

8th January 2021 (15)

Dear Parents and Carers,

I would like to wish you all a 'Happy New Year!' I hope that 2021 brings all families happiness and good health.

I know the school year has not started in the way we hoped and many families are working at home and carrying out home schooling at the same time. We currently have 150 key worker and vulnerable children in school and each class is either being taken by TAs, LSAs or class teachers. We have tried to keep teachers at home as they are busy carrying out live sessions, pre-recorded videos, group sessions, marking, emailing and speaking to children and parents/carers. We may need to call teachers to come into school to cover staff sickness and if we do, any group sessions would be cancelled for this period of time. On Wednesdays, the teachers will do a longer live session in the morning and the usual live session at the end of the day. There will be 3 pre-recorded lessons but no group or live drop-ins as the teachers will have PPA. Teachers legally have this time to prepare, plan, assess and mark. We have decided to give the teachers the same time for this so they can work together as a year group. They will be available on 'chat' or email if any child or parent/carer needs support.

The Government announced this week that if any parent was unhappy with their child's school home learning provision to contact Ofsted. Please could I ask that if any parent isn't happy with what we are providing to contact the school in the first instance. Thank you.

I would like to thank all the staff who have worked incredibly hard this week. Most teachers have been working 12 hours a day to make sure the children in school and at home have high quality lessons to ensure that no child falls behind. Today, myself and some of the staff will be meeting to discuss our 'Remote Learning Policy' and what we think is going well and what we need to do next.

Assemblies

If you have not been able to access the pre-recorded assemblies that myself, Mrs Kirkpatrick and Mrs Georgiou have recorded, then please ask your child's class teacher to direct you to where they are. I did send a ParentMail with instructions of where to find them.

Challenges

Every lesson has a daily challenge or extension task so if your child is saying to you that they have completed their work, please ask them if they have completed the challenge for each lesson. If you are finding that your child is completing the work before the end of the day, please contact your child's class teacher to discuss this.

Enjoyment, Perseverance, Self-Belief



E-Safety

As your family may be spending more time at home and finding new ways to access education, stay in touch and have fun, here are some top tips to help you protect and support your child with their online lives.

1. Now is a great time to make a family agreement

A family agreement is a great way to start a conversation with your whole family about how you all use the Internet and how to behave positively online. A family agreement could include a list of things to consider and some examples to get you started.

2. Have a conversation

Young people may already be thinking about new ways they can use the Internet to socialise, play together or get creative, participate in sport, or help each other out and they might want to use different online tools for the first time. Make sure you are aware of all devices that your child is having a conversation on.

3. Set up or review your parental controls and Internet filters

Parental controls are designed to help protect children from inappropriate content online. These controls can be used in a number of ways, e.g. to help ensure that your child/children can only access age-appropriate content; to set usage times; and to monitor activity. You can find out how to set these up by visiting- <https://www.childnet.com/resources/online-safety-activities-you-can-do-from-home>

If you would like to discuss anything with me, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Best wishes,

Samantha Williams
Headteacher

The difficulties we have all faced over the past months have undoubtedly been challenging and for some of us incredibly stressful. This week's news of further lockdown restrictions and the closure of schools until at least half term will have left some for us- both adults and children- faced with even more anxiety and the impact this may have on our mental health is not to be ignored. The NSPCC have a section of their website dedicated to child and parent mental health support which may be useful.

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/support-for-parents/mental-health-parenting/>

If you are concerned about your child's mental health and well being during this time and would like some further guidance or support please do not hesitate to contact the school by informing your classteacher, a member of senior management or myself as designated lead for mental health.

(Hayley Kirkpatrick)

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Computing/Microsoft Teams Tips

Considering we are all in the midst of another school closure, I felt you may appreciate a few tips whilst using Microsoft Teams. Please see the images below with some information that might help you.

Now you are able to communicate with class teachers directly through teams, these two tips may help:

@ Mention To Get Attention



You can use an @ mention to make sure a particular person gets notified of your message.

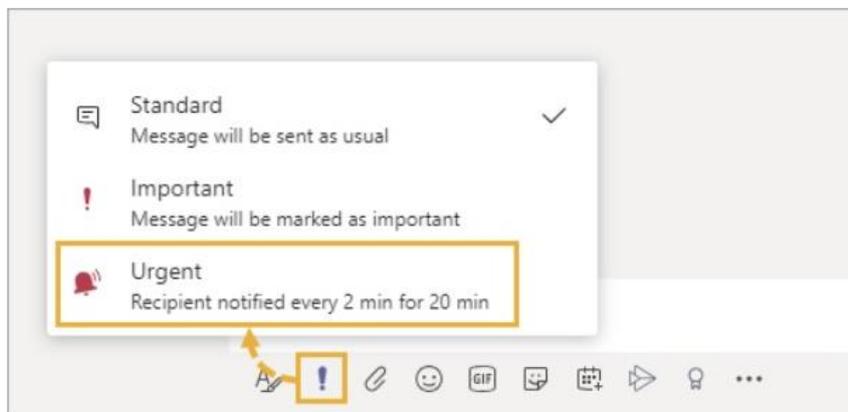
Just type the @ symbol anywhere in your message and then start typing a person's name, channel name or team name. Then you can select from the suggestions list to mention them.



Urgent Chat Message

If you need to ensure someone sees your message in Teams, you can send an urgent message.

This is a very useful feature to get someone's attention, but is one you should definitely use sparingly.



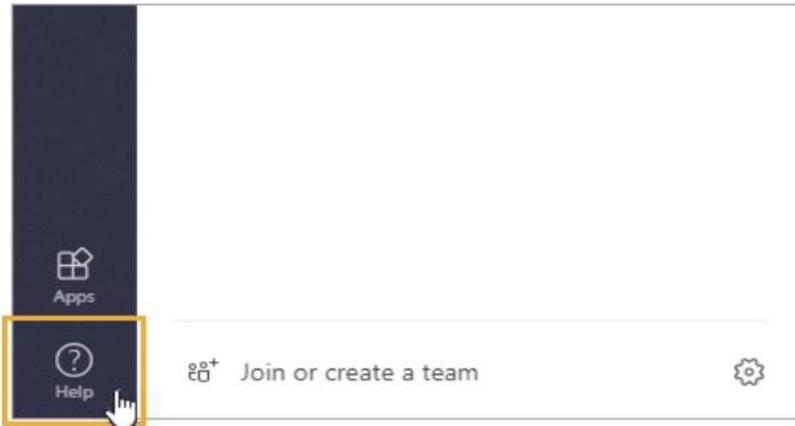
From inside any chat click on the **exclamation** icon to select **Urgent** from the message status options. This will notify them of the new message every 2 minutes for the next 20 minutes.



Eversley
Primary School

If you ever need any other help with using Microsoft teams, there is a great help function available to you when your child is signed in. Please see the image below.

Teams Help Menu



Teams has an extensive Help menu that's worth checking out. You can open this up by clicking on the Help icon in the lower left corner of Teams.

There's a Topic, Training and What's new section full of links to articles, video training and summaries of new features in Teams.

You can also access this help menu from the `/help` command in the search bar or the three dots in the left navigation pane.

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Enfield Advisory Service for Autism (EASA) - Parent Support

Please see the EASA Parent Support services (document attached with this newsletter) which are aimed at parents/carers of autistic children and those on the diagnostic pathway only.

(Mrs Gonzalez)

Our value for the month of January is **Positivity**

Attendance

One of the areas the school is working hard to improve is the attendance of children at Eversley Primary School. The United Nation Convention on the rights of the child entitles them to a Right to Education (Article 28). If the attendance drops below 95%, this could potentially affect any future Ofsted judgement, as well as children missing vital learning which reduces their chances of success. Please help us to continue the upward trend by ensuring your child comes to school every day and on time.

The overall school attendance to date is 97.51%

Easyfundraising

Thank you to everyone for raising donations for our school with #easyfundraising! If you haven't signed up yet, it's easy and completely FREE. 4,300 shops and sites will donate to us when you use easyfundraising to do your everyday online shopping - at no extra cost to you! Every donation you raise makes a difference to us so please sign up & share today.

https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/eversleyeps/?invite=UA33U9%26referral-campaign=c2s%26utm_campaign=admin-trigger%26utm_content=srt

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