



Weekly Bulletin 1 – Friday 8th September 2017

Dear Parents and Carers,

I would like to welcome you all back again to school after the long summer break. I hope you have all enjoyed some quality family time and that your children are pleased to be back with us. This first week has gone so quickly! All the children have made a fantastic start to the new school year, especially those who are joining us for the first time with a lovely atmosphere in school. I would like to extend a particularly warm welcome to all our new families in Nursery, Reception and throughout the school. I am sure this is the start of a long, happy and successful journey together.

Please remember that weekly letters will be given to the children every Friday. However, if your child is absent or the letter does not reach you at home, don't worry as all letters are put on our website the day they are given out so please just go to: www.lanchesterep.durham.sch.uk

New Extension and Building Work

I am sure you will all agree that the new extension looks very smart and makes a huge difference to the school. However, it also continues to bring us some challenges. Whilst we had the buildings handed over to us last week, the outdoor area has not been handed over yet as there is still quite a lot of work to be done. The Foundation Stage outdoor area is still waiting to be completed with rubber crumb, climbing frame and a new fence all to be fitted shortly. The Reception classrooms are also waiting for a fence to be built round the entrance.

This has meant we have had additional problems at home time this week with the top yard being fairly chaotic. I can only thank you for your patience as staff ensure children are handed safely over to their parents. I am in talks with the Local Authority as to how this area can be improved but it is going to take a little time. Meanwhile, Year 5 & 6 will be dismissed from the Junior Hall Door and Years 1-4 from the doors next to the main entrance.

Girls Football League – Monday 11th September

Our Year 5 & 6 girls football team have their first matches this Monday at Greenland Primary School. Mr Taylor will be selecting the team today but hopes that most Year 5 & 6 girls will have the opportunity to represent the school over the next few weeks. The league matches will take place every Monday at different venues but letters will always be sent out to those involved.

Meet the Teacher – Tuesday 12th September at 3.45 pm and 4.30 pm

This has become a regular event and one which is welcomed by many parents. On Tuesday, after school, you will have the opportunity to get to know your child's new class teacher a little better at our 'Meet the Teacher' sessions. The meetings will last for about 15-20 minutes and take place in the classrooms. The teachers will be sharing information about the timetable and topics for their class, as well as giving you the chance to see your child's classroom and ask any questions you might have. The meetings take place at 3.45 pm and 4.30 pm – that way, if you have children in different classes, you will still be able to meet both of their teachers. We look forward to welcoming you all in school on Tuesday.

School Photographs – Wednesday 13th September

The children will be having their individual photographs taken on Wednesday 13th September. These take place during the school day. However, if you would also like their photograph taken with their siblings (for siblings NOT at school), then please complete the form below and bring along their younger brothers and sisters at the start of the school day. Come to the main entrance and the photographs will be taken in the Infant Hall. If you have more than one child attending school or nursery here, we will make sure they get their photographs taken together during the day.

Years 5 & 6 Boys Football League – Monday 11th September

Our Year 5 & 6 boys football team have their first matches this Wednesday. Mr Stoker will be selecting the team today which is always quite a challenge with so many talented boys. The league matches will take place every Wednesday at different venues but letters will always be sent out to those involved.

School Twitter Account

We have a very active Twitter account which we use both to send out reminders and messages to parents, but mainly to let you know what your child has been doing during the day. We know how keen you are to know what your child has been doing during the school day and when you ask them, they invariably say, 'nothing!'. Now, you will know exactly what your child does as all teachers will be regularly tweeting! Please follow us at: **@LanchesterEP**

Consett Academy Open Evening – Thursday 21st September 6-8 pm

An advance notice for parents of our Year 6 children: it is Consett Academy's Open Evening on Thursday 21st September. All parents are welcome but if you would like to look round during the school day, just phone the school for an appointment.

After School Clubs

We are extremely fortunate to have a hugely dedicated team of staff who are so willing to give up their own time after school to hold extra-curricular activities for the children. We always review these clubs on a half-termly basis so that we have a wide variety of clubs for all children throughout the year. As always, we listen to parents and try to act upon their comments. We have forms for parents to complete so that we know who is going to which club and they are given to any interested children. Unfortunately, some clubs do have restricted numbers. If we receive more requests than we have places, then the names are just pulled out of a hat. All the clubs for this half term are listed in the table below. Please note that all our after school clubs finish at 4.30 pm and the children will be brought outside onto the top yard when they are finished. Thank you.

	Lunchtime	After School	Year Groups	Adult
Monday	---	Rugby	Year 4	Consett Rugby Club
Tuesday	Buddy Training	-	Year 5	Mrs Coyle
Wednesday	---	Singing Group	Years 3 -6	Mrs Knighton
Thursday	---	Autumn Crafts	Year 2	Mrs Startup
		Football	Years 3	SAFC
		Netball	Years 3-6	Mrs Grieve
Friday	Singing Group	---	Years 1 & 2	Mrs Knighton
	---	Boys Football	Years 5 & 6	Mr Stoker
		Girls Football	Years 3 - 6	Mr Taylor

Sickness Policy

I would just like to take this opportunity of reminding parents of our policy when children have vomited. If your child has been sick, you **MUST** keep your child away from school for 48 hours. This is for the benefit of all, as I am sure you are aware just how quickly bugs can spread in establishments such as schools. It is also possible that if you send your child back to school too quickly, they can come down with the bug a second time. Please respect this policy which is in place for the benefit of all children and families. I realise that it can be awkward for working parents, but the last thing we want is for a bug to spread across the whole class simply because one child has been sent back to school too early. Thank you for your help in this matter.

Juice Fund

For a number of years, we have asked for 50p donation per child per week for our Juice Fund. This fund serves two purposes. The first is that it is a way for us to cover some of the additional and increasing costs that we face in order to provide your children with all the treats and 'extras' during the term. The second is that it provides the children with a relaxing 'chill out' session once a week with their class. We intend to provide all children with juice and a biscuit on a Friday afternoon whilst spending time 'chilling' with their peers. In the past, this has taken place on different days and in different ways. However, this year, all classes will be enjoying some quality time with their peers on a Friday afternoon with a glass of juice and a biscuit. Thank you for supporting us in this way.

ParentPay & Wrap Around Care

It is good to see ParentPay being so well used already. If you have any issues with this at all, please see Miss Natalie Rippon in the office and she will be more than happy to talk this through with you. ParentPay letters for Reception, Nursery and our other new starters should go out with children today.

Contracts and booking forms have been given out to all children today, so this should also make life easier for you all.

As usual, if there is anything at all that you would like to talk about, or that is concerning you, please do not hesitate to contact me at school. We are here to help you and your child.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Jane Davis
Head Teacher

School Photographs – Wednesday 13th September 2017

I would like to bring a younger sibling to school at 8.45 a.m. for a family photograph to be taken with their brother and/or sister.

Name of child/children currently in school: _____

Class Teacher of child/children: _____

Name and Age(s) of Younger Sibling(s): _____

School Juice Fund

I enclose £3 for the Juice Fund for this half term.

Name of child: _____

Signature: _____
