



Egerton Primary School

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Through dynamic teaching, a highly creative curriculum and supportive environment, every Egerton child gains a passion for learning. When combined with the knowledge, skills and values they develop, we enable our children to fulfil their potential as global citizens in an ever-changing world

Dear Parents,

We did it! Half term is finally here. I would like to say a huge thank you to all our parents and grandparents in support bubbles for supporting your children so well during this tough time. I have visited all families this week and what was heartening to hear is that you are taking one day at a time and doing your very best. We have all had low days and feelings of exhaustion. This is completely normal. We all need a rest this half term and an opportunity to press the reset button.

Parents' Meetings

The teachers would like me to extend their heartfelt thanks for Parents' meetings. They really enjoyed meeting you all and discussing your children. The quality of feedback the teachers are providing is excellent. At Egerton we are very conscious of aiming to strike the right 'balance' in our approach to remote learning and ensuring that families remain connected to the school family but also have a high level of flexibility in planning their days. We would be very grateful if you could complete a short survey:

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/PTDJKRG>

Reading assessment: bench marking

At the start of the year we introduced a new reading scheme, as well as a range of brand-new fiction and non-fiction books. Recently, we purchased the eBook versions of these books so all children could enjoy a range of different texts at home.

As you know, the children are bench marked regularly to see if they have moved to the next book band. This has been difficult this half term due to remote learning, however we would now like to complete bench marking for children in Reception to Year 4. This will help teachers to ensure that the children are reading the correct book band and to support them with their reading progression.

The process of bench marking

During the first two weeks after half term, your child's teacher will set a text for your child to read as part of their reading lesson. The text will be sent to you and your child via Seesaw. For children reading the yellow book band and above, the text will also contain 3-4 comprehension questions. We would like you to video record your child reading this text and answering the questions. (Please ensure that all recordings are less than 5 minutes.)

We understand that it is difficult, but please do not support them with their reading or answering the questions. Please don't worry if your child makes some reading errors or answers the questions incorrectly, this is part of the reading process and it will help the teachers in knowing how to support each individual child.

Moving to the next book band

Your child's class teacher will then listen to the recording after it has been uploaded to Seesaw or Tapestry and they will complete the bench marking process.

The class teacher will then inform you if your child has moved up a book band or if they would benefit from reading their current level for longer. Your child's class teacher will set books via the eBooks for the children to read on their new level or add additional eBooks for their current level. This process may take some time to complete, but teacher's will do their best to bench mark the children as quickly as possible.

Hope and Wellbeing



The Knutsford Primary Schools have come up with a shared community project to inject joy and hope into our community. In the last lockdown we all were busy displaying rainbows in our windows. This time we want to focus on love and support for each other and especially our NHS workers. Our challenge is to design and make a heart to display for others to see on their daily exercise. These can be as small or as large as you would like. We are encouraging the children to reuse materials and to be as colourful as possible. I have already seen many appearing in windows!

Please post your photographs on Tapestry and Seesaw so we can see them. This has potential to be very special!



Communication regarding Covid

Regardless of your children being at home or in school, as key worker children, if there is anyone connected to your family that experience Covid symptoms resulting in self-isolation and any positive tests school needs to be informed as soon as possible. I have to provide daily information to the DfE regarding all children and staff and this includes instances of self-isolation and confirmed cases of Covid. Please do this via admin@egerton.cheshire.sch.uk

After half term

The government have stated that they will be announcing a 'road plan' on 22 February that should include their plans regarding schools. Please be aware that Headteachers do not receive any early notification and hear them at the same time as the general public. No doubt the press will continue to speculate next week. I will be writing to you once any announcement has been made and I have had time to ensure our plans for Egerton are correct and risk assessments completed.

The teachers will not be monitoring Seesaw or Tapestry during this time. They will be planning for the next half term and learning will be posted in time for a fresh start on Monday 22 February. If you do need to contact school urgently, please do so via admin@egerton.cheshire.sch.uk

Enjoy a restful half term!

Best wishes

Alison Hooper
Headteacher

