

Newsletter

Welcome back

Happy New Year and welcome to the Spring Term!

We hope you are all keeping as safe as possible and coping with the difficult situation we find ourselves in again.

It is pleasing that we are able to have much more contact with our pupils and families than during the previous school closure and for pupils to be able to continue with their learning either remotely from home or at school as a critical worker or vulnerable child. Thank you for all of your support.



ELT Connected initiative

We are pleased to announce over 300 Chromebooks have been distributed for pupils this week as part of the ELT Connected initiative.

The project has been fast tracked this week in light of the Government announcement of a 3rd national lockdown. We thank all staff for their hard work and organisation efforts which has made this possible. We also thank parents and carers for following social distancing guidelines to help with keeping everyone safe whilst on school grounds.

The ELT Connected initiative is one we are proud to be involved in as it gives every pupil a chance to keep connected with school learning during this period.

Please see below for some positive feedback from parents:

"Thank you so much for providing all the children with Chromebooks. I haven't heard of any other school doing this and lots of my friends and relatives are really impressed that you have done so, especially with the straightforward process for the parents."

"Thanks to the class teachers for their innovative teaching methods and I think it's safe to say that we are all learning, with this week being the steepest learning curve."



Safeguarding Online

We cannot stress enough the importance of safeguarding your child whilst online.

The digital world is constantly changing and children adapt to it far quicker than many adults do. It is important as a parent/carer to keep up-to-date with the latest games, websites and apps, and be aware of possible cyberbullying, online abuse, grooming etc.

Please go to our **website - Parents - Online Safety** to view links to a number of websites providing advice and guidance including where to report any concerns.

Please also go to our **website - Curriculum - Remote Learning** to watch our video on how to set parental controls.



Remote Learning

We are proud of all pupils who have enthusiastically joined their online lessons and are submitting their assignments via Google Classroom. Thank you to all parents who have supported and encouraged their children to adapt to the new way of learning. This can only be of benefit to them now and their achievement in the future.

You will have received documents from school with your child's Chromebook outlining protocols, expectations and agreements for remote learning.

We want to make sure, however, they enjoy what they do and do not become overly stressed or worried about their assignments. They should pace themselves, take regular breaks, drink water and ask for help if it is needed. They should not be working late into the evening or early hours of the morning. If they are, you are probably not able to see what else they may have access to online if you are not around. The deadline to upload assignments each day is 4:00pm.



During remote lessons, just as when they are in school, there will be Calma activities daily to support their emotional wellbeing and a class story at the end of the day.

On Fridays at 2:15pm, classes will have virtual assemblies to give out Success Certificates and Always Stars badges. There will be "time to talk".

May we remind you that during remote lessons, pupils must ensure they are wearing suitable clothing and sign in only using their Google account (not their parents'). They must have their cameras and microphones off during the lessons unless requested by the teacher to turn them on. They must not record or photograph any lesson. Parents should not be using the live lessons as an opportunity to talk to teachers. Any queries etc. need to be emailed via enquiries.



Absence Reporting

If your child is unable to attend school, including working at home, then please report this to school before 9:00am.

We still have a duty to safeguard all pupils, so we will be calling you if they are on the attendance list to be in school but have not arrived.

Whether your child is learning from home or in school it is important that you report any COVID related issues and follow government guidance including:

- Child has symptoms or is positive
- Isolating due to a household member having symptoms or is positive
- Isolating due to contact with a positive person

Absences can be reported via our online [absence form](#) on our website

FSM Voucher

As you are aware, Enfield Council administered the 2 week Christmas Vouchers for children entitled to free school meals.

The vouchers were issued between 11-14 December and were valid for 30 days. At the start of January some parents had not redeemed their vouchers.

We contacted parents by email on 5 January to encourage them to redeem their vouchers. We also arranged for Paypoint to extend the voucher expiry date to 7 February 2021. Parents can email paypoint.cashout@enfield.gov.uk as necessary.

FSM vouchers instead of food parcels will start from next Friday.

Talent Show

We are sorry that our Talent Show had to be put on hold before the Christmas break. Although we have a recording we are unable to post this to our website due to safeguarding.



The Aim Group - Free Level 2 Distance Learning Courses for Adults

The Aim Group has several free online Accredited Courses available to parents to help better understand some key issues around young people's mental health and wellbeing, they include the following:

- Understanding Specific Learning Difficulties
- Understanding Children and Young Peoples' Mental Health
- Understand Autism
- Understanding Behaviour That Challenges



Applicants must be aged 19 or over on or before 31 August 2020; have lived in the UK/EU for 3+ years,; not already on a Government funded course (apprenticeship for example).

Please watch an explanatory video on The Aim's Group website for further details about the criteria and how to register:
<https://tinyurl.com/y5vfubm6>

Dear Lynda ...

Like many families, we are struggling with not being able to see loved ones and live a normal life. I am worried about one of my children as he has become withdrawn, disinterested and appears generally unhappy. Is there anywhere I could seek advice on how to support him emotionally?



I understand your concern and the impact it is probably having on your family.

Try to introduce a timetable of family routines, activities and tasks for the day (remember to include remote lessons and home learning!) Have something to look forward to together in the evening such as watching a film, playing games, reading, dancing, crafts etc. It may encourage him if he sees you and his siblings are motivated and following the timetable.

Please go to the Young Minds website <https://youngminds.org.uk/> This organisation supports children and young people with their emotional wellbeing and there is a parent helpline providing free confidential advice via phone, email or webchat. Just click the link at the top of the page.

If you go to the school's website and click on the Parent tab, there is lots of information that may be useful to you as a parent and a link to my own page with other helplines and advice pages.

I hope this is of help.
Kind regards,
Lynda

Dates for your diary

2021

4 January	Pupils return to school
15 - 19 February	School closed - Half term
22 February	Pupils return to school
1 April	Last day of Spring Term
2 - 16 April	School closed - Easter break
19 April	Pupils return to school
3 May	School closed - Bank holiday
4 May	Pupils return to school
31 May - 4 June	School closed - Half term
7 June	Pupils return to school
21 July	Last day of Summer Term
22 July - 1 September	School closed - Summer holiday
2 September	Pupils return to school



For full academic year term dates during 2020/2021 and 2021/2022 please click here for [website](#).