



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



Weekly Bulletin 2 – Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you so much for the wonderful array of costumes your children came to school in yesterday – it really was a wonderfully special day and I think the children thoroughly enjoyed the whole experience. I am sure you have loved seeing all the photographs on twitter!

I have been very fortunate to have joined staff and children in Hungary this week as part of our Erasmus+ Visit. This was the final gathering for this project and time was spent planning our application for a new project. It is hoped that a new project will be approved as it may be the final time we can participate due to Brexit. We are still waiting to hear what the future holds... However, the four boys who have been on the visit have, once again, been terrific ambassadors for our school. They have thoroughly enjoyed the experience of being in a Hungarian school, learning some of the language and also participating in some reading activities. It is a real privilege to spend such quality time with some of our children – they are a real credit to their families.

## **Staffing**

We are welcoming Miss Amy Watchman to our Early Years Team next week as she starts her apprenticeship with us. I am sure she will be a great addition to our team and both the children and staff will quickly get to know her!

We are delighted to welcome Mr David Southern to our staff team as one of our school cooks. Additional staff are needed due to our continually increasing numbers of dinners being provided. I am sure the children will all meet him very soon.

## **Coronavirus**

Obviously, this is something which the children are very aware of and are talking about in school. We are following all the public health guidance, encouraging children to be as hygienic as possible by washing hands properly and more regularly. We will continue to follow any recommendations put in place but at the moment, do not anticipate any disruption to any school events. Obviously this situation is changing daily and we will keep you informed of any new information as soon as it comes to light.

## **Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2020 – Durham County Cricket Club in School**

We are welcoming Phil Mellons back into school on Monday who is hosting a cricket roadshow in our school and working with children in Years 1 – 3. He will also be on the yard at home time to meet and greet parents and also hand out leaflets about future events and clubs taking place locally. I am sure this will be another very successful day.

## **Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2020 – Year 5 Forest Schools**

We are trying to get back to more regular sessions of Forest Schools so on Monday, Year 5 will both have their Forest Schools sessions. Mrs Coyle's class will go in the morning and Mr Knighton's class in the afternoon. All children will need wellingtons and outdoor clothing.

## **Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March – Shortlisting for Assistant Head Job**

Our Governing Body are shortlisting for the position of Assistant Head on Monday afternoon. We have had a lot of interest in this position and interviews will take place during the last week of the term. Our Pupil Parliament (formerly known as School Council) will also be part of this process and at their meeting next week, they will be starting to think about what will be involved in this!

## **Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> March – Full Governing Body Meeting**

The Governing Body have their termly meeting on Tuesday afternoon, starting at 3.30pm.

## **Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> March – Parents Evening for Children with Additional Needs**

Parents and carers of children with additional support plans will have received a letter inviting them to the parents' evening on Tuesday when these will be reviewed. All teachers will be based in their classrooms. It is a drop in session so please just come along whenever it is convenient between 3.45 and 4.45pm.

#### **Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> March – Year 4 Football Tournament at Delves Lane Primary School**

Our Year 4 children are involved in a football tournament at Delves Lane Primary School on Tuesday after school. Children selected have been given a letter with all the details.

#### **Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> March – Reception Audio Tests**

Audio tests are carried out annually on all Reception children and the school nursing team are in school on Wednesday and Thursday to carry out this year's checks.

#### **Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> March – Year 2 at Wheelbirks Farm**

Our Year 2 children are on an educational visit on Wednesday to Wheelbirks Farm and Ice Cream Parlour as part of this term's topic: Scrumdiddlyumptious. Please check your ParentPay account for further information.

#### **Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> March – Meeting for Year 6 Parents at 6pm**

We are holding a meeting for all parents and carers at 6pm on Wednesday. At this meeting, we will be talking through the organisation for the forthcoming Statutory Tests as well as showing you examples of the actual tests they will take. There will also be some practice test books available to purchase.

This will be followed by a short meeting about their Relationships and Sex Education lessons that will also take place next term. You will also have the opportunity to ask any questions about the upcoming sessions.

#### **Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> March – Meeting for Denmark Erasmus+ Visit at 3.30pm**

We will be holding a meeting for all parents and carers of the four girls who are going to Denmark on the Erasmus+ visit in a fortnight. This will take place immediately after school and should last around 30 minutes.

#### **Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> March – Head of Education and Skills Visiting**

We are delighted to welcome Richard Crane, Head of Education and Skills for Durham, to our school on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> March. During his visit, he will be observing a Learning By Questions lesson as well as looking round the school. I am sure all the children will make him feel very welcome!

#### **Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> March – Friends of the School Meeting at 6pm**

We would love to welcome lots of you to our Friends of the School Meeting on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> March at 6pm. At the meeting, the final plans and organisation will be put to the Mothering Sunday Afternoon Tea, so please come along!

#### **Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March – Sport Relief Day**

We are supporting this very worthwhile charity by asking all children to come into school in sportswear for the day in exchange for £1. They will be participating in a variety of different sporting activities so will need to be in suitable clothing. During the day, we will also be holding a House cross country competition which I am sure the children will all enjoy. However, choir members do need to bring their school uniform to school for the Music Festival in the afternoon.

#### **Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March – Choir at Ryton Music Festival**

Our choir are taking part in Ryton Music Festival on Friday afternoon where they are competing in both the Unison Song Class and the Hymn Singing Class. They will have an early lunch and will return to school around 4pm. We will tweet as we leave so that you have an estimated time of arrival back to school. The festival takes place at St Anne's RC Church in Winlaton – NE21 5RW. It starts at 1pm and will finish at approximately 3.15pm. Please note though, as this is a competition, all timings are approximate. I am sure the children will thoroughly enjoy this great experience!

#### **Mothering Sunday Afternoon Tea Forms**

Last week, all children were given forms for the Mothering Sunday afternoon tea, which the Friends of the School are organising for Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March 2020. The deadline for returning these forms is Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March. This is always a very popular event and spaces are limited so do not miss the deadline! The Friends of the School now have a post box which is located in the main entrance so please feel free to drop your envelopes in there and they will be collected by the Friends of the School.

### **Early Years News**

Nursery children all have a name card to allow them to self-register in their group areas at the start of each session. Please encourage your child to do this (independently!) as they come into Nursery.

Can we remind parents and carers that all children in Nursery and Reception should have a **named** pair of wellies in school at all times, it would really help us if adults collecting from Nursery could check that their child's wellies are together under their coat peg at the end of each session. Thank you.

We have a lot of lost property in both Nursery and Reception. Please check to see if anything belongs to you before we recycle it in the Easter holidays!

Reception children have a box on top of their drawers for storing book bags - please remind them to put their bag in it each day.

Can we politely remind parents that staff need to lock the entrance doors to Reception and Nursery at 9am to allow our first teaching sessions to start promptly; if you arrive after this time, please use the main entrance. Thank you.

### **Advance Diary Dates**

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March – Mothering Sunday Afternoon Tea

Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March – Erasmus+ Trip to Denmark for Year 5 Girls

Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> & Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March – Mr Stephenson's Class at Birdoswald

Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> & Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March – Mrs Grayson's Class at Birdoswald

Monday 30<sup>th</sup> & Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> March – Mrs Sant's Class at Alnwick & Seahouses Residential

Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> March & Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> April – Mr Stoker's Class at Alnwick & Seahouses Residential

Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> April – Foundation Stage Stay and Play Sessions

Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> April – Easter Service at 2pm in All Saints Church

Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April – Topsy Turvy Day

Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April – Easter Egg Decorating Competition

Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April at 2.30pm – Coffee Afternoon

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,

***Jane Davis***

Mrs Jane Davis  
Head Teacher