



# Loose Primary School Newsletter

## 4th September 2020



### Headteacher News

Welcome back to all our families after a lovely summer break of two halves it seemed – the first we could have been in the Caribbean and the second half in a Nordic country! We do hope you all had a good break and a rest with time to see some of your family and friends. Welcome back too to the children and families who we have not seen since March – it has been too long and we are delighted to all be back in school, even though with a few different rules and procedures so we can learn in classes as safely as we can. It has been lovely seeing the children's smiley faces and hearing chat and laughter throughout the school again. We are so impressed that your children have come back and settled in so well to their new classes. It is like they have never been away. We hope that they have told you all about their first few days in their new class and that they are feeling ok about things. Please do always let us know if you need to talk to us at all as it is more difficult than we would like with staggered times and not having parents in classrooms / on site but I am sure we will get used to things and make it work for us so all children do well at school.

I would particularly like to welcome all our new staff, children and families who are beginning their learning journey with us at Loose this term.

Please feel free to catch leaders or Mrs Dutch (our Families and Community leader) at the gates in the mornings (at a distance) or at the end of the day should you have any questions that you would like to ask. We believe passionately in working together and would encourage you all to speak with your child's class teacher should you have any concerns. In the current climate this is more tricky than we would like, with face to face meetings not advised, but you can email [brook@loose-primary.kent.sch.uk](mailto:brook@loose-primary.kent.sch.uk) for your email to be passed to an infant teacher or [orchard@loose-primary.kent.sch.uk](mailto:orchard@loose-primary.kent.sch.uk) for a junior teacher. Teachers can email you back or give you a call if you prefer at lunchtime or at the end of the school day. We also are delighted that Mrs Bremerkamp now works full time in a nurture role across the school so if you wish to speak with her please do just ask so we can work out the best ways to support your child at any time.

See our key dates to the right, these are added to each week but there is also a link on our website to keep you up to date with things going on. Have a look here <https://www.loose-primary.kent.sch.uk/calendar/?calid=1&pid=0&viewid=1> Please remember that all of these are subject to change and things like assemblies and church services, we have planned for as usual, but they may not be able to go ahead in the normal way with parents and others maybe not allowed to watch. Thank you for your understanding at this time.

Thank you for ensuring your children arrive and leave school safely each day, the new routines will soon become the new normal and we will get used to this new way of working. Please see our current risk assessment and information documents here <https://www.loose-primary.kent.sch.uk/page/?title=Safeguarding&pid=91> and current government advice for schools for parents here [gov.uk/backtoschool](http://gov.uk/backtoschool)

Myself and Mrs Makey (our Head of School) will take turns to write this section of the newsletter on alternate weeks, so you will hear from her next week.

#### YR Parents

Welcome to Loose Primary School if this is your first child joining us. The children in Pearl, Crystal and Opal and parents are visiting school today as were unable to last term and we look forward to them joining us next week for either morning or afternoon sessions.

Have a look on Twitter - if you do not follow us please do – we are delighted to be able to Tweet as we go so you will be able to see your children in 'real time.' We try very hard to ensure a variety of school life is shown over the week so please keep looking to see what your children are up to in school. Please note, we may have back or side-of-head shots of any pupil but they should not be recognisable if we do not have your permission to put them on our website or Twitter account. Please do always speak to the class teacher or let the office know if you have any queries about Twitter so we can assist you.

#### Thank you

Special thanks go to our caretaking team who have worked tirelessly to ensure the school has been cleaned from top to bottom in time for the start of term. Finally, thank you all for getting your children in this week, on time and looking so smart in their new uniform and shiny black shoes. I have not stopped commenting on how smart your children look and what pride they are taking in themselves and our school.

An exciting year at Loose has definitely begun and the children have been amazing of course!

Have a lovely weekend  
Sarah Holman

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

### Dates



#### Term 1

- 18 Sep - Phonics Workshop for Yr R & 1 parents—Brook Hall 2.45pm
- 28 Sep - Emerald Class Assembly 9am Orchard Hall
- 02 Oct - Harvest Festival - All Saints Church, Loose
- 05 Oct - Ruby Class Assembly - 9am Orchard Hall
- 09 Oct - Non-Uniform Day - more information to follow
- 09 Oct - Parent Council Meeting - 2.15pm
- 12 Oct - Onyx Class Assembly - 9am Orchard Hall
- 15 Oct - Kent 11+ Test
- 21 Oct - Parents Evening Consultations 4-7pm
- 22 Oct - Parent Evening Consultations 3.40-6.30pm
- 22 Oct - Last Day of term
- 23 Oct - Staff training Day - children not in school

#### Term 2

- 02 Nov - Children back to school
- 09 Nov - New Parent Tours Yr R Sept 2021 intake - 9.30am & 1.45pm - please book via the school office
- 11 Nov - Kittle Photography in school taking KS1 Individual Photos
- 12 Nov - Kittle Photography in school taking KS2 Individual Photos
- 13 Nov - Children in Need Day - more info to follow
- 16 Nov - Year 4 Lego Workshop Day
- 17 Nov - Amethyst Class Assembly 9am Orchard Hall
- 24 Nov - Sunstone Class Assembly 9am Orchard Hall
- 01 Dec - Topaz Class Assembly 9am Orchard Hall
- 09 Dec - Year R Nativity to parents & siblings 9.30am Brook Hall
- 10 Dec - Year R Nativity to parents 2.00pm Brook Hall
- 11 Dec - Parent Council Meeting 2.15pm
- 15 Dec - Christmas Lunch & Christmas Jumper Day
- 18 Dec - Christmas Services All Saints Church, Loose
- 18 Dec - Open Afternoon 2pm-3.30pm - children can be signed out from 2pm
- 18 Dec - Last day of term - children due back in school on 5th January 2021

**PLEASE NOTE THAT ALL DATES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE**

#### 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 and welcome a representative from each class. Please let the office know if you are interested by emailing [office@loose-primary.kent.sch.uk](mailto:office@loose-primary.kent.sch.uk). Our first meeting is on Friday 9th October. You can find a page on our website with information and members of the parent council <https://www.loose-primary.kent.sch.uk/page/?title=Parent+Council&pid=92>. We already have reps for Opal, Amber, Coral and Onyx but need reps for **all the other classes!**

#### Sickness & Medicines

If your child is sick, please 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.



Parents must adhere to the Covid Guidance sent previously - if your child displays any of the symptoms a test must be organised by calling 119 and your child kept off school until the results are received.

We are only able to administer 'prescribed only' medicine during school hours and this should be in its original container, with the prescriber's instructions attached where relevant. All medicines must be labelled. If you have a completed medication form then you can hand the medication to your child's teacher on drop off. If you don't have a form you can come to the office via the main Loose Road gate after 9.00am once all the children are in and we can give you the form to complete. The form can be found on our website using the following link:- <http://www.loose-primary.kent.sch.uk/page/?title=Forms&pid=16>.

Medicines are given at **12.00pm 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 12pm in KS1 or where possible outside of school hours.

#### Emails

Now that we are back at school could parents please use the following emails:-

For any breakfast or after school club queries/bookings please email [lasc.asc@loose-primary.kent.sch.uk](mailto:lasc.asc@loose-primary.kent.sch.uk)

For message to class teachers regarding work please email:-

[brook@loose-primary.kent.sch.uk](mailto:brook@loose-primary.kent.sch.uk) for children in Years R, 1 and 2 use

[orchard@loose-primary.kent.sch.uk](mailto:orchard@loose-primary.kent.sch.uk) for children in Years 3, 4, 5 & 6

For anything else please email [office@loose-primary.kent.sch.uk](mailto:office@loose-primary.kent.sch.uk) thank you.

**POTENTIAL IS LIMITLESS**

## Weekly Attendance

Opal		Jade	98.94%
Crystal		Emerald	98.96%
Pearl		Ruby	100.00%
Diamond	100.00%	Onyx	98.96%
Sapphire	100.00%	Topaz	100.00%
Moonstone	97.78%	Sunstone	100.00%
Tanzanite	100.00%	Amethyst	100.00%
Turquoise	94.32%	Peridot	97.83%
Aquamarine	100.00%	Zultanite	100.00%
Amber	98.92%	Quartz	100.00%
Coral	100.00%		

**Whole School Target**  
**96.5%**

**Whole School Attendance**  
**99.16%**

### IMPORTANT - Nut Allergies in School

There are a number of children at the school who suffer from severe nut allergies, which in some cases could be fatal. We would therefore be very grateful if parents avoid sending in food items that contain nuts in their child's packed lunch or snacks. Many thanks for your help.



### Uniform

It has been wonderful to see such pride in our appearance this week. It is vital to look smart and to uphold our high expectations at Loose. Please can we remind you that we only allow small, school coloured bows as hair accessories and only stud earrings and watches for jewellery. Your child should be able to remove their own earrings for PE and it is sometimes a good idea to provide a box to keep them safely during the lesson if you wish so they don't get lost. Of course we do not expect children to come to school with temporary tattoos or nail varnish. Please see here for our uniform expectations as a reminder <https://www.loose-primary.kent.sch.uk/page/?title=Uniform&pid=33> Thank you for your cooperation.

### Communication

We truly value our relationship with parents and the importance of working with you. Please don't forget to keep us informed about any concerns you have, any suggestions you feel we should consider and, of course, anything you particularly like about our school. We are always happy to hear from you.

### Contact Dining Company

Please see the school website link below for the packed lunch menu and other important information from the Contract Dining Company. We will review the situation regarding school lunches monthly in the hope that we can have safely have hot dinners soon. <https://www.loose-primary.kent.sch.uk/page/?title=School+Dinners&pid=26>

### Hand Sanitiser

The children are allowed to bring hand sanitiser into school if they wish to use this to keep their hands clean. Please make sure the bottle is clearly labelled with their name and class. Thank you.

### Swimming

We have no plans for swimming in term 1 for any children at school. We have started swimming lessons as part of our lettings and will let you know if we will be offering (Y3 or Y2 only) swimming in term 2.

### Sweets

Parents were asking about bringing sweets in for birthdays. This is fine however we would ask that the sweets are all individually wrapped. They will be handed out at the end of the day then it's up to parents whether their child is allowed to eat them or not.

### School Website

For all new parents, we have a wonderful website full of useful information for you. Click on the link below for a list of letters home

<https://www.loose-primary.kent.sch.uk/page/?title=Letters+Home&pid=19>

### Cashless School

With effect from 1st September the school will only be using the Scopay system to receive payments for Trips, Workshops and Extended Services etc. If you are yet to register for this facility, letters will be sent home with your child during the first couple of weeks in September. Due to the Covid-19 situation we will no longer be able to accept cash or cheques in respect of any school purchases/payments. As parents will not be able to call into the office with forms/payment like they have done in the past, Scopay is a much easier and convenient way of making payments from the comfort of your home.

### ParentPay

You will be aware that Contract Dining Company are now receiving payments for lunches via their ParentPay facility. Details and registration letters were sent to each parent prior to the Lockdown and again to those parents that still hadn't registered on 17<sup>th</sup> June 2020. If your child is in Years 3 to 6 you will need to set up a Parent Pay account as we will not be accepting any cash or cheque payments for lunches this new academic year. If your child is eligible for free school meals you will still need to set up an account and order the lunches required, add them to your basket and then checkout. You won't be charged though.

## PTA News

Welcome to the new term! We have some exciting ideas to raise money for the children, despite the unusual times that we are experiencing - so watch this space! We will have to re think how we have committee meetings and the sharing of ideas due to social distancing but in the meantime we would welcome lots of fresh ideas that would work through these times so please email us at [loosePTA@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:loosePTA@yahoo.co.uk). Thanks in advance for your support.

### BREAKFAST CLUB

We would remind parents that we are currently not offering breakfast to the children that attend Breakfast Club due to Covid - 19. In the circumstances, if you are not able to offer your children breakfast at home before they attend they can bring a healthy snack in with them. Suggestions are bagels with spread such as jam/spreadable cheese, pain au chocolat, croissants, cereal bars (not containing nuts) or fruit. Please do not send in sweets, crisps or chocolate bars as a breakfast option. Many thanks. Breakfast Club Staff

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

### 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!



### KS1 Drop/Off Collection

For the safety of our staff we would ask that parents do not catch the teachers at the beginning or the end of the day for a conversation in the KS1 playground. If you need to ask or let the teacher know anything please email [brook@loose-primary.kent.sch.uk](mailto:brook@loose-primary.kent.sch.uk) and this will be passed on. If something is urgent please email the school office on [office@loose-primary.kent.sch.uk](mailto:office@loose-primary.kent.sch.uk). Office emails are checked from 7.30am onwards on school days so anything urgent can be passed onto the teacher before the start of the school day.

### Communities

Hockey Heroes - A fun welcoming programme for **all** children aged 5 to 8 to try hockey and to develop both their physical and character superpowers. Find out more at [hockeyheroes.co.uk](http://hockeyheroes.co.uk). Maidstone Hockey Club starts Friday 25th September 4.30-5.30pm.

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