

December 2020

Dear parents, carers and friends of Eversley Primary School,

Welcome to an update from Eversley School's Governing Body (GB).

Covid-19

The Governing Body would like to thank all the school staff for their incredible hard work this term and for going that extra mile to ensure that the school has operated as smoothly as possible given the extraordinary circumstances we are living in. We would like to pay tribute to Ms Samantha Williams and her team for their tireless efforts and dedication.

Trying to deliver an appropriate 'blended offer' of school provision and home learning has been a challenge, but the school has done an excellent job in delivering this.

It is a credit to the school that it has remained open until the very last week of term when it was forced to move to online learning due to the large numbers of staff that were required to self-isolate. Whilst online learning for the last week of term for the whole school is not the ideal scenario, it does mean that the risk to staff, parents and pupils possibly having to self-isolate during the Christmas holidays has been reduced. We are enormously appreciative of your patience and support with the additional disruption to the lives of the parents / carers during this term.

We are also extremely thankful to all the parent volunteers who have assisted the school daily on making the streets safer around the school. Your continued support has been invaluable and highly appreciated. Thank you.

Throughout this period the Governing Body continued with virtual committee meetings and working with the school to support their hard work. We have been so impressed with everybody's continued commitment to this new environment.

School Improvement Plan

Usually the autumn period for the governing body and the school's senior leadership team is centred around formulating plans for the school to action and starting to measure how effective they are in delivering the improvements we anticipate. The school's new curriculum was due to be launched in September 2020 but due to Covid-19 an Interim Recovery Curriculum was put in place as a rebuild process until Jan 2021.

For the academic year our key target areas remain as follows:

- Increase attainment & progress for all pupils in reading, writing and maths at the end of Reception, Year 2 and Year 6.
- Placing mental health at the heart of our strategic school improvement to support pupils and staff.
- Ensure the whole curriculum has a clear focus setting out what the school intend the pupils to learn and how this work is implemented in the classroom to enable pupils to develop a detailed knowledge and skills across the curriculum.

- To ensure high quality daily provision is being provided for all SEND pupils by
 - developing the skills of teachers so that they consistently use assessment of learning to identify and act upon pupils' needs
 - plan specific learning tasks to the right level of challenge, ensuring all children make GOOD or better progress
- To ensure outcomes for pupil premium are in line with other pupils, increasing the number achieving Greater Depth

Eversley Parliament

We are delighted that the new Eversley Parliament has now been formed enabling pupils to have a voice and be involved in key decision making, supported by the leadership team. Congratulations to all the pupils who took part in this process.

The Eversley Parliament provides pupils with meaningful opportunities to understand how to be responsible, respectful, active citizens who contribute positively to society. Pupils do this by representing the voices of their peers and taking part in formal meetings throughout the school year. The parliament is actively involved in encouraging the rights of all pupils to be involved in decisions that affect them and their education. The achievements of the committees are promoted in the school newsletters.

Parent Governor Election

Due to the school having to physically close we had to suspend the parent governor election. We apologise for the interruption.

Parental Engagement

The governing body wishes to thank all parents and carers for their continued participation in the monthly parent/carer representative meetings despite Covid-19, where there is an opportunity to raise their concerns and give feedback to the Headteacher through class reps.

Gathering parents' and carers' views through regular consultation is vitally important, as the school are looking to constantly strengthen their relationships with parents and carers through the engagement of questionnaires and feedback on homework.

EPSA, School Volunteers and the schools funding crisis

Our sincerest thanks go to the EPSA Co-Chairs, Joanna Ioannou and Demi Yiannakas, and the dedicated members of EPSA who continue to contribute so much of their time and energy.

We were unable to hold the Christmas Fete this year due to Covid-19, which is usually a major fundraiser, so are so incredibly grateful for any voluntary contributions during this very difficult period.

Unfortunately, we must remind everyone again that by 2021 we expect to see a substantial shortfall in funding. As the schools funding crisis continues, EPSA provide vital financial support for the school. Thank you for your ongoing support to the EPSA initiatives and events where possible.

Eversley continues to do its utmost to protect the excellent quality of education it provides for pupils from the harshest impacts of such reductions. Ways in which you can get involved include joining the campaign set up by a group of parents to lobby the Government for a fairer deal - look at

<https://schoolcuts.org.uk/schools/?chosenSchool=3082085>

Eversley School Governing Body

The current governors are:

Headteacher: Samantha Williams

Staff: Peter Robotham

Parents:

Prafulla Pujara (Co Vice-Chair)

James Clements

Mark Wallace

Co-opted:

Bambos Charalambous MP

Hadiza Adeyemi (Co Vice-Chair)

Wahida Khan

Sanah Khan

Michael Florides (Chair)

Thank you for finding the time to read this newsletter and we wish you all a very happy and safe holiday break. We are all looking forward to a brighter 2021!

Over to you...

Is there anything you'd like us to tell you about or, better still, anything you want to tell us?

The best way of getting in touch with us is via the school's email address:
office@eversley.enfield.sch.uk.

Please mark the email for the attention of the GB