



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



Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

Well, it is the end of another week and with it, more announcements from the government about education! We are still processing the very detailed guidance that was published yesterday about our return to 'normal' in September. However, the main headline is that every child will return to school full-time in September.

The senior leadership team will need to sit down next week and work out the details for what that means for our school and then the whole staff team need time to discuss and digest it. Following this, we will share our plans with you all. However, I hope you know that we want your children back as much as you do! We now just need to ensure that we do it as safely as possible.

We understand that some children may be feeling rather anxious about their return to school and many of you have concerns that your child may have fallen behind academically. Please be reassured that our main aim in September will be to settle the children in, reassure them and then initially, we will be working on their basic skills. The majority of children will not have been in school for almost 6 months by the time they return.

However, having had some partial year groups in school for the last 2 weeks, we know how quickly the children settle back into a routine and are just back to their normal, happy little selves within hours! We cannot wait to have them all back and return to some sort of 'normality'.

## **Transition Arrangements**

We understand that all children need some kind of closure to this very different year. With this in mind, we have Zoom calls next week with both your child's current teacher and their new class teacher.

Please make every effort for your child to be on their Zoom call next week. The times for all the different classes are below – their current class teacher as well as their new class teacher will be on these calls. The following week, there will be a further Zoom call just with their new class teacher. Please also look at the tasks we are setting for next week – the English one will be of particular importance for successful transition to their new teacher.

## **Organisation of Zoom Calls**

<b>Current Class</b>	<b>New Class</b>	<b>Day of Zoom Call</b>	<b>Time of Zoom Call</b>
Reception	Mrs Burke	Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> July	11am
Reception	Mr McLoughlin	Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> July	12pm
Miss Martin	Mrs Startup	Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> July	1pm
Mrs Burke	Mrs Sant	Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> July	2pm
Miss Jackson	Mr Stephenson	Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> July	11am
Mrs Startup	Mrs Grayson	Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> July	12pm
Mr Stephenson	Miss Jackson	Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> July	1pm
Mrs Grayson	Mr Stoker	Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> July	2pm
Mr Stoker	Mr Keeton	Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> July	11am
Mrs Sant	Mrs Coyle	Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> July	12pm
Mr Knighton	Mrs Tate	Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> July	1pm
Mrs Coyle	Mr Taylor	Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> July	2pm

## **End of Term for Year 6 and Nursery Leavers**

We are still trying to ensure that these school leavers have a proper send off from school! We are hoping that most of Year 6 will return in the final week as we are planning a 'party week' for them as well as the leavers' assembly/service on the school field on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> July. We still do not know whether this will just be for the children or whether we can invite a limited number of parents as well. We will let you know as soon as we have received answers to our questions from the Local Authority. However, we will make sure that our Year 6 cohort have the best send-off possible in the current circumstances!

We are aware that many of them would like to keep with tradition and have their shirt signed. Obviously, this cannot take place while the shirt is on their back, but if you would like to send in an old shirt during the final week of term, we will make sure that they will be signed by as many children as possible.

Nursery Leavers – we will email you all as we hope to be able to invite the Nursery children who are leaving us back into school one final time on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July. Please watch out for this email next week.

### **End of Year Questionnaire**

Your opinions and suggestions in the annual end-of-year questionnaire are invaluable to us. This year, we will be sending you a link to complete an online questionnaire. The questions will be very similar to those in the past, but due to the current circumstances, we are asking you to complete this online rather than on paper. The link will be emailed to you all next week. Please take the time to complete this questionnaire as we do really value your comments and the whole staff team discuss your ideas and suggestions each year.

### **Interests and Achievements**

This was emailed to you all this week – we would really appreciate you taking the time to complete this form with your children. If your child is in school, these will be completed in school. These form an important part of your child's end of year school report, so please try to make some time to complete these with your child if at all possible. Thank you.

### **Home-Schooling for Next Week**

We have had out Outdoor Learning and Science weeks – now is our Bakery Week.

### **Lanchester EP Summer of Fun – Lettuce learn with food!**

Next week, rather than the usual Maths activities, we are going to give the children some healthy (and some not so healthy!) eating challenges! Cooking and preparing food requires all sorts of skills – reading recipes, measuring weight and volume, timing, cutting, slicing – and of course tasting and evaluating! We would like you all to have some fun with food in these activities. A range of culinary challenges will be uploaded onto the children's Week 13 Project Page for those in Years 1 - 6. For children in Nursery and Reception, these will be uploaded each morning to Evidence Me We have included a range of recipes and some videos to help you – although you can always try your own creations! Feel free to try as many as you can!



We will be running a Twitter competition for these activities – one winner will be chosen from each class and they will receive a children's cookery book. To enter, please post your child's nutritious creations on Twitter (with their initials and their Year Group) and the staff will judge them. Unfortunately, we won't be able to taste their marvellous work – so we will be judging on how creative they have been and how their work is presented!

The children can complete as many activities as they like and they can keep a record of their work in their home learning book. They could take photos, write up a recipe or carry out a taste review! Good luck and enjoy!

### **Oh The Places You'll Go!**

For our English activities next week, the children will be building up to completing some form of autobiography about themselves for their next class teacher. As we have not had the opportunity to organise our transition days this year, we thought it would be a lovely idea for each child to provide some information and interesting facts about themselves. This will help their new teachers to get to know them a little more. Depending upon the age of your child, they will complete activities such as a written autobiography, an 'all about me' poster, a short picture book, a poem and so on. The children will need to provide some key information about themselves - hobbies, interests, favourite colours, favourite food etc. We will be using a range of books and short stories to stimulate the children's ideas, including, 'What Makes Me Me?', 'All About Me,' 'My Book About Me,' and 'Oh The Places You'll Go.' The staff are really looking forward to finding out about the children in their new classes.

### **Belongings, P.E. Kits and End of Year Reports**

We know that some children left various items of their belongings in school when we closed in March. The staff will be spending time next week, sorting out all the trays, cloakrooms, P.E. kits and classrooms and bagging up all items belonging to the children. These can all be collected from school.

The staff have, as usual, written an end of year school report. These can also be collected at the same time. We will endeavour to ensure the teaching staff are also outside at these times so that they can say goodbye to the children. However, please remember that we have no members of staff leaving this year, so even though the children will have a new class teacher in September, this year's teachers will still be around for a long time to come (I hope!) When the school closed in March, we never imagined that the classes would not be back together again this year so I do think it is important for the children to be able to have some closure on this school year and we hope that this will allow them to say goodbye in the most positive way we can at the moment.

Each class can collect their belongings at the following times:

		<b>Top Yard (outside Main Entrance)</b>	<b>Infant Car Park (old Main Entrance)</b>
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> July	10 – 12 12 – 2	Reception Nursery	Yr 1 Miss Martin's Class Yr 1 Mrs Burke's Class
Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> July	10 – 12 12 – 2	Yr 3 Mrs Grayson's Class Yr 3 Mr Stephenson's Class	Yr 2 Mrs Startup's Class Yr 2 Miss Jackson's Class
Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> July	10 – 12 12 – 2	Yr 4 Mr Stoker's Class Yr 5 Mrs Coyle's Class	Yr 4 Mrs Sant's Class Yr 5 Mr Knighton's Class

#### **Reception New Starter Meeting – Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> July at 6pm**

We are looking forward to meeting all our new Reception parents on Wednesday at 6pm over Zoom. We will be talking about the organisation for next year, as well as giving parents the opportunity to ask questions. This is not quite the way we normally do our New Starter Meetings but I hope it will still be very useful! We also hope to arrange a Zoom call for our new starters in the final week of term – this will be discussed at the meeting.

#### **Nursery New Starter Meeting – Monday 13<sup>th</sup> July**

We will be holding our meeting over Zoom for all Nursery New Starters on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> July at 4pm. Emails will be sent this week with further information about this.

#### **PGL Refunds**

These will be given to Year 6 parents as soon as possible. An email will be sent to all parents confirming the amount that is due to you, and how this refund will be received.

#### **End of Term**

Please do not forget that the final day of term for Reception and Year 1 children will be Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> July. Childcare will continue to be provided for Key Worker children until 12.30pm on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July. Year 6 children will also be in school for the whole week and finish at lunchtime on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July.

#### **Rainbow Twitter Challenge**

This amazing piece of artwork should be visible outside the school from today. Huge thanks must go to Mr Bailey for spending a number of hours putting it all together but I have to say that it is certainly worth it! We have had it made into a banner for the fence outside school and also have a print that we will get framed to hang in school. Thank you all so much for sending in your photographs – I do think that this will be an important part of the school's history for many years to come.

Please do not hesitate to get in touch if you have any questions at all.

Warmest Regards,

*Jane Davis*

Mrs Jane Davis  
Head Teacher