



# Newsletter Friday 8th September 2023

## Headteacher News

We hope this update finds you refreshed and excited for the new academic year and hopefully on the back of an enjoyable and memorable summer break. Summer holidays aren't always the perfect holiday away and life is always throwing curve balls and challenges. Our thoughts and prayers are with those who are in such times.

On a personal level I was able to find good time to reconnect with my family. We spent a little time in Wales and then a longer stay in France, cycling, swimming in the sea and dragging my children around Paris to the demands of ice cream and cold drinks. C'était merveilleux!

As we welcome you all back after a long and sunny (ish) summer break, we are thrilled to introduce new faces, celebrate achievements, and set our sights on great things by fostering our core values of Trust, Pride, Determination, Compassion, and Respect all underpinned by an ethic of excellence. We have also introduced three very simple class rules which are **safe, ready and respectful**.

### **New Beginnings:**

This year, we're delighted to welcome our newest additions to the Loose team.

Already we have had successful days with our brave reception children who bring with them boundless curiosity and enthusiasm. Their smiles lighting up our school and reminding us of the magic of learning and the joy of discovery. The children have really enjoyed exploring their environment and making new friends. I have had the pleasure of learning with them this week. The joy of digging, making tea and toast (apparently mine wasn't tasty enough) and zooming around on the bikes is an absolute delight to see. Thank you to all the parents who have entrusted us with the developmental journey of their children.

In addition to our young learners, we are excited to introduce new staff members who have joined our team. Their passion and dedication are already making a positive impact, enriching our school community with fresh perspectives and ideas. Together, we're committed to providing the best possible educational experience for our students.

We also think about our Year 6 children with their new beginnings. We hope that they are all settling into their new routines and schools as maturely and enthusiastically as they left us. Please wish them well.

### **Values**

**Trust** – With trust we lead

**Pride** – With pride we act

**Respect** – With respect we serve

**Compassion** – With compassion we care

**Determination** - With determination we excel

### **Community**

We are stronger together and at Loose we have a strong and supportive community. I am very much looking forward to meeting as many of you as possible over the coming weeks and at the Loose Summer Festival next weekend. I hear Glastonbury and Reading come close!

### **Getting involved with the school...**

I would also like to invite you along to the school on **Saturday the 23rd** from 09:00-12:00. We have an ever-growing site and the woodland areas and shrubbery need a de-weed and trim back. If you have a few spare hours to support, gloves and snippers, strimmers etc... with some interest in light gardening or just rolling your sleeves up, we can repay with cold squash and snacks. Please let the office know if you are able to join us so we can prepare. Thank you!

We'd love to hear from anyone with an interest in, or able to contribute advice on, transforming outside areas or growing a social media presence for the benefit of the school community.

### **People on site**

As we have our new Year R in, the numbers of parents on site at the end of the day around the classrooms can be very overwhelming for them. I have also noticed quite a few pinch points of traffic overtime and, with many people rushing to and fro, it can feel busy and for some, frustrating. From this week, we will be asking Year 1 and 2 parents to collect their children from the associated playgrounds next to the Lancet Lane entrance. The teachers will bring the children out. Please be a

little patient as we all get used to this new approach. Over time there may be some minor changes but for now; Year 1 to be collected from the playground with the climbing apparatus at the bottom of the steps to Moonstone Class and Year 2 on the larger playground.

### **Ofsted Report**

We are incredibly proud to share our recent Ofsted report, which reflects the hard work and dedication of our entire school community. The report highlights our exceptional commitment to high-quality education, student well-being, and continuous improvement. We achieved a rating of good with outstanding features, a testament to our collective effort across the Coppice partnership and unwavering dedication to excellence.

As we embark on this new school year, let's cherish the opportunity to learn, grow, and support one another. Together, we will make this academic year one filled with achievement, celebration and a deep commitment to our core values.

Warmest wishes,

Trevor North



## Deputy Headteacher News

### ***Plea for help***

Our wonderful parent community, I am reaching out to you to ask for some support. We have our wonderful PTA summer festival coming up on Saturday 16th September and our PTA are in need of some additional adults to support with the day to ensure it runs smoothly and raises as much money as possible. Please could you contact [loosepta@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:loosepta@yahoo.co.uk) if you're able to help during any of the slots below:

Set up & first shift: 12 - 1.30pm

Middle session: 1.30 - 3pm

Last shift & tidy up: 3-5pm

Your support is so valued and appreciated by everyone at the school.

Mr Johnson



## New Music Teacher

I am thrilled to be commencing the 2023 academic year at Loose Primary School as Music Specialist. I returned from New York in June after spending 3 years teaching music in an International School working with Juilliard specialists and a Performing Arts Team. I am looking forward to sharing all these experiences and more with the children, encouraging them to be ambitious, reach for their dreams, step outside their comfort zones, and try something new! I am excited to meet the whole community.



## Diary Dates

### **Term 1**

11-13 Sep - Year R all in 8.55am – 12pm

11 Sep - Family Trust Assemblies

13-14 Sep - Year R all in 8.55am - 1pm

15 Sep - Non-uniform for a donation to the PTA Summer Festival

16 Sep - PTA Summer Festival 1-4.30pm

18 Sep - Year R start full time

23 Sep - Come along between 9 & 12pm and help us in the woodland walk & school grounds- don't forget your gardening gloves!

05 Oct - Year 4 Roam trip to Museum of Kent Life - more info to follow

11 Oct - Harvest Church Services All Saints Church Loose

13 Oct - Parent Council Meeting - Staffroom 2.30-3.15pm (refreshments from 2.15pm)

16 Oct - Restart a Heart Day - 30 minute online workshops for Yrs 3-5 (Year 6 will do doing a separate workshop - date to be confirmed)

16 Oct - KS1 (Years R, 1 & 2) Class & Individual Photos

17 Oct - KS2 (Years 3, 4 & 5) Class & Individual Photos (Year 6 done in June)

17 Oct - Parents Evening Consultations - 4.00pm to 7.00pm

18 Oct - Parents Evening Consultations - 3.40pm to 6.30pm

18 Oct - Kent 11+ Test Results to parents from 4pm

19 Oct - Last day of term for children - school finishes 3.20pm

20 Oct - Staff Training Day

30 Oct - Children back to school for term 2



## Sickness, Medicines & Medical Appointment

### ***Sickness***

If your child is sick, please either email [absence@loose-primary.kent.sch.uk](mailto:absence@loose-primary.kent.sch.uk) or telephone the school each morning on 01622 743549 between 7.30am and **no later than 8.45am** and leave full details on the absence line. If your child has sickness or diarrhoea they must not return to school until at least 48 hours after their last episode in line with the Kent Health Protection Unit guidelines.

### ***Medicines***

We are only able to administer 'prescribed only' medicine during school hours (not 'as and when' medicines) and this should be in its original container, with the prescriber's instructions and child's name attached where relevant. All medicines must be labelled and handed into the main school office (please do NOT give to teachers) along with a completed medication form.

The form can be found on our website using the following link:-

<https://www.loose-primary.kent.sch.uk/attachments/download.asp?file=17&type=pdf>

Medicines are given at 11.45am in Years R, 1 & 2 and as necessary for Years 3 to 6 who come to the office themselves for medicines. Please arrange medication times, especially antibiotics, so that they can be administered at 11.45am in KS1 or where possible outside of school hours.

### ***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 must be emailed into the school office for our files so the absence can be recorded as authorised.



### **Emails into school**

There are many ways to find out the information you require about your child or school related matters.

Please speak to your child's class teacher before or after school where possible with any queries you have for them. All children have a contact book so please use this for miscellaneous notes, including changes to collection arrangements at the end of the day, and remind your child to hand it to their teacher when they get into school. If your child does not have a contact book a note to the teacher would suffice.

For term dates and queries about letters that have gone home, please check the school website [www.loose-primary.kent.sch.uk](http://www.loose-primary.kent.sch.uk) first. There is a wealth of information online including terms dates for this year and next, copies of most letters that have gone home, newsletters and all sorts of other information.

If your child has lost an item of clothing, ask them to check round their classroom first and ask their teacher/TA to help via a note in their learning journal or catch a teacher at the end of the day. Parents can also come into the lower KS2 cloakroom and check lost property themselves at the end of the school day.

Please can we therefore ask you to think before sending in an email of the other options available to you to communicate with the class/class teacher. The correct email addresses to use are as follows:-

- **extended.services@loose-primary.kent.sch.uk** - please use this email address for ALL extended services (breakfast, homework & after school club) bookings/queries/requests etc. Please do not email the office with these.
- [absence@loose-primary.kent.sch.uk](mailto:absence@loose-primary.kent.sch.uk) - please use this email for all absence related matters including illness and hospital appointments and holiday requests
- [office@loose-primary.kent.sch.uk](mailto:office@loose-primary.kent.sch.uk) - use this for all other emails and urgent matters



## Parent Council

### New Recruits

As many may know, we have a parent council at Loose Primary School to make sure parents' opinions and voices are heard. We have 6 meetings a year, always on a Friday afternoon, and welcome a representative from each class. Please let the office know if you are interested in representing your child's class by emailing [morag.thomson@loose-primary.kent.sch.uk](mailto:morag.thomson@loose-primary.kent.sch.uk). Our first meeting is on Friday 13th October. You can find a page on our website with information and minutes of previous meetings <https://www.loose-primary.kent.sch.uk/page/?title=Parent+Council+%2F+Feedback&pid=21>

## Well Done Evie!

Congratulations to Evie in Year 6 who had her art work 'Black Sun' selected as part of this year's Royal Academy Young Artist Online Exhibition. If you would like to view her stunning artwork then follow this link:

<https://youngartists.royalacademy.org.uk/exhibitions/2023/search?utf8=%E2%9C%93&query=black+sun&button=>



Do have a look at the works of other amazing young artists from around the country also featured in the exhibition, there are some truly talented young artists out there!

## Grange Park

Grange Park school is a specialist provision in Wrotham for children and young people aged between 8 and 19 with an Autism Spectrum Condition (ASC). Throughout the academic year they host a number of free family workshops and training sessions that are available to parents of children that may have or be in the process of a clinical diagnosis for ASD.

All sessions can be booked using this Eventbrite booking link <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/grange-park-school-40507409803>

## Shout Outs

**Zara from Emerald** was successful in auditioning for the Hazlitt Pantomime this year and will be performing the role of Michael in the production of Peter Pan - she will be in 15 live performances. This is a fantastic achievement as Zara was up against a huge number of other children who were older than her. Congratulations Zara!

A huge well done to the following 12 children from **Emerald** class who successfully completed the Reading challenge.

**Chloe, Tilly, Ethan, Callum, Theo, Harry D, Violet, Zara, Ella, Harry, Connie & Neve! Miss Davies**

**Amber Class** have had a very busy week however despite that, they have all been phenomenal and all-round superstars. Throughout the week all children have come into class every day ready to learn, they are enthusiastic, hardworking and are continuing to settle into the daily routines nicely and I am so proud of every single one of them. I am very excited for our year ahead, well done Amber class! Miss D

Many children in **Ruby Class** have done an amazing job this week, standing at the front of the class talking about treasured objects. Mrs Muir was so thrilled to learn that she has such an amazingly articulate class.

**Jacob S in Ruby Class** led the class in their morning times tables work. Mrs Muir was really impressed with your confident recall!

## PTA Events & Dates

### Welcome

Welcome everyone to a new school year, and a big welcome to all the new pupils and parents, we hope you are all settling in.

The PTA has been working hard to come up with lots of wonderful events for you all to enjoy over the new school year including our summer festival, school discos and of course our Christmas fair!

We hope to see as many of you as possible supporting these wonderful events which raise extra funds for our fantastic school and pupils.

Our Lucky Lotto winner for July was Sarah Sutton - Congratulations!

Many thanks,

Lisa (on behalf of the PTA)

### **Non-Uniform Day for the Summer Festival - Friday 15th September**

The school are allowing pupils to come to school in their own clothes on Friday 15th September in exchange for a donation to the festival. We are giving a guide below for items to be brought in by each year group. This is only a guide, if your unable to provide an item stated for your child's year group, please feel free to bring in an alternative item from the list.

**YEAR R, YEAR 1 & YEAR 2 – Chocolate (e.g bars, biscuits, cakes) NO NUTS**

**YEAR 3, YEAR 4, YEAR 5 & YEAR 6 – Lucky Jars \*\* (clean lidded jars, filled with small toys and/or wrapped sweets)**

**\*\*Due to their popularity with the children, any extra Lucky Jars would be welcome**

**There will be an 'Honesty Table' at the festival for which we also welcome any donations (e.g small toys, games or books in good condition).**

**All donations to be brought into school on Friday 15th September.**

If you would like any further information, please do contact us at [loosepta@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:loosepta@yahoo.co.uk)

Thank you for your continued support.

Loose Primary School PTA



## **Community News**

My friend and I have taken on a remarkable challenge: participating in London's Shine Walk Marathon, an overnight event, in support of Cancer Research. While this decision wasn't taken lightly, it resonates as the ideal means to pay tribute to far too many impacted by this unforgiving illness.

Cancer has touched the lives of countless individuals and families, including my own and it's time to take action. By participating in this marathon, we aim to raise awareness and much-needed funds to support research efforts in the fight against cancer. Our hope is that, one day, we can see a world where this evil disease no longer holds power over us.

I would be incredibly grateful for any donation, whether big or small, to support me on this journey. I've already completed my half marathon training last weekend, which took its toll on my feet. As a Year 1 Teaching Assistant, there's no rest for me, but your contribution would certainly lift my spirits along the way.

To learn more and contribute to our fundraising efforts, please visit our Shine Walk page <https://fundraise.cancerresearchuk.org/page/sarahs-giving-page-19669546>

Let's shine a light on this cause and work towards a brighter, cancer-free future. With heartfelt thanks and warm regards,

Mrs Sarah Reynolds

Sapphire Class



## Contact Us

[extended.services@loose-primary.kent.sch.uk](mailto:extended.services@loose-primary.kent.sch.uk) - please use this email address for **ALL** extended services bookings/queries/requests etc. Please do not email the office with these.

[absence@loose-primary.kent.sch.uk](mailto:absence@loose-primary.kent.sch.uk) - please use this email for all absence related matters including illness and hospital appointments and holiday notifications.

[office@loose-primary.kent.sch.uk](mailto:office@loose-primary.kent.sch.uk) - use this for all other emails and urgent matters

Phone Number 01622 743549

