



Loose Primary School Newsletter



13th September 2019

Head of School News

What a wonderful full week back at school. It really is a special time of year. The children all look so smart and are eager to start fresh exciting learning journeys with their friends. I personally would like to welcome all our new children and families; I am sure you will all feel part of our Loose community very quickly. Our Reception children have made a fantastic start and impressed us all with their enthusiasm for school. On our daily visits to classes, Mrs Holman and I are so proud of the children's attitude to learning, their politeness as well as remembering and displaying our school values. They really have settled into their new year groups and all look so much more grown up!

Meet the Teacher

It is wonderful to have seen so many family members attending 'Meet the Teacher' sessions this week. Remember there are sessions for Years 4, 5 & 6 next week. We changed the format this year based on your feedback. I do hope you find them more informative as well as giving you ways to support your child. The children thoroughly enjoy sharing their learning and showing you their classroom. We recognise that it is an opportunity to develop positive partnerships with you at the start of the new school year and our teachers are very keen to work with you to secure the very best for your children. If you have any concerns at any time please do not hesitate to discuss these with your child's class teacher as soon as possible.

Playground equipment

There is no doubt that the new KS2 play equipment, installed last term, is incredibly popular with the children. The school council certainly did a great job with their choice. As promised, we are now looking at similar climbing frames and fitness trails for KS1 which are much needed. Children are supervised when using the equipment during the school working day. We have reminded the children in assemblies and in class that the playground is not supervised before or after school. The school cannot, therefore, accept any responsibility for any injury caused at these times. Likewise with other equipment on the school site.

Safety Procedures

We always have fire evacuation and lockdown practices at the start of the year. The children were amazing in the lockdown practice today. The whole school was silent and it almost felt like the summer holidays were here again with no children in school! All schools must have 'lockdown procedures' in place to ensure the safety of everyone in school. There is a wide variety of scenarios which may trigger a lockdown such as a warning being received of a risk locally, a stray dog, air pollution, extreme weather or an intruder.

It has come to our attention that some children are arriving on the school site rather early. The school day starts at 8.55am with the cloakroom doors or classroom doors opening at 8.45am. Children should therefore not arrive on site before 8.45am for safeguarding reasons as the playground is not staffed before this time. There is a breakfast club available for children from 7.30am at a charge of £3.00 a day, which includes breakfast, should this be of assistance to you.

Finally, as always, there are lots of exciting and rich learning opportunities planned for the children throughout the forthcoming year. We achieved so much last year as a school community and the outcomes for children continued to be well above national standards. More importantly, this term has got off to an excellent start and the diary is already full with many planned events and opportunities for you to be part of school life.

We are looking forward to building on our many achievements and working in partnership with you all this year.

Have a lovely weekend.
Mrs Makey
Head of School

**With trust, we lead
With pride, we act
With respect, we serve
With compassion, we care
and
With determination, we excel**

Dates



Term 1

16 Sep - Year 4 Meet the Teacher 3.30-4.00pm Orchard Hall
17 Sep - Year 5 Meet the Teacher 3.30-4.00pm Orchard Hall
18 Sep - Year 6 Meet the Teacher 3.30-4.00pm Orchard Hall
20 Sep - Phonics Workshop for Year R & 1 parents - 2.45pm Orchard Hall
23 Sep - NSPCC Assemblies
27 Sep - MacMillan Coffee Morning and Bake Off Competition
01 Oct - Kent Messenger First Class Photos of Year R
04 Oct - Harvest Church Services All Saints Church Loose
07 Oct - Road Safety Assemblies
16 Oct - Parent Evening Consultations 3.40pm - 6.30pm
17 Oct - Parent Evening Consultations 4.00pm - 7.00pm
17 Oct - Kent 11+ Test Results emailed to parents from 4pm
17 Oct - Year 5 Spy Day
17 Oct - Last day of term
18 Oct - Staff Training Day - school closed

Learners of the Week

A huge well done to the children who got their achievement certificates in assembly this morning and thank you to all the parents who managed to come along to see them.

Pearl	Teddy F	Jade	Cameron N
Opal	Jacob O	Emerald	Theo E
Crystal	Reuben T	Onyx	Cayden C
Diamond	Emily G	Ruby	Abigail G
Sapphire	Reuben M/P	Topaz	Sydney B
Moonstone	Theo B	Sunstone	Samuel G
Tanzanite	Sienna K	Amethyst	Kimberley G
Aquamarine	Ella T	Peridot	Edward W
Turquoise	Jaden S	Zultanite	Lewis C
Coral	Ethan S	Quartz	Roman W
Amber	Joseph N		



WELL DONE TO TANZANITE CLASS THIS WEEK FOR WINNING THE READING CUP!

Secondary School Applications

Online applications for secondary school admissions opened yesterday and the **national closing date for all secondary school applications is midnight on the 31 October 2019**. You can apply for up to 4 schools, putting them in order of preference. It's in your best interest to list 4 schools. Naming only one school does not guarantee your child a place at that school or give your child priority for a place over another child, neither does naming a school more than once. For advice call 03000 41 21 21 or email kentonlineadmissions@kent.gov.uk. You can also find lots of information on the following link: - <https://www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-children/schools/school-places/secondary-school-places>.

Scholarships - Year 6

Please contact the school office with plenty of warning if you are completing a scholarship for your child's admission to secondary school to allow time for the school section to be completed. If you have not already been in touch regarding this, the last day for this is Monday 7th October. This gives us time to complete scholarship paperwork which will be ready to collect on Thursday 17th October from the main office. We do need the application booklet to stick our section in and sign.

Medical/Dental Appointments

Where possible all medical and dental appointments should be made outside of school hours or in the school holidays. We understand that hospital appointments may be during the school day. Copies of all appointment letters should be handed in to the school office for our files so the absence can be recorded as authorised.

Drop Off Box

This is proving a huge success with 75 items in the box this morning. We hope parents are finding this useful and that it's saving you from having to queue up at the main office. Thank you for helping us by using it.

POTENTIAL IS LIMITLESS

Weekly Attendance

Opal	96.00%	Jade	98.75%
Crystal	98.67%	Emerald	97.81%
Pearl	96.77%	Ruby	99.69%
Diamond	98.33%	Onyx	96.56%
Sapphire	98.33%	Topaz	97.19%
Moonstone	98.00%	Sunstone	98.44%
Tanzanite	95.78%	Amethyst	95.00%
Turquoise	100.00%	Peridot	98.13%
Aquamarine	98.33%	Zultanite	99.38%
Amber	99.38%	Quartz	96.56%
Coral	100.00%		

Whole School Target
96.5%

Whole School Attendance
98.02%

House Points Total

DONALDSON	106	PARKS	105
ATTENBOROUGH	122	CURIE	96

Dragon Boat Race

Staff from Loose and Coxheath Primary Schools have assembled a team to compete in the KM Charity Dragon Boat Race at Mote Park on Sunday 22nd September. They will be racing to raise money for Emilia's Little Heart Foundation and if you would like to make a donation please visit our fundraising page via the following link: <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/claire-webb21> There will be lots going on throughout the day, starting from 10am, and so feel free to come along and support us if you can.

Recycle Rita Scarecrow

We are looking for donations of clean recyclable bottles/materials & clothes for our school scarecrows for the Loose Amenities Scarecrow Festival. There is a "recycle bin" outside Diamond class or they can be dropped off at reception.

Macmillan Coffee Afternoon & Bake Off

We will again be hosting a coffee afternoon in order to raise money for MacMillan Cancer Support on Friday 27th September between 2pm and 4pm. The event will take place in Orchard Hall. We would like to ask you for donations of cakes, either homemade or shop bought to make this a success. Please bring the cakes in to reception on the afternoon of Thursday 26th or the morning of Friday 27th September.

Bake Off

As we have done in previous years we are also planning another "Bake Off" competition, children will be informed that entry forms are available from reception. Entries have a £2.00 entry fee and are limited to 40. You will have an opportunity to vote for your favourite cake during the MacMillan Coffee afternoon, where the cakes will also be judged by some invited groups such as the School Council, Parent Voice, Prefects, House Captains and representatives from Contract Dining Company. There will be prizes for the winning 3 entries and house points for all entries.

Parent Council

We are still looking for Parent Council Representatives for the following classes:-

Crystal, Opal, Moonstone, Tanzanite, Amber, Emerald, Amethyst, Sunstone, Quartz & Zultanite

If you would like to represent the class your child is in please could you inform Mrs Thomson in the office by emailing her at office@loose-primary.kent.sch or calling her on 01622 743549. We would ask that you commit to being elected as a parent council member for the duration of the school year. The minutes of the meetings are on our school website (<http://www.looseprimary.kent.sch.uk/page/?title=Parent+Council&pid=92>) and will give you an idea of some of the issues that we discuss as part of the meeting. Children are welcome to attend and can play quietly while the meeting is taking place. The meetings are held on a Friday afternoon from 2.30pm until 3.15pm - the dates for this academic year are listed below - it is expected that you can attend them all where possible. Fri 11 Oct, Fri 6 Dec, Fri 7 Feb, Fri 20 March, Fri 15 May and Fri 3 July.

Gate Opening Times

Lancel Lane and Waldron Drive will not be opened until 3.10pm with immediate effect.

Leaders in school

In the first instance most queries should be addressed with the class teacher but if you need to speak to a leader we are happy to catch up informally or you are welcome to book an appointment or phone call with us. Our leaders are always happy to meet with you should you need to speak to one of us. We have two Assistant Headteachers who are available to speak to if you have any concerns and need to speak with a leader. Mr Farley for Year 1 or Year 2 queries (also teacher in Y2 - Turquoise) or Miss Burman for Year 5 & Year 6 queries (also teacher in Y6 - Quartz) before or after school on the playgrounds or ask to meet with any one of our AHTs via the office.

Mr Johnson (Y4 teacher in Emerald) can meet with you if you have a query or concern about a child in Y3 or Y4 and Mrs Oliveri (teacher in Year R - Pearl) about Year R. Mrs Evenden is our shared Deputy Headteacher (with Coxheath) who is also sometimes available to help you and of course Mrs Makey is our Head of School and available to speak to you regarding any pupil. We also are very fortunate to be able to offer the expertise on 3 days per week (Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays) of our SENCO - Mrs Laura James. Please do talk to us if you have any worries or concerns so they can be addressed as soon as possible.

TWITTER

For all our new parents please follow us on Twitter <https://twitter.com/LoosePrimary> and keep up to date with your child's learning. Take a look if you have not before, we do not post the usual tweets! Loads of photos capturing your children enjoying school and their learning - do not miss out, sign up now!



Meet the Teachers

A reminder that we are offering the opportunity for parents/carers to come into school next week so your child can show you their work, classrooms, staff who work with them and so on. It will also be an opportunity for you to ask any Question of staff and see the kind of materials we use to help them learn.

All sessions run from 3.30pm until 4.00pm and parents/carers should report to the relevant hall as detailed below. The dates are as follows:-

Year 4 - Monday 16th September - Orchard Hall
Year 5 - Tuesday 17th September - head straight to class at 3.30pm via the main reception
Year 6 - Wednesday 18th September - Orchard Hall

Curriculum

Year-group teams have been working hard to design a spectacular curriculum for your children and curriculum overviews have recently been added to our website for you to look at. A key feature of our new curriculum is that it responds to current global issues as they arise, as well as things your children show interest in during the year. For this reason, the curriculum overviews on our website are not completed for the entire academic year in advance, but instead will be updated and added to at regular intervals so that they remain very current and relevant for our children.

Summer Reading Challenge

Thank you to all of those children who submitted an entry for our extreme reading challenge that was run during the summer. We have seen photographs of many of you reading in obscure places, such as on a boat and in the desert! Well done to our winners, Zak T (Amethyst) and Charlotte H (Amber), who were presented with a book voucher in assembly this morning. Miss Burman

Parking Concerns

We have received evidence that a grey Nissan registration GK66 JHX WAS parked so far up on the pavement on the Loose Road that anyone with a buggy would struggle to get past and have to go onto the main road which is extremely dangerous. This has been passed onto the PCSO. This is extremely dangerous at such a busy time and we would ask all parents to seriously consider the safety of all children.

After School Club Request

After School club is coming to the time of year where we spend more time in the hall because of the bad weather. We are on the lookout for any good conditioned, unwanted table footballs, pool tables, dance mats, complete board games, card games etc. Huge thanks.

A message from the Sports Team - please help...

As you may have seen in the news Aldi Supermarket are running a new a competition for Primary Schools. It runs for the next couple of months and any customers spending over £30 receives a Team GB sticker, bring it to school and once our poster is completed we send it off to receive our sports kit, (300 stickers to fill a poster). There are also 20 chances of schools winning £20,000. Please look out for our posters around the school & any stickers please hand into the school office. Let's work together to help children receive additional sports equipment.

Communities

I am running the London Marathon 2020 (mum of Daisy in Turquoise Class) and would like you to join me for my fundraising HALLOWEEN PARTY NIGHT! 🎃👻 All money raised will be donated to my chosen charity - Hunton & Linton Pre School, a fantastic little charity run pre-school. Fancy dress is a must! With prizes for the best costumes. Live music and licensed bar. It is sure to be a fab night! Tickets are £10 per person and children go free. Please contact me on 07716885608 or Hunton pre-school for tickets.

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