



Loose Primary School Newsletter

25th September 2020



Head of School News

Thank you once again for working with us to make everything as smooth and safe as possible this week. It seems that the situation regarding COVID is ever changing. In order to protect everyone we are changing the timings for KS1 to ensure more social distancing on the Lancet Lane path. KS1 parents have been sent information and renewed timings.

Concerning social distancing we are asking everyone to wear masks when entering the site. Please also leave promptly once you have collected your child and resist lingering to have long conversations with other parents. This also applies whilst you are waiting to enter the site. Can we also kindly ask you to make sure your children do not linger on the play equipment on the KS1 playground, or on the trim-trail. These are out of bounds. The success of our system is dependent on you all arriving at the stipulated times only. This prevents unnecessary waiting at the gates and putting yourselves and others at risk. We are trying to keep everyone as safe as possible and revise our systems when it is safe to do so. Please help us to do this by adhering to the arrangements.

In a fortnight's time we have our first virtual Parent Council meeting. We are looking forward to discussing school improvement items with the group. This forum is an excellent way for parents to be fully involved with how we further improve our school. You can share your views with your class representative via the school office email. Please check the school website to see who your class representative is or click on link. <http://www.looseprimary.kent.sch.uk/page/?title=Parent+Council&pid=92>.

We are continuing to focus on designing and delivering an exciting, enriched curriculum to your children and we are already seeing examples of amazing learning taking place across school. Year 2 recently had a rocket crash land outside their classrooms; they're still trying to work out who it belongs to. Year 1 have been in and out of the woodland walk this week creating their own Bog Babies. In Key Stage 2, children have already begun working with chemicals in science and there have been lots of fitness activities taking place on the field.

If you'd like to know more about the learning taking place across school, please look at the curriculum section of our website where you will find each Year group's overview. As our curriculum responds to current events, we don't usually plan any more than a couple of terms ahead, just in case something big pops up in the world that our children want to know about!

We have some good news regarding school dinners. After liaising closely with our catering team hot lunches started this week for Year R and from Monday next week for Years 1 & 2.

Just a little reminder that if you have had any changes to contact details during the last few months please remember to let the office via telephone or email. Many thanks for your continued cooperation in this difficult time as we endeavour to keep our school safe and running as smoothly as possible. Children are regularly washing their hands but you can also send in hand sanitiser in a named bottle if you wish.

Keep safe everyone.
Anita Makey

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

Dates



Term 1

- 28 Sep - Emerald Class Assembly - **sorry no parents**
- 02 Oct - Harvest Festival - via zoom - **sorry no parents**
- 05 Oct - Ruby Class Assembly - **sorry no parents**
- 09 Oct - Non-Uniform Day - more information to follow
- 09 Oct - Parent Council Meeting - 1.30-2.15pm - **via zoom**
- 12 Oct - Onyx Class Assembly - **sorry no parents**
- 15 Oct - Kent 11+ Test
- 21 Oct & 22 Oct - Parents Evening Consultations - **more information to follow.**
- Telephone calls from teacher home**
- 22 Oct - Last Day of term
- 23 Oct - Staff training Day - children not in school

Term 2 - we will confirm in term 2 if the climate improves and parents are allowed to attend the events below.

- 02 Nov - Children back to school
- 03 Nov - Flu Vaccinations for Year R to Year 6
- 11 Nov - Kittle Photography taking KS1 Individual & Class Photos
- 12 Nov - Kittle Photography in taking KS2 Individual & Class Photos
- 13 Nov - Children in Need Day - more info to follow
- 17 Nov - Amethyst Class Assembly 9am Orchard Hall
- 24 Nov - Sunstone Class Assembly 9am Orchard Hall
- 26 Nov - Kent 11+ Test Results from 4pm (subject to change)
- 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

Learners of the Week

A huge well done to the children who got their achievement certificates in assemblies this week! Congratulations for all their hard work.

Pearl	Coming soon!	Jade	Julia J
Opal	Coming soon!	Emerald	Olivia M
Crystal	Coming soon!	Onyx	Jayden D/S
Diamond	Oliver M	Ruby	Andrew W
Sapphire	Mia A	Topaz	Joshua M
Moonstone	Tilly G	Sunstone	Jack M
Tanzanite	Freya S	Amethyst	Betty K
Aquamarine	Thomas L	Peridot	Tisha R
Turquoise	Phoebe N	Zultanite	Barnaby W
Coral	Neon B	Quartz	Ethan B
Amber	Isadora P		

Purple Mash

This year, your child will be using Purple Mash to support their learning in a number of subjects including computing. The website can be accessed on most electronic devices that have access to the internet including iPads and tablets. Your child may have come home with a login for Purple Mash already. If this is the case, they can login by finding the Purple Mash website (<https://www.purplemash.com/login/>) clicking 'Find my school's login page', selection Loose Primary School, clicking 'go to school portal' and then entering the login details that have been provided. If your child has lost their login details or their details are not working please let their class teacher know by emailing the school office. Miss Chapman



COVID UPDATE

A reminder that the fastest way to get a test result is to go to a testing site. Individuals will need a pre-booked appointment or they will not be given a test. People can also order home test kits to be sent directly to them. To book an appointment or order a home kit, please visit: <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>

POTENTIAL IS LIMITLESS

Weekly Attendance

Opal	92.00%	Jade	96.03%
Crystal	82.20%	Emerald	100.00%
Pearl	92.67%	Ruby	99.37%
Diamond	100.00%	Onyx	95.94%
Sapphire	98.00%	Topaz	100.00%
Moonstone	99.00%	Sunstone	95.31%
Tanzanite	99.33%	Amethyst	96.26%
Turquoise	100.00%	Peridot	95.31%
Aquamarine	99.66%	Zultanite	98.13%
Amber	94.59%	Quartz	100.00%
Coral	98.13%		

Whole School Target
96.5%

Whole School Attendance
97.28%

Weekly House Points Result

DONALDSON	2nd	PARKS	3rd
ATTENBOROUGH	1st	CURIE	4th

Secondary School Applications

A reminder that online applications for secondary school admissions opened on the 1st September and the **national closing date for all secondary school applications is midnight on the 2nd November**. KCC are hoping to get the Kent Test results to parents by the 26th November but this could be subject to change. As the results date is after the closing date for school applications you can therefore apply for up to 6 schools, putting them in order of preference. It's in your best interest to list 6 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#tab-1> National Offer day is Monday 1st March 2021. Emails will be sent from 4pm and parents can log on from 5pm to see what school their child has been allocated.

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. Ideally we would like these all in by Monday 5th October however we will accept these up to Monday 12th October at the latest. This gives us time to complete scholarship paperwork which will be ready to collect on Thursday 22nd October from the main office. We do need the application booklet to stick our section in and sign.

Parent Council

A huge thank you to all the parents that have come forward to be Parent Council reps for their child's class. We now have someone for every class which is amazing. Please see the link below so that you know who your child's class rep is should you wish them to bring anything up at the first meeting on the 9th October.

<https://www.loose-primary.kent.sch.uk/page/?title=Parent+Council&pid=92>

Safety Procedures

We always have emergency evacuation and lockdown practices at the start of the year. The children were amazing in both this week and the additional unplanned one! 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.

Parking

A black Peugeot registration number VU64 UJL parked right up on the grass verge by the main gates on the Loose Road this week. Parents must not park here and park in a proper parking place. This is for the safety of your children.

PTA News

We will be running our Lucky Lotto again this year, with the first draw being in the third week of October. This is the perfect way to raise money for the children and maybe win a little something for yourself! More details to follow—watch this space!

Assistant Headteacher News

Hi everyone – Mr Farley here this week. Having spent some time greeting children on the school gates, as well as popping in and out of classrooms, I cannot stress enough how impressed I am with the attitudes your children are displaying. We have spent much of this term so far focusing on children's wellbeing, to ensure they have been able to return to school feeling safe and happy. Needless to say, your children have proven how mature and sensible they are and have taken everything in their stride since the first day back.

All three of the assistant headteachers are working on a new format for parent consultation evenings in October. This year, unsurprisingly, we have been required to make changes to the way this usually runs. The consultations this term will take place as telephone calls, still as ten minute appointments and still with you being able to book your preferred time in advance. We will let you know further details shortly.

Have a great weekend
Mr Farley

Children's mental health & wellbeing:

As schools return to the new normal, children and families may be seeking support to help understand and manage their questions and worries during this transition. The **Reading Well for children booklist** recommends reading to help children understand their feelings and worries and cope with tough times. Many of the books on the list cover topics that children and families may be experiencing at this time, including worry, loss and bereavement, and dealing with troubling world events. The booklist is targeted at children in Key Stage 2 (aged 7-11) and includes a wide range of reading levels to support less confident readers, and to encourage children to read together with their siblings and carers. All of the titles are available from Kent Libraries and many of the titles are available as e-books as well as physical copies. You can download the complete booklist and detailed overview of the 33 titles on the Reading Well website <https://reading-well.org.uk/books/books-on-prescription/children>. Many thanks, Miss Burman

COVID

Thank you so much to the parents who have kept your children at home whilst displaying possible symptoms and awaiting results from a test or waiting for a family member to get a test. We have put 2 week work packs online here <https://www.loose-primary.kent.sch.uk/page/?title=Home+Learning&pid=139> so your child can access learning from home during this time of absence if you wish to. We are very pleased that so far we have not had a positive case but want to reassure you that we will of course follow all guidance and contact PHE and yourselves if this was the case and inform you of advice given if we needed to close a bubble or bubbles. If we did need to close a bubble we would set more work online for children to complete if they are well enough.

KS1 Revised Drop Off & Collection Times

We have revised these arrangements to try to assist with congestion but this does then have some impact on parents where the current arrangement worked better for them. We have deliberately planned 10 minute drop off slots on all 3 gates to try to allow time for parents with children with the same timings but different gates. In the event that you are late for your child's class start-time, please wait on the large KS1 playground for a member of staff to take your child to their classroom. Should you be late after the Lancel Lane gate is closed, please take your child around to the main entrance from where they will be taken to class. We are discussing arrangements for staggered timings at our next Parent Council meeting and of course keeping the systems in place under review.

Harvest Festival and Maidstone Churches Winter Shelter Donations

Unfortunately, we are unable to attend All Saints Church this year however, we will be still be celebrating Harvest Festival in school on Friday 2nd October. The children will be having a special pre-recorded assembly by the amazing Chris and Becky and will also participate in rich discussions to understand the true meaning of Harvest!

In light of this, we will be collecting donations for Maidstone Churches Winter Shelter who aim to provide comfort and support for the homeless and give them the opportunity for a brighter future. Due to current restrictions, the shelter are unable to offer overnight accommodation for the local community but the charity are working hard to provide a hot meal each evening from Monday 4th January – Sunday 28th March. Below is a list of items that you can donate.

Food items: any tinned/packet foods preferably with a long shelf life, tea bags, coffee, sugar, hot chocolate sachets, breakfast bars, cereal pots.
Hygiene items: antibacterial sprays, tissues, hand gel, reusable face masks, knickers/pants – men's and ladies (all sizes)
Other items: puzzle books, pencils with erasers, adult colouring books and coloured pencils.

We will be collecting in donations **from Friday 2nd October until Friday 23rd October** as the items will need to be kept for 72 hours to decontaminate before sending them to the shelter. Any donations will be greatly received especially during the current climate and cold winter months. Thank you.

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