



Lanchester E. P. Primary School



Autumn Newsletter (1)

I would like to extend a very warm welcome back to school to all our children and parents and, particularly to those new families who have just started with us here at Lanchester E.P. School. I do hope that your child has quickly settled into life at our school and is very happy.

This has certainly been a very strange start to the school year! I am sure you will agree though, that we have all adapted very quickly to the new routines and procedures and it is now just a new way of life for us all. Thank you for your patience and understanding as we have tried to find the best solutions at the start and end of the day especially – more on that later!

It has been the children who have amazed us all though! We anticipated some very anxious and unsure little people coming back after 6 long months away. Instead, we have some happy, confident and wonderful little people who have literally bounced back into school. One of the many positives of this lockdown is hopefully that they all appreciate school life that little bit more!

I share your frustration around a lack of tests for children displaying coronavirus symptoms and the time it has taken you to book tests and then wait for results. Some of you may have heard me talk about this on Radio Newcastle on Wednesday after writing a letter to our MP, Richard Holden. The Evening Chronicle and Northern Echo also asked to interview me following the radio broadcast. The links for all of these can be found on our twitter feed. I will do whatever I can to ensure your children are safe in school and that they are educated to the very best of our ability. However, the lack of tests, the difficulty in accessing tests and the time taken to get the results is infuriating as many of you have found out. I will continue to make my voice heard on our behalf in an attempt to improve this service! However, during my telephone conversation with Richard Holden, he did state that if any parent has had issues accessing a test then they should email his office and he would sort it out for them. His email address is: richard.holden.mp@parliament.uk

I would like to thank you all for your wonderful support following the radio broadcast and newspaper articles on Wednesday – they are all really appreciated and mean a lot to us all. Please do not hesitate to contact me or email me. I will always do whatever I possibly can to help and support you and it is quite humbling to have had the same said to me by so many of you this week. I thank you all from the bottom of my heart.

Please do not forget that all our weekly letters (which go out every Friday) and half-termly newsletters can also be found on our website: <http://www.lanchesterep.durham.sch.uk> so you can access the information wherever you may be in the world (although I am sure that is not very far from the village at all at the moment!).

We do pride ourselves on our open and honest relationship with parents and I always appreciate your feedback. Please, never be afraid to drop me an email or phone me to talk anything through at all. I will always try to get back to you as quickly as possible. Occasionally, emails do drop off the bottom of the page though so please just be patient!

As always, please do not hesitate to speak to us if there is anything at all that we can ever do to help.

Jane Davis



All Saints Church Harvest Festival 1000 Can Challenge



This year, there is more demand on our food banks than ever before – so All Saints Church are helping out by aiming to collect 1000 cans of food for our foodbanks at Consett and Annfield Plain. Our school is a collection point so if you can help, please send in a tin of food with your child next week. Thank you for your support for this very worthy cause.

Staff News



We were all thrilled for Miss Leanne Bainbridge who became Mrs Leanne Chambers in the summer holidays. She enjoyed a very special wedding with her close family in somewhat unusual circumstances. It is going to take a while to get used to her new name I think!



Mr Michael Evans, one of our cleaning team, retired at the end of the summer holidays. He has worked at our school for 12 years and been an invaluable team member. We wish him all the very best as he begins a slightly more leisurely lifestyle! The job advert will be on our website in a bid to find a suitable replacement.



Mrs Angela Cottom, one of our kitchen assistants will be retiring at the end of this half term. She has worked at our school for almost 23 years – so really does deserve a lifetime award! Mrs Cottom has worked tirelessly for us and has helped to feed hundreds of children during her time with us. We know she has lots of plans to spend time away in her caravan with her husband and dogs. I am sure you will all join me in wishing her a very long, happy and healthy retirement.



Social Distancing



I think our vocabulary has certainly increased this year as I do not think I had heard of the term 'social distancing' a year ago and I never dreamt I would be writing about the need for social distancing in a newsletter!

As you are all no doubt very aware, the footpaths around our school at key drop-off and pick-up times are rather congested. Even though we have five different staggered start times and are using five different entrances and exits, with 430 children, it does get very busy.

I am having discussions with the local authority to possibly introduce a one-way system on the footpaths so that parents coming from the village would walk on the footpath adjacent to the school and when returning back towards the village, you cross the road and walk on the footpath next to the bungalows. I do think this will make social distancing a little easier.

Also, I would also like to suggest that parents and carers wear a face covering when collecting your children. Obviously this is all in an attempt to you keep you all as safe as possible. I cannot enforce this but I do realise how tricky it is to practise social distancing at these very busy times.

I also need to ask parents of Year 2 children not to allow your children to wander or play on the school grounds when collecting your children. Obviously, we have to keep the children in their separate bubbles all day and it is really important that you leave the grounds immediately after collecting your children.

Thank you so much to Year 1 parents – I think the new pick up times of 3.10pm for Mrs Burke's class and 3.20pm for Mr McLoughlin's class definitely help to ease the congestion so we will be keeping these new times for the foreseeable future.

Thank you all in anticipation – these are tricky times for us all and it is just so important that we continue to keep each other as safe as possible.

LJG Holiday Clubs



Mr Graham will once again be running his fantastic holiday club at school during the school holidays. I am sure that both you and the children will be pleased to hear this as we have all missed them. He will be holding the holiday club in school from Monday 26th October to Thursday 29th October. If you would like to book, please email: lewisgraham91@hotmail.co.uk or school.office@lanchesterep.net for a booking form. Please note, this will be subject to the most recent government guidelines issued and you will be informed if he is unable to run this for any reason.



Reception 2021 Admissions



For children born between **1 September 2016 and 31 August 2017**, you need to complete an application, stating which primary school you would like your child to attend.

You still need to apply even if you have an older child attending the same school, and **even if you attend Nursery at Lanchester EP you must still apply for a Reception place**. Each year we have a number of children who miss out on a place in our Reception because parents have forgotten to apply for a place. **The deadline for applications is midnight on Friday, 15 January 2021.**

Applications must be made via <http://www.durham.gov.uk/schooladmissions>.

If you are unable to apply online, please download the form from:

<http://www.durham.gov.uk/article/2189/Apply-for-a-primary-place-deadline-15-January>.

Please note, we have been advised by Durham County Council that we cannot send in forms on behalf of parents.



Applying for a Secondary School place 2021.



For children born between **1 September 2009 and 31 August 2010**, you need to complete an application, stating which secondary school you would like your child to attend. The application process opened on September 14th and you will have received a letter regarding this (sent to Year 6 parents via eSchools and also available on the school website).

The deadline for secondary school applications is midnight on Saturday 31 October 2020. Once again, it is very important to apply for a secondary school place by the deadline, as a late application greatly reduces your chances of getting a place at your preferred school.

Applications must be made via <http://www.durham.gov.uk/schooladmissions>.

If you are unable to apply online, please download the form from the website address above. Please note, we have been advised by Durham County Council that we cannot send in forms on behalf of parents.



Erasmus+ Projects



As you may know, our school has a long history of working with partner schools all across Europe, having had a Comenius or Erasmus+ project since September 2010. This has given our children the opportunity to visit many different countries and increase their awareness of a plethora of different countries and cultures.

We have one project called 'Learning Outdoors, Learning for Life' which started last year and we are working with partner schools in Poland, Sweden, Denmark and Spain. We had a wonderful visit to our school by all our partner schools last November and took some Year 5 children on a visit to Poland in November and Hungary in early March but sadly, our visit to Denmark last March had to be postponed to March 2021. The British Council have agreed to extend the length of this project by 12 months due to COVID-19.

During the summer, we also received the exciting news that we have been successful in our bids for two more projects. We have some longstanding partnerships with schools in Hungary and Germany and two other schools in Poland and Spain have also partnered up with us for a project entitled 'Happy Life, Happy Lifestyle'.

The final project is entitled 'European Tunes Choir for Peer Bullying' and we have partnered with schools in Turkey, Italy, Portugal, Greece and Latvia. This is rather ironic as of course we can neither travel nor sing at the moment so we will have to be patient before we start work on this project!

We were delighted to have two more projects confirmed because we do not know what will happen longer term with these Erasmus+ projects due to Brexit. We hope that we will be able to begin visiting these schools with children again in the spring term but we will keep you posted about this.

Governing Body

All the members of the governing body are listed below. Our governors play a really important part in the life of our school and they can be contacted through school if you ever need to.

Mr Michael Knowles	Chairman – Co-opted Governor
Mrs Fiona Wood	Vice-Chair – Foundation Governor
Mr Ossie Johnson	Local Authority Governor
Mr Chris Hockaday	Co-opted Governor
Ms Suzanne Nagel	Co-opted Governor
Mrs Margaret Matthews	Foundation Governor
Revd Lesley Sutherland	Foundation Governor
Mr Ben Garside	Parent Governor
Ms Denice Atkinson	Parent Governor
Mr Jason Exley	Parent Governor
Mrs Sarah Blakeman	Parent Governor
Ms Naomi Hawke	Staff Representative
Mrs Jane Davis	Head Teacher

School Dinners

I am sure you are all aware that the children from Year2 – 6 are currently eating dinner in the classrooms and we have a reduced menu in place. We now feel in a position to begin to eat in the main hall again so from next week, Year 3 and Year 4 will be having dinner back in the KS2 hall. However, we hope to be able to gradually introduce the other year groups to the hall over the coming weeks and a more normal service will resume!

We will be continuing with the reduced menu until October half term but we hope to revert back to our normal menu after this date. We always pride ourselves in providing a variety of hot meals but unfortunately due to the current circumstances we are unable to offer the range we usually do. Rest assured, we are doing our best to make sure that after half term, our normal service will resume!

Dinners FAQs.

My child would like to swap to or from school meals.

You can only swap from either Packed Lunch to School Meal or vice versa with 4 weeks notice. Please email: school.office@lanchesterep.net to advise us of the change. This is to ensure that all catering order timelines can be adhered to. We do thank you for your understanding with this.

If you require to change a meal selection.

We can only accept changes for future weeks. For example, if you know in Week 1 that your child does not like the ham sandwich, please look ahead at the choices made for any other week and day that ham has been selected and advise the office accordingly. The future weeks can be adjusted but no changes can be made for the current dinner week, i.e. if we are in Week 1 and they want to swap a meal, this change will not be seen on their menu until Week 1 comes around again. Again, this is to ensure that the correct food is ordered in good time. Thank you.

School Uniform

It is lovely to see the children looking so smart in their school uniforms. Thank you for adhering to our policy of black footwear and sensible hairstyles with no shaved hair or tramlines. We would also like to thank you for providing your children with the correct P.E. uniform – this too makes a huge difference! I would just like to remind parents of Year 5 & 6 children though that when they come to school in their PE uniform, they do still need to wear their normal school sweatshirt rather than a sports hoodie. Thank you.



Parking Issues



We all know how chaotic it is outside school at the start and end of the school day and I am sure we all empathise with the local residents who have to put up with a huge influx of cars at those times. It is really important that we respect the local residents in how and where we park.

I would like to ask that parents DO NOT park on the grass opposite Victoria Terrace. This is a lovely green that is being ruined by cars pulling up onto the grass verge. There is always space just a little further down the road if needed! I do thank you in advance of your help with this.



Flu Vaccine - Thursday November 26th



If your child is in Reception to Year 6, you will have received an emailed letter about the flu vaccine, which will be being carried out in our school on November 26th. The letter is also on our website. If you would like your child to receive the flu vaccine, please go to <https://www.hdft.nhs.uk/services/childrens-services/imms-cdurham-darlington-teesside/> and click on the link for flu vaccination consent. You will need the school code which is 131168. Consent must be given at least two days before the vaccines take place.

If you do not want your child to have the flu vaccine, you don't need to do anything - vaccines cannot be given to children without parental consent, via the link above.

If you have any questions about the flu vaccine, please view the guidance quoted in the original NHS letter.



Mr Graham's Saturday Football Club



In light of the new government announcement on Thursday and in order to adhere with the new guidelines, parents will no longer be able to stay to watch children who attend the Football Club on a Saturday morning. The club will still take place but parents must now just drop off their child and leave the premises immediately. Thank you.



House Captains



The Year 6 children held a vote to elect the new house captains for the upcoming year. Each candidate was asked to prepare a short presentation on why they thought they would be suitable for the position. The staff were very impressed at the quality of the presentations and it was clear that a lot of thought had been put into them – well done to everyone!

	CAPTAINS	VICE-CAPTAINS
ROMANS	Anna and Joseph	Mia and Daniel
SAXONS	Holly and Charlie	Rosie and Harrison
DANES	Skye and Alfie	Lottie and Daniel
NORMANS	Sophia and Oliver	Harriet and George

We do hope to be able to hold a variety of house events as the year progresses. Dojo points are awarded to the children for good work, effort, kindness, manners and a variety of other things and they are all added up at the end of the week to see which team is doing the best! Friendly competition exists among all the children (and staff) who are keen for their houses to be the best they can!



Parents' Evenings



Our termly parents' evenings are always held during the last week of the half term but this year, we will be spreading these evenings out over the last two weeks of the half term. Obviously we are unable to meet with parents face to face so instead, all appointments will be over the telephone. Times will be sent out and your child's class teacher will ring you to discuss your child's progress. At this point in time you will not be able to see your child's work but we will look to organising something next half term to allow this to happen.

eSchools app



Our eSchools app is a great way of keeping up to date with what is going on in school. As soon as newsletters are published they are sent straight to the app. This enables you to know straight away our latest news and events. eSchools also contains some important information on the class pages about what your child will be learning.

We also offer parents evening appointments via this app. You will be able to see clearly what dates and times are available that suit you. When your child starts school at Lanchester E.P., all parents are issued with a username and password for eSchools which is all you need to get started. New Nursery parents should get their log in details today.

If at any point, you forget your username or password, please get in touch with the school office who can reissue the details. If you have any further questions, please just contact the school office.

Wrap Around Care



An online form will be sent out next week for you to book all wrap-around-care for the week beginning Monday 28th September. We feel that we can now offer this extra provision for parents who require it.

However, it will have to operate slightly differently this year with all places booked and paid for in advance. Any outstanding debts will also need to be cleared before we can allow your child to stay this year. We will need to be very careful with our numbers of children from each year group in order to keep bubbles separated.

Please note, that whilst Mr Graham will take children outside, when they are in the school building, they will all be required to sit in their set seat whilst in the hall.

I realise this will be very different from what they are used to, but obviously it is important that we adhere to all the government guidelines.

Twitter



Our number of Twitter followers continues to grow rapidly (1,590) and our pupils receive some amazing learning experiences via this platform. In the past few years we have interacted with authors, athletes and even an astronaut! The response from parents to our school Twitter account has also been very positive and we urge you to follow us: **@lanchesterep**.

By positively using social media in school, pupils are learning how to post correctly and how not to share personal information online. With this in mind can we please request that you **DO NOT NAME CHILDREN** when making comments on our school Twitter account. No individual child should be identifiable from images posted online and so it is important that names are not associated with these images. We love receiving your comments and photographs online, but request that you use generic terms such as my child, my son, my daughter etc. when commenting about specific children.

Your response to twitter during the lockdown was just wonderful! There were so many tweets from you that we just could not possibly re-tweet everything that was being posted. We are so pleased you liked the twitter challenges too - thank you for engaging so brilliantly with it!

You may have noticed that the Daily Davis Updates have now become the Weekly Davis Updates! I will continue to just round off each week with some of my thoughts and reflections.

COVID-19

COVID-19 Information

COVID-19

It is really important that we all understand the symptoms of coronavirus. There are just 3 symptoms – a high temperature, a new or persistent cough and a loss or change of smell and taste. At this time of year there are obviously a lot of children developing a cold. A runny nose or sore throat are NOT symptoms, so children can come to school, as long as they feel well enough. If a child has sickness and diarrhoea, they must stay off school for 48 hours. Please look at the flow chart below which will help you make the decision about whether your child needs to stay away from school and have a test.

What do I do if my child is feeling unwell?

Would you have kept them off school before Covid-19?

YES

NO

Keep them off school.

If they are displaying any of the following:

- a high temperature
- a new, continuous cough
- a loss or change to their taste or smell.

...you *MUST* get them tested before they can return to school.

Please follow the guidance below.

Children who are otherwise well with:

- a runny nose
- a sore throat without a temperature
- a mild cold

..... can go to school as normal

My child is displaying **one or more** of the following symptoms:

- a high temperature
- a new, continuous cough
- a loss or change to their sense of taste or smell

These are the main symptoms of coronavirus(Covid-19).

You **MUST** get a test as soon as possible to check if you have the virus.

To arrange a test, go to: www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19.

Select the track and testing option.

OR, visit www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test
to order a test to your home.

Call 119 if you do not have online access.

Your child and household **MUST** self-isolate for 14 days from the first day of symptoms.

You cannot leave the house for any reason apart from being tested.

You must self-isolate until the results come back.

If the results are negative you can resume normal activities.



Early Years News



We are pleased that our new starters are settling in well to the Nursery routine. Within the next couple of weeks, we will put the children into groups with their Key Worker who will be the adult in Nursery who will be mainly responsible for supporting your child in their journey with us. We will let you know as soon as this is decided and will send a welcome message via Evidence Me, so please look out for that.

In the coming weeks, we will be introducing your child to Tales Toolkit. We use this in EYFS (Early Years Foundation Stage) and KS1 (Key Stage 1) to support the children to develop creativity, communication and language and literacy skills in an exciting, interactive way. We are very much hoping that you will carry on this learning at home and we hope to run some training for parents in the near future to explain how the system works. We will be sending home a link via Evidence Me, where you can find out more about Tales Toolkit.

We will also have phonics/reading video prepared for parents during the first week in October. Usually we would have a parental session in school but obviously this is not possible at the moment. So instead, we will post the video on the website and on Evidence Me and you will have the opportunity to ask any questions via email to us following the video. We hope you will find this useful.

We would also like to remind Nursery parents that the Nursery sessions are either 15 hours or 30 hours per week. If your child accesses more than their allotted hours, then you will be charged for wraparound sessions. If you are co-ordinating sibling drop-offs and pick-ups, please ensure that Nursery children are dropped off **after** older siblings and collected **before** them. In order to help us have the children ready for pick-up it is essential that we know what time the children will be collected from Nursery. Please liaise with Miss Butler to arrange these times. Thank you.



Blended Learning



Blended Learning is another new phrase which has now become part of our everyday vocabulary! As a school, we have to prepare for the possibility of a class, bubble or group of children needing to self-isolate for up to 14 days if we have a positive case of Covid-19. In addition to this, we expect to have a number of children needing to isolate until they receive a test and their test results.

So, to try to ensure your child's education is as fluid and consistent as possible, this is our pledge to you:

- For children isolating when waiting for a test. There are a number of activities and websites on your child's home page on eSchools. These can be completed during the first day of absence. Following this, please email the school office or your child's class teacher and they will email you with the work missed in school.
- For classes or bubbles needing to self-isolate for 10 – 14 days. It is essential that your child completes the set work at home. We will collect, mark and edit every piece of work and will challenge parents whose children have not completed their work.
- If your child's bubble or class is self-isolating, your child's class teacher will teach over Zoom at 9am, 11am and 1pm every day. At these times, the input will be given for Maths, English and Topic and they will then remain online to support if children if anyone needs to ask any further questions. At the end of each day, the teacher will make sure every child has participated in their learning.
- If your child does not have access to technology during the day, it is essential to let us know. A questionnaire will be emailed next week finding out this information. In this case, work packs and books will be available.
- If your child is poorly and not well enough to attend school, then they are not well enough to complete work at home and work will not be set for them.

Questionnaire Results

At the end of every academic year, we send out a questionnaire for parents and carers so that we know what you think we are doing well and which areas you think we could improve upon. The results of the questionnaire are below. This year we had 201 responses which was just wonderful – more than twice the number we have ever received in the past. Thank you so much for taking the time to respond.

They are, once again, overwhelmingly positive which is very pleasing for us as we do work exceptionally hard to ensure the children in our care are both well cared for and educated, as well as trying to ensure that relationships with parents and carers are positive. We care passionately about the children in our care, wanting the very best for them and working tirelessly to do our very best. We have summarised some of your many comments – thank you for them all.

<u>2020 Parent Questionnaire</u>						
<u>201 Responses</u>						
		Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	N/A
1.	My child likes coming to Lanchester E.P. School.	171	28	2	0	0
2.	Everyone is made to feel welcome at this school.	179	22	0	0	0
3.	Teaching is good.	161	39	1	0	0
4.	My child is making good progress.	130	61	3	0	7
5.	I am kept informed about my child's progress.	121	73	6	0	1
6.	Staff expect my child to work hard and do her/his best.	138	57	0	0	6
7.	The school provides appropriate homework.	94	62	6	0	39
8.	Parents are encouraged to play an active part in the life of the school.	145	55	0	0	1
9.	I feel comfortable about approaching the school with questions, suggestions or a problem.	156	43	2	0	0
10.	The school's website and Twitter feed is useful.	145	50	3	0	3
11.	The school is well led and managed.	176	24	1	0	0
12.	The school achieves high standards of behaviour.	130	69	1	0	1
13.	My child feels safe at this school.	154	47	0	0	0
14.	The school's values and ethos have a positive impact on my child.	143	55	1	0	2
15.	I would recommend this school to other parents.	175	25	0	0	1
16.	I am happy with the amount of work received during lockdown.	126	66	3	0	6
17.	I was happy with the home-school communication during the recent lockdown.	154	42	3	2	0

Year Group	Number of Responses	Year Group	Number of Responses
Nursery	35	Reception	52
Year 1	38	Year 2	32
Year 3	30	Year 4	31
Year 5	26	Year 6	24

We have summarised the questionnaire comments received as it is just impossible to share them all. However, we do consider all suggestions made.

What are we doing well?

- Makes my child feel safe, happy & excited to attend
- Providing a healthy happy safe place for children
- I think the last 8 years with EP have gone above and beyond my expectations for my child's education. You have undoubtedly provided support, motivation, dedication to name a few throughout the years!
- Making school a fun and safe place whilst enforcing good values and work ethic
- Puts the children's wellbeing first, has a great team of staff
- Communication is excellent
- The ethos of the school is fabulous, communication is brilliant and always well received. The care for the children and their families is great which has been shown even more so during these times. My children absolutely love the school and the teachers which is a testament to all that you do. Thank you Lanchester EP.
- It fosters a feeling of community, which makes me feel like my children really matter to you. I love that the mental health of the pupils and staff are taken seriously and thoughtfully considered.
- Work provided was good and communication from newsletters and twitter are useful
- Caring ethos and high expectations
- The teachers are absolutely incredible in their roles. They go above and beyond to make sure both parents and children are happy. I can't praise the staff enough for their help this year
- The school goes above and beyond to help each child, but also support the family
- A head teacher who passionately cares about the children and school
- Lanchester is a nurturing school, the children are the focus rather than results
- It is evident that the children's wellbeing is at the forefront of everything the school the school does
- It is a wonderful, caring community where every child feels valued. A broad and engaging curriculum is at the heart of the school's ethos.
- The school is brilliantly led. Communication with parents is excellent. Any issues are dealt with so well. Staff are amazing and so caring. During Lockdown the children have had fantastic learning provided and wonderful opportunities to see and speak to their teachers and classmates. The care provided has been unbelievable and I cannot thank you enough.

What do you think our school could do better?

- It may have helped to have supplied some zoom interactive teaching classes as my child has struggled during this period and this would have helped
- It's a dream but smaller class sizes!
- Important news and updates used to come via text and now tend to come by twitter however the twitter feed is so popular and busy it's often easy to miss.
- Little bit more feedback on child's progress would be well received.
- I can't think of anything - you usually think of it anyway
- Re-think the space it has available to handle the drop off and pick up better
- Provide more notice when parental input is required
- There is a lot of pressure on parents, in the Early Years, to take part in 'stay and play sessions'. One or two per year would be more than sufficient (and doable) for working parents and grandparents
- Open a senior school so my child can stay until she is 18
- Explanation of what "expected progress" looks like and advise parents what we can do to support better progress in reports
- Push some of the children a little harder to help them achieve more

Any Other Comments?

- I want to commend the entire school for the response to lockdown. This was a challenging time for everyone, and I felt that the school dealt with it compassionately and appropriately. I particularly appreciated the headteacher's reminders to prioritise emotional well-being.
- The eSchools platform and twitter communication is absolutely brilliant. The learning that has been set up during the lockdown has been incredible and obviously very well thought out.
- We have really appreciated the encouragement phone calls and emails from the teachers and the motivational daily Davis tweets and encouraging words in the news letters.
- Just want to say huge amounts of respect for the way everything has been handled. You have all been awesome, thoughtful, respectful, helpful and most of all emphatic to everyone's feelings.
- EP is an amazing school, the head teacher always goes above and beyond for the children, as do the teachers.

They genuinely care for all the children, and make going to school fun and enjoyable. Such a fantastic school.

- Love our school, would recommend it to everyone. Teachers are friendly and approachable.
- Fabulous head teacher. She's definitely the heart of the school.

Water Bottles

Please remember to send your child with their school water bottle every day. Due to the government guidelines, water bottles have to be sent home to be cleaned and filled every day. But it is essential that these are brought back to school daily.

If your child has lost or broken their water bottle, replacements can be purchased at a cost of £2 from school.

Diary Dates

We are keeping additional dates and events to a minimum this term so have not included any diary dates in the newsletter. Please keep a look out for the weekly letters for anything happening the following week. We are not organising anything too far ahead for obvious reasons! We have cancelled enough events this year already...

Harvest Festival

Normally we would celebrate our Harvest Festival with parents in All Saints Church. This is not possible this year but we hope to welcome Revd Lesley Sutherland into school and hold our Harvest Festival Service outside with separate bubbles. We are not setting a date for this but instead, will keep an eye on the weather and Lesley will come along when the weather is warm enough for us to be outside. This will hopefully be in the next couple of weeks.

Emergency Childcare for Week Beginning Monday 21st September 2020

In light of the new government announcement on Thursday we will provide childcare for any parents with no other alternative for this week from 8am to 4.30pm. An online form will be sent to all parents to complete by noon on Saturday so that arrangements can be sorted. You will receive an email on Sunday with drop-off and pick-up points. However, due to new guidelines needing to be followed and appropriate staffing needed, children will have to be dropped off at 8am and can only be collected at 4pm or 4.30pm. Thank you. All places must be paid for in advance on ParentPay once the place has been confirmed. Thank you.

School Holidays - Academic Year 2020 - 2021

Holiday	Closing Date	Date re-open for teaching purposes
October Half Term	Friday 23 rd October 2020	Monday 2 nd November 2020
Christmas Holiday	Friday 18 th December 2020	Monday 4 th January 2021
February Half Term	Friday 12 th February 2021	Monday 22 nd February 2021
Easter Holiday	Friday 26 th March 2021	Monday 12 th April 2021
May Day	Friday 30 th April 2021	Tuesday 4 th May 2021
Summer Half Term	Thursday 27 th May 2021	Monday 7 th June 2021
Summer Holiday	Friday 16 th July 2021	To Be Confirmed

Important Dates for 2020 - 2021

Key Stage 1 (Yr 2) Statutory Assessment Tests - May 2021

KS2 (Yr 6) Statutory Assessment Tests - Week Beginning Monday 10th May 2021

Year 1 & Year 2 Phonics Screening Test - Week Beginning Monday 7th June 2021

Multiplication Tables Check for Year 4 - Week Beginning 7th June 2021