

Parent Weekly Update - 15 January 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

This week we have continued to tweak home learning based on the feedback we have been receiving to ensure accessibility for all. There is an incredible amount of hard work going on behind the scenes with teachers and support staff supporting parents and students to settle into their remote working. When walking around the school it has been very strange to watch the teachers conducting their lessons and looms at the front of a class with no children present in the secondary classrooms.

Critical worker schools in Secondary and Juniors are running well, and the children have settled in to their school day. The BTEC examinations continued this week, well done to all our students who have put so much work into them and we look forward to seeing the results of their resilience and determination.

We have completed the second round of rapid testing for all our critical worker children and staff. In line with the guidance, staff will continue to be tested weekly. We have been pleased to be able to offer testing safely to our Stotfold and Arlesey Lower School staff.

Have a good weekend.

Ian Evason, *Principal*

Week commencing Monday 18 January - Timetable A

ALL YEARS

Home Learning

Home Learning explained [Click Here](#) - This presentation (previously sent in an email) explains ETA's approach to Home Learning. If you have not seen this already then please follow the link to get a full update. Your child's link adult will be in touch again next week to update you on their engagement with home learning so far. Our offer can be found on the website or follow this link [Click Here](#)

Expectations for Home learning and live sessions- This presentation was previously sent to all students [Click Here](#)

Live Learning Timetable [Click Here](#) We are so pleased that many students have accessed these sessions this week. We are continuing to develop our approach to make live learning as accessible as possible, thank you for all your support so far on this! **Students should be aware that they must use their @mybest email address when joining the meet** otherwise they will not be admitted into the live session for safeguarding reasons.

ICT Support - Please email the Student IT Support mailbox if you have any technical issues with remote learning, including resetting your Google password to access Epraise -

studentitsupport@bestacademies.org.uk

Recommendation for Chromebooks - If you are looking at purchasing a Chromebook for your child. Our IT partner is recommending this model. HP Chromebook 11a-nb0000na Laptop. These cannot be purchased through the school.

Epraise - Students can log in by clicking 'Sign in with Google' and entering their @mybest email address. If you have any difficulties accessing Epraise, other than password issues, please contact our Data Manager, Miss Jackie Pyper, jpyper@bestacademies.org.uk All students and parents will have previously received access to epraise via the following link [click here](#), or you can download as an App. Students will still receive information including their live form time link, assemblies and praise points via Epraise so they should keep a regular check on it.

English LitFlix - The English department have relaunched LitFlix, a weekly guide to adaptations of novels that are available for viewing on Freeview. Please [click here](#) to view the schedule.

Free School Meals vouchers - We have now received information that the Edenred voucher scheme will be up and running next week. If you qualify for these you will have received an email to complete a google form in preparation for the school to set these up next week. If you have completed the form, please do not contact the school until w/c 25 January with any queries as we have not yet received access to the Edenred system. If you would like to collect a packed lunch, please contact the school office, and we will arrange this for you.

Critical Worker - On the advice of the Central Bedfordshire Council Health team all schools are being advised that due to the high prevalence of the virus in the area, all close contacts of positive cases should stay at home and not be tested in school for the 7 continuous days as recommended in the government guidance. Students will be required to stay at home for 10 days from close contact, and get a test should they develop symptoms in this time.

Christmas Quiz in aid of The Need Project - Thank you to all that entered the Etonbury quiz. Your efforts raised a further £150 for the Need Project. Christina Burt and Dan were the winners.

NHS Flu Vaccinations - Please [click here](#) to view a letter from our Immunisation Team leader regarding this year's Flu Vaccination programme. Please read and contact them if you would like to take up their offer for children in years 5, 6 & 7 only.

Total Clothing - Temporary Closure due to Covid-19 - Our showroom and click and collect are currently closed. Parents can still place orders online via the school web shop to be delivered to a

home address. However, this may take longer than 10 working days. If you have any questions or queries please email customer services@totalclothing.co.uk

PE Challenge - Please see the link below for our PE challenge 'Walk, Run, Cycle' open to all students, parents and staff to get involved in. This will run between now and February half-term. Please follow us on twitter @EtonburyPE for regular updates. For more information including how to log your results [Click Here](#)

ETONBURY JUNIORS - Email ETA-Primary@bestacademies.org.uk

Home Learning - We've been so impressed with all the Home Learning our amazing students are doing. It is also exciting to 'meet' with you in our live Classroom Catch Ups.

Weekly Task Challenge - Look out for your Task Challenge for the week which will have appeared in your Google Classroom overnight.

Keep us updated - As always, we love to see all the other things you're getting up during lockdown so please continue to message Mrs Whittle at ETA-Primary@bestacademies - the more unusual the better! Make sure you take part in the PE Walk/Run Challenge that supports your house championship.

Live Lessons - a huge number of you joined our live lessons this week. My thanks to those who took part and observed our live lesson protocol especially when technology lets us down. Should your teacher 'disappear' during a live lesson you MUST leave the lesson after 5 minutes of no teacher response. All lessons are recorded for safeguarding purposes.

Y6 SATS Revision Guides Bundles - The order has been placed. This will offer further ways to support your child's learning ready for the remainder of the school year and into Year 7 so we are keen to get them to you asap. We will be in contact once we have received them.

UPPER YEARS

Year 9 HPV Vaccinations - Please [click here](#) to view a letter from our Immunisation Team leader regarding the Year 9 - HPV (first dose) Vaccination programme. Please read and contact them if you would like to take up their offer for your child in year 9 only.

Year 10 & 11 History, Geography and Psychology students - Thank you for completing and submitting the Humanities Resources Google sheet. In the interest of keeping social distancing to a maximum and the low demand for physical resources we have decided to replace the collection of resources,

planned for Monday 18th January, to a delivery method. Please can I ask that you complete the Google form (you will be sent) so that we can pinpoint the resources required.

Year 10 Photography students -Please can you let Mrs Parsons (kparsons@bestacademies.org.uk) know if you haven't got access to a device with a camera or you are not able to install google drive on the camera device you do have. Many thanks.

Critical Worker (Secondary) - Please can we remind you that, even though your child has been tested and received a negative result, the test is not 100% accurate and will require the children to continue to social distance and remain at home. If they have any coronavirus symptoms you should arrange a PCR test via the government website <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>

CAREERS

Year 11 Careers - We are happy to announce that 4YP will be continuing Etonbury's career appointments for year 11 students, via phone. If you feel your child needs advice, support or guidance with their post 16 options please email debrathorpe@4ypuk.com to book an appointment. Please state the name of your child, the school they attend and a brief description of the area you would like help with. After the meeting she will provide students with a summary of points discussed along with an action plan of what they need to do next.

Important Year 11 post 16 options

Discover Sixth Forms and Colleges - [Click here](#) to view an abundance of videos, links and information to get students thinking and questioning their post 16 choices.

Don't forget to go to our careers page on our [website](#) for help.

Please [click here](#) for a list of all schools and colleges within this area together with links to their websites.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION - CORONAVIRUS

Arrange a test if you have any coronavirus symptoms

<https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>

Information and support - Click below for details available on our website

<https://www.etonbury.org.uk/parents-area/parental/-/student-support>

Local restriction tiers: what you need to know

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/local-restriction-tiers-what-you-need-to-know>

COVID-19: guidance for households with possible coronavirus infection

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance>

Guidance for households - [Click here](#) for information on how to form a childcare bubble for children aged 13 or under with friends and family they do not live with.

[What parents and carers need to know about early years providers, schools and colleges during the coronavirus \(COVID-19\) outbreak](#) – updated 27 November 2020 to reflect the local restrictions, including changes to the sections on [shielding](#), [face coverings](#), [school and college trips and extra-curricular activities](#). Information has been added about [performances in schools](#)

What to do if your child develops symptoms of COVID 19

If your child develops symptoms of COVID-19, they should remain at home for at least 10 days from the date when their symptoms appeared. Anyone with symptoms will be eligible for testing and this can be arranged via <https://www.nhs.uk/ask-for-a-coronavirus-test> or by calling 119.

All other household members who remain well, must stay at home and not leave the house for 14 days. This includes anyone in your 'Support Bubble'.

Further information is available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>

The 14-day period starts from the day when the first person in the house became ill. Household members should not go to work, school or public areas and exercise should be taken within the home.

Household members staying at home for 14 days will greatly reduce the overall amount of infection the household could pass on to others in the community.

If you are able, move any vulnerable individuals (such as the elderly and those with underlying health conditions) out of your home, to stay with friends or family for the duration of the home isolation period.

PLEASE NOTIFY THE SCHOOL IMMEDIATELY IF YOUR CHILD OR A MEMBER OF YOUR FAMILY HAS ONE OF THESE SYMPTOMS:

Symptoms

The most common symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are recent onset of:

- a new continuous cough
- a high temperature
- a loss of, or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

For most people, coronavirus (COVID-19) will be a mild illness.

If your child does develop symptoms, you can seek advice from the nhs.uk website at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/check-if-you-have-coronavirus-symptoms/>. If you are concerned about your child's symptoms, or they are worsening you can seek advice from NHS 111 at <https://111.nhs.uk/> or by phoning 111.

How to stop COVID-19 spreading

There are things you can do to help reduce the risk of you and anyone you live with getting ill with COVID-19

Do

- **wash your hands** frequently with soap **for at least 20 seconds**, or use hand sanitiser
- **Wear a face covering** correctly when you are required to do so - especially on public transport
- **Keep 2 metres apart** from anyone you do not live with.

Further information is available at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

Virtual Wellbeing Drop-Ins - Please [click here](#) for more information on sessions running throughout January and February.

Early Help Team Virtual Drop-Ins for Parents - Please [click here](#) for more information.

Low mood, self-harm and suicide advice and support sessions - [Click here](#) for more information and to book a session for advice and support.

'Being a Parent of a Child affected by Autistic Spectrum Disorder' - Home Start are offering a free 10 week course. Please [click here](#) for more details.

Term Dates 20/21

Monday 15 February - Half Term

Monday 22 February - Return to school

Friday 26 March - Last day of term (Easter break)

Tuesday 13 April - Students return to school

Friday 28 May - Half Term

Monday 7 June - Return to school

Friday 22 July - Last day of term (Summer break)

Everyone is respectful - Together we care - Always aim higher