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- Funky Footwear Day 6<sup>th</sup> November (see below)
  - Anti-Bullying Week in school 9<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> November
  - Parent Curriculum Zoom meetings. Week starting 16<sup>th</sup> November (details in email to follow)
  - Flu Vaccine 25<sup>th</sup> November in school
  - **Virtual Open Evening launched on website 26<sup>th</sup> November on website**
  - 2020/21 Holidays See the school website under – **PARENTS/Holidays**
  - **School website/Facebook** Please visit the school website at [www.eustonstreetps.co.uk](http://www.eustonstreetps.co.uk)



## Parent Zoom meeting!

### Parent curriculum meeting on Zoom!

(Entry into draw for **Christmas hamper!**)

During the week of 16<sup>th</sup> November we will be holding curriculum Zoom calls for our parents. The teachers will explain the current school daily routines, Covid-19 precautions, literacy and numeracy learning and ideas how parents can support at home. This will not be an opportunity to ask specific questions. Please contact the teacher in school if you have any concerns about your child. **Parents who attend the meeting and complete a simple feedback form will be entered into a Christmas Hamper draw!** Feedback sheets will be sent home after the meeting with your child and need to be returned no later than Friday 4<sup>th</sup> December. The draw will take place in the school office on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> November. Please be assured that the content of the feedback does not in any way impact on the name drawn for the hamper.

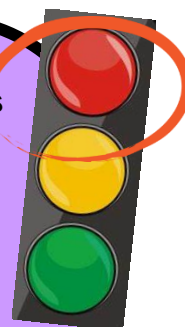
## Attendance!

Whole school attendance for October was **92%** which is low but is getting higher! High attendance is more important than ever after lockdown to make sure pupils don't suffer any further setbacks. Each month I will complete an attendance check in school. Our monthly target is always 96%! We want top attendance to make sure that our pupils are as successful as they can be.

**Attendance H.E.R.O – Here, Everyday, Ready, On Time!**

Our 'Top Attendance' awards for October with 96% goes to Year 2 Mrs Harpers/Mrs Todd's class, well done! **We had 61% of our pupils attending over 95% which is fantastic!** These pupils will receive their attendance certificates and be celebrated in assembly!

If your child's attendance is too low, you will receive a letter via email and or a phone call. It is important that you respond to this letter by emailing or phoning the school. Staff are also asked to inform me about any pupils they are concerned about and you will receive a pastoral call from me so that together we can encourage your child so that they have better attendance, better attitude and better attainment! I remind parents that if you are collecting pupils early from school you will need to present any appointment cards and complete a simple form given out.



## ATTENDANCE

### WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?

#### ABSENCE FROM SCHOOL

Children are required by law to attend school 190 days per year. The Government states that every pupil's attendance should be at least 95%.

#### How do YOU measure up?

Attendance	Days Absent	Weeks Absent	Lessons Missed
95%	9 Days	2 Weeks	50 Lessons
90%	19 Days	4 Weeks	100 Lessons
85%	29 Days	6 Weeks	150 Lessons
80%	38 Days	8 Weeks	200 Lessons
75%	48 Days	10 Weeks	250 Lessons
70%	57 Days	11.5 Weeks	290 Lessons
65%	67 Days	13.5 Weeks	340 Lessons

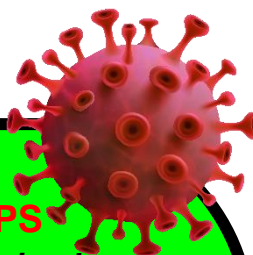
**89% & Below**  
Drastic effect on academic achievement

**95%-90%**  
Cause for concern

**100%-96%**  
Excellent



## COVID POLICY



### Action if there is a positive Covid-19 case in ESPS

**Thank you to everyone in the school community for helping keep pupils and staff in ESPS safe. We need to remain careful!** Just so that you are all aware, if we have a confirmed positive Covid-19 case in school, it is likely that the pupils, teacher and assistant in the class bubble concerned will all be sent home to isolate for 14 days. I will immediately send 1 letter to the parents of pupils in the class isolating and a different letter to the rest of the school to explain the process. One class isolating is not a valid reason to keep your child off school if they are in another class, this is why we are using the class bubbles. The classroom with the case will be sealed and given a deep clean before pupils and staff return.

**During this time learning will be provided using Seesaw in the same way it was during lockdown. Unless they are ill, all pupils are expected to work on the learning set during the hours of 9 am and 2 pm. If work is not completed school will contact you.** Please understand that if the learning is not completed, your child may fall further behind in progress and attainment. You only need to get your child to complete the work as best possible. The teacher and assistant will provide the learning and give daily feedback on the learning including corrections made. Videos of explanation will also be posted on Seesaw as required.

Please make sure that you have your Seesaw codes ready to use and the program installed on a device. If you have any questions about Seesaw, please contact the school. **Seesaw is also being used for home learning (homework) at present.**





### Operation Christmas Child



## FUNKY FOOT DAY!

Funky foot day will take place this **Friday 6<sup>th</sup> November** as it was postponed in October. Our partners, Willowfield Parish asked us if we would sponsor a shoe box for their Christmas Child Appeal. We donated 16 boxes on behalf of ESPS.

**We are asking that each pupil bring in £1.00 on Friday 6<sup>th</sup>.** They can wear any footwear of their choosing that day (waterproof preferably)! Any footwear that is particularly creative will get a small prize and a picture of their feet on the web site!



## PARENT REMINDER



Our parents do a fantastic job of considering the school community at all times. For those who are unsure or maybe forget, please make sure that you are distancing from people in the mornings when dropping off your children. The school gate areas must to be kept clear so that pupils and parents can walk through safely. I would also encourage parents to keep distance when stopping to talk and to wear face masks when in close proximity to each other. I would also remind parents not to park on zig zags or obstruct the footpath. **No smoking** is permitted on school grounds (including vaping) and **no dogs** are permitted in the school grounds.

### Parent information sheet

Please return any comments you may have from your recent information sheet sent home instead of parent interviews. It would be welcomed if you had any positive encouragement for the staff who are working hard or you have any ideas that we could use going forwards. Thank you.

### Parent Focus Group (Parent Voice)

Our parent group has started. I will be asking more parents if they would like to be part of this group in due course.

Parent working Group

Mrs Killops will be contacting those parents who normally attend our Parent Working Group about how they can still continue to help the school during this time of more restrictions.

**Please read the *Nursery Newsletter* below.**

*Thank you to everyone in our school community  
John Armstrong, staff and governors  
'Achieving Excellence Together'*





## Announcements

Please ensure your child comes in every day with a warm winter coat. These need to be able to fasten as we go outside on cold days. Please practice putting on coats independently.

Ensure all sweatshirts are named. Make sure there is a change of clothing in the bathroom.

If you are lent nursery clothing, please return it as soon as possible.

**Nursery Times from next week 9/11/20 onwards**

Nursery 2 (McKersie) 8.55am-1.25pm.

Nursery 1(Santos) 9.10am-1.40pm.

If your child is absent, please ring the school office to let us know why. Always inform us if your child has chickenpox, measles, diarrhoea, Covid-19 symptoms or any condition that could affect others.



## Our Themes

**Me and My Friends**

**Colour: Green**

**Helping your child**

- Talk about making friends.
- Talk about being sad/happy.
- Make funny faces in the mirror sad/happy/scared/cross.
- Sit with a stern face and let your child try to make you laugh!
- Look at expressions in picture books.

If your child says they don't have a friend, they probably do!

Encourage them to smile and say 'hello'. Look at the web site to talk about their day in Nursery. We continue to use 'kind hands' and words when sharing toys.



## Baby photographs!

We would appreciate if you could send in a picture of your child as a baby so we can make a display of what we can do now. E.g. 'When I was a baby I could drink milk, now I can use a fork to eat my dinner!'

Please name the photos as they will be put in a quarantine box for a few days and we will forget who brought what!!!!



## Christmas Clear out!

If you are planning to make room for new toys, be advised that the Nursery is always grateful for donations.



Please check that your child has not picked up any unwelcome critters. Check hair regularly and treat infestations carefully, following instructions on bottles. Fine combing is imperative.

## PARENT CONSULTATIONS

As Parent /Teacher consultations could not take place last term, please remember that if you have a concern, address it with us as soon as it arises...by phone, email or in the playground at home time.

## Open Evening! 26th November

Due to Covid restrictions, our usual open night will be a little different! Our plan is to have a virtual Nursery and Year 1 tour on the school website to inform parents for next year. Please see the website for more details from 26<sup>th</sup> November! All staff are available to help parents with questions they might have about school. We will also be available at all times to help parents with the online application process. Please contact us on **02890457089** or [info@eustonstreet.belfast.ni.sch.uk](mailto:info@eustonstreet.belfast.ni.sch.uk)