



Elburton Primary School



27th January 2021

Number 8



Message from Mr Smithers... Where has January gone? It seems like 5 minutes ago that I was writing to you at the end of December and so much has changed since then! Thank you for your support with remote learning. We are tracking engagement on a weekly basis, last week we had 92% of our children engaged in learning which is fantastic! The teaching team are continuing to consider ways to keep the engagement levels high, with some different ideas which you will be informed about as they are implemented. I fully understand that home learning is a challenge so well done and thank you! Once again, please only send your children into school if you absolutely need to, we have 115 children in school today. The safest place for your child is at home at this current time.

Emotional Logic... We have organised for a free workshop for our parents which I highly recommend to support all of our children, particularly in these challenging times. Please click on the link for more details.

<https://www.emotionallogiccentre.org.uk/events/free-parent-introduction-session/>



Once you sign up you will be sent the access link for the Zoom meeting and a reminder an hour before the session. The session is **at 7:30pm on Thursday 28th Jan (tomorrow)**. It will be for about an hour with time for questions afterwards. I do hope that you find this introductory session supportive.

Lateral Flow Testing... As you are aware, all staff are taking twice weekly lateral flow tests. I am delighted to inform you that all tests taken to date have returned a negative result.

Half Term... Guidance was released from the Department for Education this week stating that all 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. The school will continue to follow the agreed term dates, unless we receive a further directive from the DfE. Remote learning will not be set for your children during half term.

Dr Bike... The school have been in contact with the "Bike it Plus" project. We are organising for a member of their team to carry out **safety checks, basic service and small repairs** on bikes belonging to children, parents and staff **currently attending school**. Unfortunately we can't offer this service to children learning from home, but look forward to when lockdown restrictions allow them to return to school! This service is funded through Plymouth City Council's Plymotion scheme and is **entirely free of charge**, including basic spare parts like brake blocks, inner tubes, cables etc. Any larger jobs (or if a bike is unsafe to ride) they will write up on a check sheet, so the owner can take the bike to a bike shop and let them know what else needs doing. More information will follow regarding this in the coming weeks.

Meet the Governor: Frieda Court, Joint Vice Chair of Governors... *I have been involved at Elburton for many years as a parent helper and PTA member. I became a governor in 1999 and was Chair of Governors for 17 years. My background is in business and administration and during the latter years of my working life I was a legal secretary for a Family Lawyer. The role of governor gave me a much deeper understanding of the many challenges schools face and how important our decisions were. There have been many changes in education over the years and every decision made is aimed at raising standards and offering as many opportunities as possible to all our children. It's all about making a difference.*



2020-2021

05-01-2021 - 12-02-2021
22-02-2021 - 01-04-2021
20-04-2021 - 28-05-2021
07-06-2021 - 20-07-2021
03-05-2021 May Bank Holiday

2021-2022

06-09-2021 - 22-10-2021
01-11-2021 - 17-12-2021
06-01-2022 - 18-02-2022
28-02-2022 - 08-04-2022
26-04-2022 - 27-05-2022
06-06-2022 - 22-07-2022
02-05-2022 May Bank Holiday

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Dates for your diary

- **Thursday 28th January**
Emotional Logic introduction for parents (via Zoom)
- **Friday 12th February**
Break up for half term
- **Monday 22nd January**
Spring term 2 begins

Tour of the Foundation Stage for prospective Parents can be found at:

<https://www.elburtonschool.com/web/virtual-tour/518203>

