedback. It is only as we adapt to remote learning, that we have realised how much relies on a teacher or teaching assistant being able to work with a small group of children focusing in on their specific task, to move through the classroom spotting those children in need of clearer direction or challenge, to offer support to a child struggling with a problem, be it academic or personal. Primary teaching is nurturing, hands-on and very personal which is challenging to replicate remotely.

Please remember that we are here for you and that the school is still open five days a week. If you need any support either phone the office or contact me via email: head@elvingtonprimary.org.uk.

We very much want to encourage parents and carers to support their children in their learning. However, when direct teaching is taking place, please do not engage the teacher directly in conversation, as this can disrupt the flow of the session. If your child needs any additional support, please contact the school through the aforementioned methods.



Elvington Church of England Primary School - Google Meet Guidance



Elvington's preferred method for face to face contact is Google Meet. This will allow teachers and staff to make contact with children, share information and conduct meetings. The purpose of Google Meet calls can include:

- regular face to face contact with as many children as possible in the class
- allowing teachers to share learning overviews with children
- checking in on children's learning and/or wellbeing
- show and share learning with the class and celebrate achievements during the week.

Teachers may also use these opportunities to share stories, answer questions, lead debates and lead teaching sessions e.g. phonic sounds, or to explain tasks in more detail. When your child is accepted into a video chat by their teacher there are certain guidelines we all must follow...

Children	Parents/Carers	Staff
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Children should not unmute when the teacher has muted the whole class, you must stay on mute until you are invited to speak. - Children should only share screen content, if the teacher has agreed; do not annotate over documents that are shared. - Children must wear suitable clothing, as should anyone else in your home. - Children should find a suitable quiet environment, for example, in a shared part of the house i.e. not in bedrooms or bathrooms; and the background should be blurred if possible and if not should be appropriate. - Children should always keep their language and interaction appropriate, as they would in face to face conversations, whether with teachers, or their peers. - Children are expected to attend all teacher scheduled Meets, unless the teacher has been previously notified. - Children should ALWAYS make sure they leave the Meet. Always double check and get in the habit of closing your laptop/device when not in use, to prevent the camera from working regardless. - Children are prohibited from recording or capturing/screen grabbing content from the video call. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Parents have ultimate responsibility to make sure students not only attend, but follow the correct protocols when online Google Meetings are scheduled with teachers. - Parents should be aware of the Distance Learning Content for their child, by regularly checking the school's chosen online platform. - Please help your child set up and access the Google Meet lesson using the link posted into the distance learning Google Classroom. - Please make sure that your child is ready 5 minutes before the advertised start of the meeting, to ensure that you are on time and that you don't delay the meeting and are not locked out. - Please ensure your child is appropriately dressed for meetings. We would expect pupils to be dressed as though it was a non-uniform day. - Please ensure other family members are appropriately dressed and out of camera shot and do not contribute to the video call (unless supporting younger children). - Please discuss with your child the appropriate way to behave in the meeting. - Please DO NOT film the session on another devices this is a safeguarding and GDPR issue. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Teachers will not allow attendees to join before host and they will keep a list of attendees. - Teachers will request that attendees are muted as they join the meeting. - Teachers will make expectations and meeting conduct clear at the beginning of meetings, including the school rules. - Teachers will ensure no one else is on view from the camera, wear suitable and appropriate clothing. - The teacher has the right to remove a student from a Google Meet if their behaviour is not in line with the school behaviour expectations. - Only hold meetings with a manageable amount of children and during the school day.

We realise that working remotely can be challenging. If you do encounter IT issues regarding accessing work, or getting Google Classroom to work on your devices, please inform us at office@elvingtonprimary.org.uk. Continue to follow the remote learning links, via the school website, until the issues are resolved - www.elvingtonprimary.org.uk/achieving-success/home-learning.

COVID-19

If your child has a positive COVID-19 diagnosis, or is having a test/required to self-isolate, please inform the school using the following email address, as soon as you find out: head@elvingtonprimary.org.uk. The aforementioned email address will be checked regularly - seven days a week and over holidays. The school will always inform you as soon as we can if there has been a confirmed case within your child's bubble and if your son or daughter needs to isolate. However, we will never name the child/staff member who has tested positive.



We must all continue to be vigilant of COVID-19 symptoms: a new continuous cough, a high temperature or the loss of taste or smell. If a child, or any member of their household, has any of these symptoms, however mild, they must not come to school and should seek a test as soon as possible by calling 119 or visiting:

www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid19/testing-and-tracing/get-a-test-to-check-if-you-have-coronavirus/.

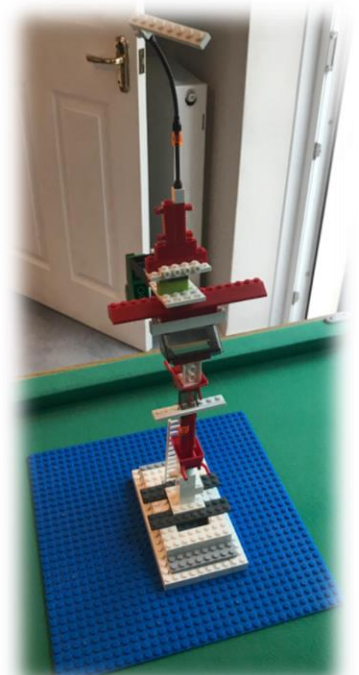
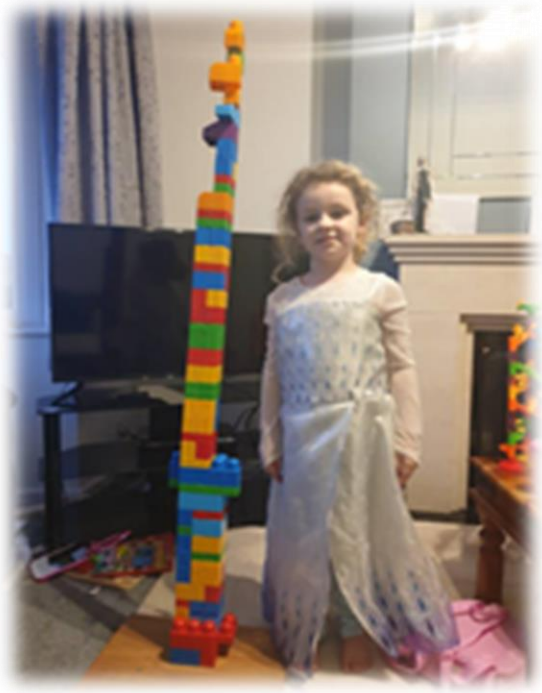
Yours sincerely,



Mr. Andrew Buttery

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





WHOLE SCHOOL PYJAMA FRIDAY!

On Friday 5th February, we will be having a "Pyjama Friday" theme for our live lessons. We would love to see you all chilled out at home or in school in your favourite PJ's. During our live lesson, your child can show off their outfit.

If your child is in school on this day please ensure they also have plenty of layers underneath or on top, as it is very chilly in school while the windows are open for ventilation.

As with all clothing worn in school, we suggest the Pyjamas are washed before normal use.

