



TEAM TALK | 04.04.2022



## Dear Families,

I hope that you are all well and gearing up for a break at Easter! It has been a busy term at Cambrai – and I know that the children will be as ready for a holiday as much as the staff! Let's hope that the weather picks up... Easter is normally one of our more warm holidays – so fingers crossed!

Below are just a few pieces of information to share to keep you abreast of all of the goings on at Cambrai!

### Reading at Home – Please Help

When I have done some monitoring of children's reading diaries and teacher records this last few weeks I am shocked to see that some children are not reading at home. **Reading at home is VITAL for children to learn to read well.** Re-reading the same book a few times helps children to become fluent and know the story – as when children bring their books back to school we ask them comprehension questions about the book in a group. If they haven't read at home, they simply cannot keep up or answer the questions posed. PLEASE ensure that your child reads their book at home – as reading at home is simply the chance to practise, and we all know that practise makes perfect! **Importantly, some families aren't returning books either.** This is really tricky for us – and the children – as the child then doesn't have a book when reading with their reading group – and then the next group of children don't have enough books to go round. PLEASE – if you have any books at home, send them in. We simply can't afford to have spares of the 100's of phonics titles that we have.



#### As a reminder, we ask:

- Children read their books 4 times each week at home (this is generally twice for each book sent)
- Please leave reading books and diaries in their book bags EVERY DAY – so we can read with them or change books whenever we can
- An adult signs the diaries so we know how many times the book has been read at home.



### COVID Update

You may have heard that the national guidance in relation to COVID has again changed for April. The full guidance is here:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/people-with-symptoms-of-a-respiratory-infection-including-covid-19#children-and-young-people-aged-18-years-and-under-who-have-symptoms-of-a-respiratory-infection-including-covid-19>

#### In a nutshell, the guidance states that:

- If a child or young person has a positive COVID-19 test result (aged 18 and under) they should try to stay at home and **avoid contact with other people for 3 days after the day they took the test**, if they can. After 3 days, if they feel well and do not have a high temperature, the risk of passing the infection on to others is much lower. This is because children and young people tend to be infectious to other people for less time than adults. The guidance is different for adults (who are asked to avoid contact for 5 days after a positive test). This is detailed within the same document linked above.
- Children and young people with mild symptoms such as a runny nose, sore throat, or slight cough, who are otherwise well, can continue to attend their education setting.
- **Children and young people who are unwell and have a high temperature should stay at home** and avoid contact with other people, where they can. They can go back to school, college or

childcare, and resume normal activities when they no longer have a high temperature and they are well enough to attend

- It is not recommended that children and young people are tested for COVID-19 unless directed to by a health professional.
- Children and young people who usually go to school, college or childcare and who live with someone who has a positive COVID-19 test result should continue to attend as normal.

These are national guidelines, which we will be following. As a temperature is a key symptom of COVID-19, we will still send children home who develop a temperature and ask children not to return to school if they receive a positive test until the 4<sup>th</sup> day, after a positive test result (as above).

In practice, this would look like:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Positive result	Day 1 at home	Day 2 at home	Day 3 at home	Return to school

### Parental Questionnaire



Thank you to those of you who completed our school questionnaire recently. The full results can be found here: [Parent Questionnaire](#)

In summary – we are delighted that 100% of respondents would recommend our school! There were few negatives – but some valid points to work on were raised... and you can trust us that we are on to them! One of those things is homework – changes which we've made are detailed below. Remember, you do not have to

wait until a formal questionnaire to contact us if you have a query, question, compliment or complaint... our doors are always open. We have also decided to email all letters from the office, but class notes and learning information will still arrive book bags!

### Homework Changes

Following the feedback, and in light of the information about reading at home above, we have decided that we will no longer use see-saw for homework tasks – and will now really focus on the most important tasks that children need to practise most regularly in order to become successful. Homework is an area of school life which always divides opinion – as some parents always want less, some want more! We hope that you feel that this is a sensible middle ground – focused on the right things. As children progress in to the juniors, the expectations will increase towards year 6! - As such, the homework tasks will now be:



Reception	Year 1	Year 2
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reading Books (x4 times each week, once given)</li> <li>• Revise sound books and flashcards</li> <li>• Learning rhymes or completing the parent / child talking task when sent</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reading Books (x4 times each week)</li> <li>• Revise sound books</li> <li>• Weekly mental maths practise (in red book)</li> <li>• Weekly spellings task (after Easter – in red book)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reading Books (x4 times each week)</li> <li>• Times Tables Rockstars Challenges</li> <li>• Weekly spellings task (in red book)</li> </ul>

### Library Visits



You will know that this week we are taking all of our children to the library at Catterick Leisure Centre. This is to promote a genuine love of reading and to show children that reading can be free! Each child will receive their own library card if you requested one - so please make use of it over the Easter break! ☺

We are also going to set up our own playtime library, where we wheel a wheelbarrow on to the yard each day for children to enjoy reading – hopefully in the sunshine over the summer. This is simply another area to add to our OPAL play offer. **If you have any books which your child no longer reads at home, or that you'd like to donate – please send them in! We'll gratefully receive them!**





## Cambrai Cares!

Over the last term, I have been astounded by the level of charity and care that you all have shown as families. For many families, times are tough at the moment – but that hasn't stopped you all rising to the call to help others. This term has seen YOU help so many others, including:

- Red Nose Day - £503!
- Easter Egg Campaign for 1 Yorks
- Ukraine Appeal – several full cars of items and £89 in donations

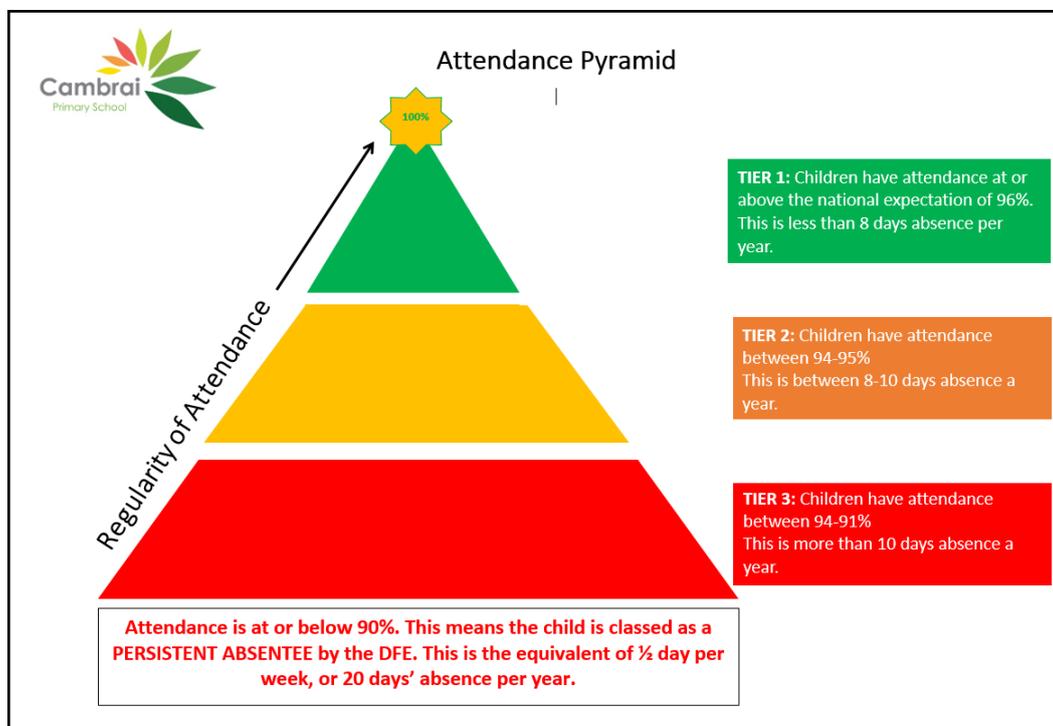


Thank you all so much – we are really seeing our school virtue of kindness in action!



## Attendance

As I have shared previously, we are continually working on our school attendance being the best that it can be. Below is the infographic which outlines how missing days across a year equates to the government definitions of good attendance – and what it means to be classed as a 'persistent absentee'. As always, we thank you for working hard on improving attendance with us as the year progresses.



## Uniform and Jewellery

Just a quick reminder about our uniform policy. I've noticed a few children wearing tops and tracksuit bottoms on PE days that are not school jumpers / colours. Please remember that on PE days, children should still be wearing the school colours (e.g. black tracksuit bottoms) and a school jumper. Children should not be wearing jewellery to school, other than a watch, if they choose to.



## PEGI Age Ratings

PEGI provides advice regarding the age suitability of a game.  
Games rated 12, 16 and 18 must not be supplied  
to children below those ages.



### PEGI 3

Suitable for everyone but you might see very mild cartoon violence.



### PEGI 7

The same as above but may also have scary looking characters. Violence between vehicles may also be seen, for example cars crashing into each other.



### PEGI 12

May contain unrealistic more violence towards humans or realistic violence towards fantasy characters such as dragons or trolls. May also contain mild swearing and naughty jokes.



### Parental Guidance

This rating only appears on apps. It warns you that these apps are very big and could contain lots of different things. Examples include Instagram and Netflix.



### PEGI 16

May contain more realistic violence towards humans and strong bad language. It might show love scenes and people not wearing clothes. There may be people taking illegal drugs or drinking alcohol and smoking.



### PEGI 18

The same as above but may contain very strong violence, as well as other things that are only suitable for adults.



## Online Safety

As children maybe spending a little more time online over the holidays – please remember to check any of the PEGI ratings of the games that they are playing. For the children of Cambrai, no child should be playing a game with a rating above a PEGI 7.

If you ever need any support or help with keeping your children safe online – please ask! We also have a number of websites to help you, linked from our school website – here:

<https://www.cambraiprimaryschool.co.uk/policies>



And lastly, I heard a rumour last week that I'm leaving Cambrai! Unless they know something that I don't, I can assure you that I am not leaving! I have grown Cambrai for two years before we even opened – so it is a very special part of my career – and life! We are lucky to have a Head of School joining us in November next year (she's just had a baby!) – But that does not mean that my name will not be above the door – it will. It just means that the growing school will have additional leadership onsite every day, when next year we will be just that big bigger... again! I will also resume my inspection days with OFSTED next term, now that things are getting a 'little' more normal – I'm really looking forward to bringing any great ideas I see back to Cambrai!

See you all on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> April.

Yours sincerely

Mr. Mark Dent  
Executive Headteacher  
Cambrai Primary School