



LANCHESTER E.P. (Cont.) PRIMARY SCHOOL



Weekly Bulletin 5: Friday 21st May 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

What a week of weather we have had again – surely it has to improve soon? Let's hope the sun and warmth is just waiting for our Fun and Fitness Week and the half-term break!

I am not sure about you, but I keep thinking about this time last year – how mundane things were, how uncertain life was and how life was just so tough for so many people. We have so much to be so thankful for and I for one am so thankful that our children are experiencing a little more 'normality' in their little lives. It is so wonderful to hear about the people they have seen and the places they have been! It is also so special to hear how much they have enjoyed hugging their grandparents this week too. It is always the simplest things in life which give us the greatest pleasure, isn't it?!

We have had a wonderful Science week in school with Captain Chemistry being a real hit with all year groups. Our youngest children have thoroughly enjoyed the science of nature, watching the chicks hatch and grow so much during their time with us. Year 5 and Year 1 have also enjoyed their trips this week – the excitement of going out with their classes, getting on a bus again – so special to witness.

Saturday 22nd May – 1pm – The Northern Saints' Trail Pilgrimage at All Saints' Church

Some of our Year 5 & 6 children are singing at this celebration event which will take place at around 1pm on Saturday 22nd May in the grounds of All Saints' Church. We will meet the Bishops in the Main Car Park at school at 12.45pm and then parade our banner with them as we all walk through the village to the church. The children will then sing in a short service which is due to begin at 1pm and should only last around 15 minutes. This will take place in the churchyard. We look forward to seeing you all there. It is going to be a wonderful occasion with Bishops Paul, Sarah, Christine and Mark. We hope that the weather is kind to us. Please look out for Twitter in case of inclement weather as if the rain is very heavy, this may have to be cancelled. Please note – we would like all children to come dressed in school uniform. Thank you.

Fun and Fitness Week

Next week is our Fun and Fitness Week for the whole school. Please remember that all children from Nursery to Year 6 should come into school next week in sports gear. Children will be taking part in a number of sporting activities each day and so will need to be dressed appropriately for this. Thank you. Please refer to the timetable below so that you can see what is happening each day and what equipment your children will need. This week is always greatly anticipated by the children and I am sure it is going to be a very memorable week for all of our children.

Monday 24th May 2021 - Skip2Bfit and Carousel of Activities

Monday is a very busy day with Dave from Skip2Bfit with us all day as well as coaches from Consett Rugby Club, The Racquet Man (Tennis Coach), Lanchester Cricket Club and Ash Randall - a freestyle footballer who has 22x Guinness world record titles, appeared in a Bollywood movie and numerous adverts including Pringles, Gillette, Seat and ITV! The children will be very active throughout the whole day – we just need some dry weather please!

Reception children also have a sports coach in for their afternoon session and they will be enjoying a variety of sports and games all afternoon.

Monday 24th May and Thursday 27th May 2021 – Nursery Toddler in School

Our Nursery children will be enjoying their sponsored walk around the school grounds in aid of Barnado's. I am sure they will enjoy exploring the whole of the school grounds, including the woodland and will walk a long way during their time with us too! It is all in aid of a good cause.

Tuesday 25th May 2021 – Wheels Day

Wheels Day is another highly popular event. On this day, we ask all children to bring in a wheeled item – scooters, roller blades, pushchairs, go-karts or a bike. Year 5 & 6 are NOT to bring a bike in for this day as they have their bike ride later in the week – bikes should only be brought by our younger children. All classes will have a timetabled session outdoors on their wheeled item. Please remember that anyone bringing a wheeled item that they ride on (skateboard, roller skates, bikes, scooters etc) MUST bring a helmet as they will not be able to use their wheels without one. This forms part of our risk assessment for the day. I can guarantee that they will have a super day of fun!

Wednesday 26th May 2021 – Reception Sponsored Walk to Malton

The children will leave school around 10.30am, after the Year 5 cycle ride has left school! Parent volunteers are to meet outside the Reception classrooms at 10.15am. Please read the information later in the letter about Adult Volunteers as we need to be quite strict with this due to the current situation. I am sure the children will enjoy their walk and we really do appreciate the offer of all parents who are joining us. Thank you. Please remember that this is a sponsored walk – hopefully we can raise lots of money for Barnado's – a very worthy cause!

Wednesday 26th May 2021 – Year 5 Cycle Ride

The bike ride is one of the most popular events in our school calendar so we are delighted to be able to hold this again for our Year 5 children. We cycle along the line towards Langley Park and have a packed lunch at Broom Park. The ride is around 10 miles in total and the mutual support of all the children on the ride is great to witness. Please make sure that all bikes are checked out this weekend ensuring all brakes work and tyres are blown up well before the day itself!

Please do not forget to let the school office know if you are intending on accompanying your child and please read the Adult Volunteers section below for a reminder of the restrictions for this year. We do appreciate your help and support and look forward to cycling with you on Wednesday – don't forget that adults must also wear a helmet – thank you!

Wednesday 26th May 2021 – Street Games

We have a company joining us (who were originally booked for last year!) to lead our children in some traditional street games. We really do hope that the street games and the skipping will inspire the children during the summer half term!

Thursday 27th May 2021 – Year 6 Bike Ride

Our Year 6 children missed out on their bike ride last year so this year's will be even more special for them all. Please just remember that parents/carers can only join us on one bike ride due to keeping the bubbles as safe as possible. Please make sure that all bikes are checked out this weekend ensuring that all brakes work and tyres are blown up well before the day itself!

Thursday 27th May 2021 – Street Games

More of our children will be enjoying their street games on Thursday and it will be another busy and active day for all of our children!

Forest Schools Activities

Many children will be accessing the woodland next week, taking part in different forest school activities. All children must bring a waterproof coat with them next week in the event of any inclement weather for any activities. Thank you.

Year 6 Transition

We are very aware that some of our Year 6 children are still waiting to go through the appeals process for secondary school placements. We do not start any of our transition programmes until all these appeals have occurred and school places confirmed. Obviously this can be a tricky time for many of our children but please be reassured that we deal with this as sensitively and positively as possible. If any Year 6 parents and carers have any concerns about this process, please just get in touch.

Year 3 - Birdoswald EV4 Forms

If your child is going on one of the Birdoswald residentials after half term they should have brought home an EV4 form. It is imperative that this is filled in, signed and back into school by **Wednesday 26th May** - your child will not be able to accompany us on this residential visit if we have not had the form sent back into school.

You should also have received an email with the Kit List and Itinerary for their overnight stay, as well as a link to the medical form for any medication they might need to take whilst they are away. If you do not fill in the medication form for all the medication your child will need then we will not be able to administer it, unless it is medication we already have in school for them, in which case we should have a form in school already - please check with your child's class teacher if you are unsure. Thank you.

PGL Payments

Please make sure you check your ParentPay and that payments for the Year 5 & 6 PGL trip are up to date. This is imperative. If you are unsure what is due when, please email: school.office@lanchesterep.net Thank you.

Road Safety

It has been brought to my attention that some parents are stopping at the school crossing patrol and just allowing their children to jump out of the car, then walk along the road before coming into school. Obviously, this is a very dangerous habit and one that should not happen. Please DO NOT allow your child to get out of the car while you are stopped at the school crossing patrol. Instead, pull up somewhere safe, alongside the pavement, where your child can exit the car and walk directly onto the footpath. Thank you!

Adult Volunteers for the Bike Rides & Reception Walk to Malton

Thank you to everyone who has completed the form to say that they would like to accompany our children on one of the trips. Please note, if you have not completed the form, you cannot just turn up on the day - you will not be able to accompany us. We are not being awkward, but to be allowed to take adult volunteers in the first place, we must have an accurate record of those attending the trip and we need to have confirmation that the adults have consented to take a lateral flow test and to inform us of their negative result. We need to keep our community as safe as possible and the last thing we want to do is risk any bubbles having to isolate. Adult volunteers who have signed up via the form will be sent another form to report your COVID-19 Lateral Flow Test result to. This must be received into school no later than 9.00am on the day of the trip. All instructions will be communicated to you on the day by the group leaders.

Friday 28th May - School is CLOSED

Please remember we break up for half term on Thursday 27th May. However, Mr Graham will be running his LJG Coaching holiday club on Friday, as well as on Tuesday and Wednesday of half term next week. If you would like a place for holiday club, please complete the [online form](#) by **Thursday 27th at 3.00pm**. Any bookings after this will need to be emailed directly to Mr Graham: lewisgraham91@hotmail.co.uk.

Mr Graham will also be running another football camp on Thursday 3rd June for dedicated children who want to improve their football skills and enjoy playing the game. These sessions will be outside so please make sure your child is dressed appropriately for the weather conditions and also has plenty of fluids. The price is £10 per child and the timings are as follows: Reception to Year 2 - 10.00am - 12.00pm; Years 3 to 6 - 1.00pm - 3.00pm. If you are interested in the football camp, you must book via lewisgraham91@hotmail.co.uk as there are limited spaces.

Boycott Your Bed

I am delighted to tell you that two sisters, Clara and Lottie, will be featuring in The Week Junior Magazine which is due to be published on 28th May. This is such wonderful recognition for the girls and follows them winning a competition which took place last year called, 'Boycott your Bed!'

Last July, Action for Children launched a competition to raise money for children who had been adversely affected by the pandemic. The challenge was to boycott your bed and sleep in the most unusual place you could think of to raise money for vulnerable children and families in need. Clara and Lottie made a camp in their back garden and it obviously really caught the eye of the organisers. Well done girls – we are proud of you! We have a subscription to The Week Junior Magazine so I am sure the Year 5 & 6 children will enjoy reading that article!

Outdoor Playgroup

The response to the launch of our free playgroup, Muddy Wellies, after half term has been amazing. We now have more children on our books than we can safely welcome to one weekly session. With this in mind, we are proposing to offer an alternative session on Friday mornings between 10 and 11. This session will be led by our current Nursery Teacher, Miss Hayley Brown.

If you have already had an email confirmation of a place on Thursday afternoons and you are happy to keep this place, you need do nothing further. If you are interested in a Friday morning place instead, please email s.butler@lanchesterep.net

For safety and organisational purposes, we will have to put a limit of 20 children (plus accompanying adults) on each session but we will try to accommodate as many of you as we possibly can. Please be understanding if we are unable to offer you a place at your preferred session.

This is an exciting development for Lanchester EP and we are looking forward to meeting you and your children!

COVID-19 Information

Reminder: If your child displays any of the key symptoms of COVID-19 whilst they are in school you will be contacted to come and collect them and they will not be able to come back into school until they have a negative PCR test result or have completed their period of isolation (if they get a positive result). If your child has siblings, they will also need to be collected at the same time.

If your child has COVID-19 symptoms at home or needs to isolate, please make sure you let the school office know either via email or on the absence line. Likewise, if a child tests positive on an evening or during a weekend, please email Mrs Davis on j.davis@lanchesterep.net with the email subject 'COVID-19 Positive Result' and include your child's name and class group in the email text.

Please also remember that LFT tests can be ordered for all adults to take at home. Just click on the link for more information about this: <http://www.durham.gov.uk/CovidLFT>

Wrap Around Care After Half Term

You will all be emailed with a letter regarding wrap around care booking arrangements for after half term. Please read this carefully if your child will be attending our after school or breakfast clubs.

After School Activity Clubs

Don't forget, next week is the last week for these activity clubs. We hope your children have enjoyed them – I know the staff have loved doing different things with so many children and we have seen some really great things being made too. There will be new activity clubs after half term to sign up for, which you will receive a letter and form for during the first week back.

Positive Thinking

Your kids will remember the adventures you went on, Not the stuff that you bought them.

Kids outgrow stuff, they never outgrow adventure.

As usual, if there is anything at all that you would like to talk about, please do not hesitate to get in touch. Hope you all enjoy a lovely half-term holiday when it comes and manage to enjoy plenty of fresh air and sunshine (hopefully!).

Yours sincerely,

Jane Davis

Mrs Jane Davis
(Head Teacher)