



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



Friday 28th January 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

Well, it has been another challenging week, with a rising number of positive cases amongst children and more in staff too. I would like to thank our great staff team for being so resilient, flexible and eager to do whatever they can to ensure school life remains as normal as possible for all our children. I do hope that the children who are currently isolating do not have too many symptoms and will be back with us soon. Meanwhile, please remember that work is uploaded to Evidence Me and eSchools daily for children who are isolating.

## **Traffic and Parking**

It has been a while since I have commented on traffic and parking around school but this week Councillor Mike McGaun and Councillor Douglas Oliver came to see the issues for themselves. Like our MP, Richard Holden, they were quite shocked at what they witnessed. Cars and vans were parked on double yellow lines, cars were parked on the grassed area (opposite Victoria Terrace) and cars were having to mount the pavement, cars were driving very quickly along the road whilst our parents and children were trying to cross the road.

Drivers – please remember that we have access to parking in both the Social Club and the Kings Head Car Park. Please consider using these areas rather than trying to park in close vicinity to the school gates. In addition, when walking your child to and from school, please just be aware of all these issues faced by pedestrians and keep safe. I expect to have further discussions with many others over the next few weeks and hope we will be able to work together to make the area around our school as safe as possible.

## **Year 1 Outdoor Kitchen**

Year 1 have had a beautiful outdoor kitchen handmade for our outdoor area and we now need your help! They would really appreciate any old pots, pans, utensils of outdoor cooking equipment that you no longer need or want. Just send them into school and they will certainly make use of them. Thank you!

## **Residential Meetings**

It has been a busy week with the meetings about the forthcoming residential for Years 3, 4 & 5. The information and PowerPoints will be on the website & on your child's class page for anyone who could not make the meetings. Please note that the deadline for payment of deposits for the Year 3 & 4 residential is Monday 31<sup>st</sup> January while the deadline for deposits for the Year 5 residential is Friday 18<sup>th</sup> February.

Mr McLoughlin and myself are going to Northern Ireland next weekend to carry out all the risk assessments and visit all the venues we plan to take the children to and look forward to sharing our photographs and information with Year 6 parents at a Zoom meeting on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> February at 6pm. The link will be shared in the letter next week.

## **Consett Academy**

Consett Academy have a new Principal and Chief Executive Officer and have some exciting things happening at the moment. The new principal introduces himself below:



*My name is Tom Urwin and I delighted to introduce myself as the new Principal at Consett Academy. I have been in my new role since December and it has been fantastic to work with the young people of this area who I have been extremely impressed with.*

*I am working closely with the CEO for New College Durham Academies Trust, Linda Rodham, who has been undertaking lots of visits to Primary Schools and has been delighted with the hard work, positivity and passion she has seen from staff and students. As a Trust we have lots of exciting events coming up for Primary School children and I can't wait to meet you all soon.*

*I hope you all have a brilliant last few weeks of the half term.*

### **Early Years News**

Next week we will be learning all about Chinese new Year in EYFS. On the following Wednesday (9<sup>th</sup> February) we will be rounding off our mini-topic by holding a party day to celebrate the Year of the Tiger. We are inviting children to come to school wearing something red, or something brightly coloured. We hope to celebrate with singing and dancing and some delicious party food. It should be a wonderful day for the Nursery and Reception children.

### **Parent Governor Ballot**

Please do not forget to cast your vote for your new parent governor. The link to the form is below and each parent has one vote for one candidate. It is wonderful that we have so many parents who are keen to be part of the governing body. The Local Authority did comment that it is highly unusual to have so many parents express an interest in the role so I would like to thank all the candidates for their interest.

[https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=nQP32h\\_HBU2bplIJ4QL0zspgHwMT8S9HoKOJAHDz6ThUNVpCSVRNUTFJQUYzVjRXVIJIRIk4NVI5Vy4u](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=nQP32h_HBU2bplIJ4QL0zspgHwMT8S9HoKOJAHDz6ThUNVpCSVRNUTFJQUYzVjRXVIJIRIk4NVI5Vy4u)

### **Erasmus+ Visits**

We have just received the final details for the Erasmus+ trip to Denmark so Year 6 parents will receive an additional letter with the itinerary and to find out whether your children are interested in participating in this visit.

### **Emails**

I have been experiencing significant issues with my emails this week. If you have sent an email this week and have not had a response from me, I do apologise. This issue should be rectified today and I will attempt to respond to any emails sent to me recently over the weekend. I do apologise about this but this has been totally out of my hands. To say it is frustrating is an understatement!

### **Parents' Evening Bookings (open until Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> February)**

Please do not forget to book for the online parents' evenings to speak to your child's teacher. This term they will be taking place on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> February and Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> February between 3.30pm and 6pm. Booking is open via your eSchools account on the school website and closes on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> February. If you need a reminder of your username and password, or you would like the office to book you an appointment, please email [school.office@lanchesterep.net](mailto:school.office@lanchesterep.net). After 3<sup>rd</sup> February, bookings must be made through the office.

### **Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> February – Parents' Online Safety Session**

Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> February is Safer Internet Day and the children will be focussing more on online safety during this week. However, on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> February, Mr Bailey will be holding a Zoom meeting for all parents and carers with some advice about how to keep your child safe online. The link for this session is below:

<https://zoom.us/j/4802417849?pwd=Ynpkdi9sUXBXUEY2b1dtam5ieUNmQT09>

### **Advance Notice: Holiday Club – February Half Term (Monday 21<sup>st</sup> – Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> 2022)**

Mr Graham will once again be running LJG Coaching's holiday club during February half term from Monday until Thursday. If you would like more information or to book your child in to any of the dates, please email [LJGsportscoaching@gmail.com](mailto:LJGsportscoaching@gmail.com) or fill in this online form: [LJG Coaching Holiday Club](#). Please note, a £5.00 deposit will be required when booking to ensure your child's place.

### **Positive Thinking**

*Life is like a book.*

*Some chapters sad, some happy and some exciting.*

*But if you never turn the page...you will never know what the next chapter holds.*

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