



# LANCHESTER E.P. (Cont.) PRIMARY SCHOOL



Friday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

This week has just been wonderful with Whole School Worship or Assemblies held every single day. We have waited two long years to be able to come together in person and it really has just been so very special. Children and adults alike have all just thrived on seeing each other in person – there really is nothing quite like it! We have also held a governor meeting in school and a meeting for parents too – what a fabulous week!

It is a year ago next week since the children finally returned to school after the final lockdown. Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2021 is a date which we will all remember. It has continued to be a long and tough year but I think we all believe we are finally through the worst and beginning to enjoy some great normality!

We have also celebrated different events this week too. World Book Day was great – it was lovely to see children and adults in a mixture of fancy dress, pyjamas and non-uniform which ensured that everyone could enjoy the day without any discomfort. Thank you so much to our wonderful secret readers in KS1 as well – this was so special and wonderful to see their little faces! We also had a great Masked Reader event too – again – the children just thoroughly enjoyed this. A truly wonderful day which was enjoyed by everyone in school.

We also launched Fairtrade Fortnight with our great steering group leading a really informative assembly. This was followed by another assembly the following day led by an ex-pupil who now works for the Co-op who work closely with Fairtrade products.

Thank you also for all your donations towards UNICEF and the Ukraine crisis. We just felt that it was important to do something fairly quickly and to make a monetary donation to an international charity who is supporting children in the area already. We will let you know how many family emergency hygiene kits we have been able to provide and have to say we have been blown away by the generosity that you have shown in supporting this very worthwhile cause.

One of our parents is also organising a charity disco in Croft View Hall on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> March from 5.30- 7.30pm. Tickets are £5 which includes a hot dog, drink and candy floss. We are selling them on behalf of the organiser from the Office but money must be in a named envelope and handed into the office. Please note, numbers are limited to 60 for this. Thank you.

## **Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2022 – Y5&6 Residential to Dubai**

We received a substantial amount of funding from the British Council through the Turing Scheme to take a group of children to learn more about the religion of a different country and to immerse themselves in the culture of that country. On Sunday, 16 children and 7 staff are flying to Dubai in the United Arab Emirates to spend the week there. During the week, time will be spent in Hartland International School (where children of 71 different nationalities attend), visiting the mosque, experiencing a traditional Emirati meal, visiting the old city and souks, going to Expo, going to the top of the Burj Kalifa whilst also spending some time on the beach and in the pool!

This really is a trip of a lifetime for those involved and we hope that their experience will have a lasting impact on both themselves and the school on their return.

The following arrangements are in place for the week to cover the staff who will be out of school:

Miss Butler will be replaced by Mrs Lesley Wright

Mr Innes and Mrs Moran will be replaced by Mrs Riddell and Mrs McGilvray (who both know the children well)

Mr Keeton will be replaced by Mrs Place (who knows many of the children)

### **Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> March - Parents' Evenings with Mrs Coyle (Y3)**

All parents of children in Mrs Coyle's class should have received an email this week about the parents' evenings which will be held on Tuesday and Wednesday next week. The arrangements will stay exactly the same for these – they will be held over Zoom with the same timings as the week prior to half term. Any questions or issues, please contact the Office.

### **After School Clubs**

It is great that all our extra-curricular clubs are starting up again next week for this half-term. Once again, it is wonderful to see the wide variety of clubs that are on offer to the whole range of age groups thanks to our dedicated staff. You will receive a text by the end of today informing you if your child has been given a place in the clubs.

<b>Year Group</b>	<b>Extra-Curricular Activity</b>	<b>Activity Leader</b>	<b>Day</b>	<b>Maximum Number</b>	<b>Finish Time</b>
<b>Year 1</b>	Multi Sports	Mr Graham	Monday	16	4.15pm
<b>Year 2</b>	Art	Miss Honan	Monday	12	4.15pm
<b>Year 6</b>	Booster	Mr Knighton & Mr Stoker	Monday	<i>Invitation only</i>	4.15pm
<b>Year 6</b>	Tag Rugby	Mr Graham	Tuesday	16	4.15pm
<b>Year 3 – 6</b>	Choir	Mrs Knighton	Tuesday	<i>Existing Choir Members Only</i>	4.15pm
<b>Year 3</b>	Dodgeball	Mr Graham	Wednesday	16	4.15pm
<b>Year 5</b>	Geography	Mr Taylor	Wednesday	16	4.15pm
<b>Year 6</b>	Booster	Mr Knighton & Mr Stoker	Wednesday	<i>Invitation Only</i>	4.15pm
<b>Years 3 - 6</b>	Digital Leaders <i>please note this will NOT be taking place on <b>March 24<sup>th</sup></b></i>	Mr Bailey	Thursday	<i>Existing Digital Leaders Only</i>	4.15pm
<b>Years 4 – 6</b>	Eco-Rangers	Mrs Startup & Miss Pinkerton	Thursday	20	4.15pm
<b>Year 6</b>	Magazine Creation	Mr Knighton	Thursday	<i>Existing Members Only</i>	4.15pm
<b>Year 4</b>	Football	Mr Graham	Friday	16	4.15pm

### **Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2022 – Year 2 Trip**

Our Year 2 children have a visit to Wheelbirks Parlour on Wednesday to launch their topic of 'From Farm to Fork'. They need to come to school in uniform, with wellies and waterproofs and a packed lunch. The trip is now available on Parent Pay or you can make payment in cash to the Office.

### **Ceilidh Tickets on Sale from Monday 7<sup>th</sup> March**

We are welcoming our partners from our 'European Tunes for Peer Bullying' project on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> March. Teachers from Turkey, Portugal, Greece and Latvia will be visiting our school from Monday 14<sup>th</sup> March.

We have an action-packed week planned for them and the final event of the week is a ceilidh and buffet in school on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> March. This will take place in the Junior Hall from 6pm until 9pm and we will be selling tickets for up to 80 people. Tickets will be on sale on ParentPay from 9am on Monday morning and are open to all our school community. They cost £5 per person (adults and children) and the ticket price includes a cold buffet during the evening too.

This will be our first school community event for over 2 years and I am sure it will be an exceptionally wonderful one!

### **Digital Leaders at the Bett Show**

We have some of our older digital leaders at the Bett Show on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> March to Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> March. They will be presenting and are currently working hard on their presentation. There will be a meeting for parents and carers on **Monday 14<sup>th</sup> March at 3.15pm** when more information will be shared about their time in London.

### **Year 5 visit to Madrid**

We have an Erasmus visit to Madrid for some of our Year 5 children the first week back after the Easter break. This will take place from Monday 25<sup>th</sup> April to Friday 29<sup>th</sup> April. A letter will go out to all Year 5 parents and carers today with more information about this visit. All responses need to be received no later than Friday 11<sup>th</sup> March.

### **OASES Working with Y4**

On Monday, Miss Jackson's class worked with a member of OASES to complete their first 'Smart Homes' session. In this session, they discussed climate change and what is happening to our planet. They also completed an experiment to investigate melting ice caps. This coming Monday, they are going to complete the second and third sessions in this project where they will discuss ideas for what they can do at home in order to prevent climate change. The sessions will cover saving energy and sustainable houses.

### **Year 1 and Year 2 Wellingtons**

You may have noticed some new wooden constructions in the Infant Yard. These are wellington holders for our Year 1 and Year 2 children. We are asking all children in these two year groups to bring a pair of wellingtons into school which can be left here so that they can change into them on a playtime and lunchtime so that they can play on the school field. Obviously, we have so much space on the field and it is a shame that in the past we have not been able to access it at all times due to the weather conditions. We are very keen to change this, and if children have wellingtons in school then they will be able to go onto the field whatever the weather, which gives them so much more space to play. Please make sure that your child's wellingtons are named and that they know what they look like to make it easier for them to find them. Thank you.

### **School Milk**

As you will know, the school works with the Cool Milk Scheme to provide free school milk to children under the age of five, or for those who are entitled to free school meals (not the Reception - Y2 Universal Free School Meals). As soon as your child turns five, they will no longer be eligible to receive milk. However, you can pay to enable your child to be able to have milk in school - to do this, you need to visit the Cool Milk website [www.coolmilk.co.uk](http://www.coolmilk.co.uk) and register your child. If your child is not registered once they are five then they will not be given milk, as this is only sent for children who are entitled to it.

If your child is over five and entitled to free school meals and would like to have milk in school, please email the school office and we will sign them up - however, please only do this if your child wants the milk, as this milk is paid for by the school. Thank you.

### **Knowledge Organisers for Years 1 – 6**

These will be emailed out to all parents today which inform you all about what your child will be learning this half term. Please look out for this – they are very useful!

### **Early Years News**

We have started using Class Dojo in Reception to promote positive behaviour. We are currently concentrating on being kind to others, being good listeners and being helpful when tidying up. The children have responded enthusiastically to the system and would love to show off their Dojo Points. Look out for a post on Evidence me with a link to follow for you to request to link with your child's account.

We are hoping to start taking the children from both Nursery and Reception on visits to the library and short walks to explore our local area over the next few weeks. If you would be interested in accompanying a group of children on a walk with their teachers, please let us know so that we can plan for these outings. The visits would last for 30 – 60 minutes depending on the destination and we prefer to have one adult to every 3 children as a minimum, so your offers of help will be very gratefully received.

Our outdoor playgroup, Lanchester Little Uns, will be running for the next four weeks starting on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> March 1:30 – 2:30. If you haven't already got a place for this, please register your interest by emailing [school.office@lanchesterep.net](mailto:school.office@lanchesterep.net). Places are available for children who will have turned 3 by 31/08/22 who **do not** already attend Nursery at Lanchester EP.

If anyone has any small cut-offs of artificial grass from their gardens, we would be very grateful for donations to enliven our small-world play in EYFS.

**Save The Date: Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> May – Lanchester EP Jubilee Garden Party**

This summer we have decided to host a very special Garden Party to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. We are hoping that we will be lucky enough to have a dry sunny day as we have lots of exciting things planned on our school field. Tickets for this event will be coming soon and there will be more information about this in the next termly newsletter.

**Positive Thinking**

***At the end of the day, all you need is Hope and Strength.  
Hope that it will get better and Strength to hold on until it does.***

As usual, if you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact either myself or the school office. We are here to help you all!

Yours sincerely,

*Jane Davis*

Mrs Jane Davis  
Head Teacher