



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



Weekly Bulletin 1 – Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2017

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope your children have all thoroughly enjoyed their week off – I think they were all more than ready for a rest and a break. I would like to thank you all for your many Autumn selfies you posted on Twitter – this was a great success – thanks Miss Butler for the idea! This half term is a very busy and long one – 8 weeks – so let's hope the colds and bugs keep away!

## **Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> November 2017 – Concert at Blackhill Methodist Church – 3 pm**

We have over 20 KS2 children who are performing at Blackhill Methodist Church tomorrow afternoon. We would like all children to meet in the church hall at 2.45 pm in full school uniform please. The church is on the side road which is the next right turning after Queens Road (the road to the hospital). We look forward to seeing you there. The children sound fabulous – with a mixture of songs, rounds, belleplates and solos – I just know that the audience are in for a real treat!

## **Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> November 2017 – Maths Information Session for Parents - 6 pm and 6.30 pm**

On Tuesday, Mr Mordue and Mr Taylor will be leading two sessions for parents about our approach to teaching Maths in school. At 6 o'clock, Mr Mordue will explain the methods used in KS1 for the 4 operations of calculation, followed by some examples of mastery and using and applying questions, finishing with some tips on how you as parents can help your children with Maths at home. At 6.30, Mr Taylor will do exactly the same for parents of KS2 children. This is something which many parents have requested and it will be good to see you in the Junior Hall on Tuesday evening.

## **Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> November 2017 – Year 5 at Rugby**

Some of our Year 5 children will be taking part in a rugby competition at Consett Rugby Club on Wednesday. They will need a packed lunch and warm sports clothing as they will be outdoors all day.

## **Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> November 2017 – Reception to Year 4 – Flu Immunisation**

On Thursday morning, staff from the NHS will be in school to give children from Reception to Year 4 who have permission, their flu jab.

## **Friday 10<sup>th</sup> November 2017 – Tree Power Project with Mr Stoker's afternoon class**

OASES, (Outdoor and Sustainability Education Specialists) have been commissioned to design the teachers' pack on Tree Power for the International Tree Foundation. It will become a nationally available resource for teachers from next summer. Mr Stoker's class are involved in a trial for this and will be working with the OASES staff every Friday afternoon for the next 6 weeks. This is all based on the topic of: 'Healthy Food, People and Planet: Inspiring children to eat healthy food whilst protecting trees'.

## **Monday 13<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> November – Erasmus+ Visitors**

We are really looking forward to welcoming more than 30 European teachers from 9 different countries on Monday and Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup>/14<sup>th</sup> November. The children will be participating in a welcome assembly on the Monday morning and the teachers will enjoy joining in some of the lessons during the morning session. This is a wonderful opportunity for our children and school.

## **Lumiere Project – Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> November**

Miss Jackson's Year 5 morning class have been given a fantastic opportunity to be part of the Start Programme which is funded by Children and the Arts and delivered by Artichoke and OASES. There will be several activities in this project, the first being a behind the scenes visit to the Lumiere in Durham. The visit will focus on 'For the Birds' which includes 20 installations in Durham University Botanic Gardens. We will have a tour of the Botanic Gardens, led by a member of OASES staff and a Lumiere volunteer steward. Mr Stoker's Year 5 morning class

are also invited to this visit although Miss Jackson's class will take priority for places, as they will be participating in follow up workshops as part of the project. A letter has been given to all Year 5 children today.

### **Parent Governor Ballot**

We have a vacancy on our governing body for one parent governor and the ballot papers have been given to the children today. All forms must be returned to school either via your child or placed in the box in the Main Entrance no later than Friday 10<sup>th</sup> November. One vote per child is allowed. This is a really important role for a parent to undertake so please consider your vote very carefully.

### **Rucksacks**

I have been asked by the Friends of the School to clarify the issues around rucksacks in schools. We are not being awkward with this rule – just practical. This is not a new rule - this was brought in last winter. At this time of year, all children need coats in school. Our cloakrooms are small and congested and whilst they are just about large enough to hold 25-30 coats and 25-30 P.E. kits, if all children then bring a large rucksack, it inevitably ends up with coats falling onto the floor and children trampling over them in an attempt to get to their pegs. Not only is this a Health and Safety Issue, it is also quite obscene to see hundreds of pounds worth of coats being walked all over, tripped over and trampled on. Without large rucksacks cluttering the cloakrooms, this problem is most definitely helped. In many cases, all children are bringing in their rucksack is a reading book – a book bag or small draw string bag will more than suffice for this. Obviously if children are staying elsewhere overnight or going straight off to other clubs, a bag may be necessary – we don't have a problem with this. We never insist on unnecessary rules – we try to be fair and reasonable at all times. Thank you for your support with this issue.

### **Christmas Fundraiser**

Your children's classes have been very busy creating beautiful pictures to use for our Christmas fundraiser. You should all have received your child's design on an order form, which gives you the option of ordering a number of different items with your child's design on. We have already had lots of orders back in, which is great. We are asking for all orders to be returned to school by Monday 6<sup>th</sup> November, so that we can send the designs off to be printed in time to get them back before Christmas. Please make sure that your child's name is written on the form as you would like it printed and make sure this is written as clearly as possible to avoid any mistakes. If you are placing an order, please send the correct change in with the order form, or alternatively you can pay by cheque (made payable to Lanchester EP Primary School Fund). Unfortunately, this cannot be paid for via ParentPay.

If you do not want to place an order but would still like to receive one free Christmas card with your child's design on, you must also return the order form to the school office. Please remember, the picture you have been given is the original - if it gets lost, we will be unable to send out another one to you.

### **Year 5 and 6 Christmas Party**

Apparently, the date of the Year 5 & 6 Christmas Party was omitted from the last newsletter – I do apologise. They most certainly will have a party and it will take place on the afternoon of Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December 2017.

### **Parent Pay News**

You can now book breakfast club and/or after school club sessions via your ParentPay account. Sessions can be booked up to 48hours in advance and the whole half term is available to book. You will need to pay for any sessions at the time of booking and unfortunately won't be able to book further sessions if your account is not up to date. Cancellations can also be made up to 48 hours in advance. Amendments can be made either on-line or by contacting the office. Thank you.

### **Labelling of Clothes**

It is absolutely essential that all items of clothes are clearly labelled. This includes t-shirts, P.E. kit, P.E. bags, shoes and sweatshirts. Items of lost property can often be located but only if your child's belongings are clearly labelled. Thank you!

### **Foundation Stage News**

Thanks to everybody who came along to our Foundation Stage Stay and Play sessions on Wednesday. It was lovely to see so many of you and we do hope you all enjoyed the sessions. We hope to repeat this next term.

Another thank you goes to everybody who has participated in the Treasure Hunt. The children's efforts and your generosity are hugely appreciated. We will let you know the grand total you helped to raise next week and look forward to sharing with you the plans for how the money raised will be spent on our outside provision.

Your child's Learning Journal should be coming home today. We hope you enjoy sharing what they have been getting up to in school so far. Please take a moment to sign the comment sheet to let us know you have seen the journal – this will be either at the front or back of the book. Comments are more than welcome, as are extra pieces of information about how your child is learning and developing at home. If you could return the Learning Journal promptly at the beginning of next week, we can start adding more information to it as soon as possible. A very useful guide to the Foundation Stage Curriculum can be found at <http://bit.ly/eyfsparentguide>

Stories in Nursery next week are 'Jack and the Beanstalk', 'Who's on the Loo?', 'The Thing (Le Machin)', 'Penguin' and 'Poo in the Zoo'. Our song of the week is 'Five Currant Buns'.

### **Holiday Club – Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2017**

This term, we break up on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> December but will be hosting a holiday club on the Friday. We expect this to be well attended so please book early for this. Bookings for this club will open on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> November.

### **Juice Money**

Once again, we are asking for a small contribution this half term of £4 towards our fund for juice and biscuits that the children enjoy every Friday afternoon. They do look forward to this social time with their class but it also does help our school funds. At this time of year especially, we contribute even more to a number of additional activities and events for the children including their theatre trip, parties and Christmas celebrations as well as additional resources for the classrooms. Please complete the form below along with your £4 donation. Thank you.

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

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### **School Juice Fund**

I enclose £4 for the Juice Fund for this half term.

Name of child: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

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