



Loose Primary School Newsletter

22nd October 2020



Head of School News

Firstly I hope you all have a good autumn break. Starting back in September seems like a long time away when we were so excited about seeing all the children back in school again. There have certainly been challenges for all of us and because of the ongoing coronavirus we know that there will inevitably be further changes ahead. You should already have received an email regarding how Y1 & 2 will enter their classrooms from Term 2. Trust us; we will always inform you and keep you up to date as much as we can although we will probably hear about changes to the tiers when you do.

Our staff development day this week is for teachers to learn about Google Classrooms. They will be busily setting up virtual learning for their classes so that all children can access the teaching and learning for the week should they not be in school.

Wonderful learning opportunities have carried on at Loose throughout. This week our Year 5s have been training to be spies and on secret missions all over the school grounds so watch out! They can certainly keep secrets too. In between the bad bouts of weather all the children have been planting bulbs across the school grounds in memory of Mr Webb. The school site should be blooming brightly in March.

Well done Year R!
Congratulations must go to our Year R pupils who have had an amazing first term with us. For them there was little transition opportunities and from day one they lined up on the playground and walked into class. They have truly settled in and we look forward to them growing with us in future years.

Parent Evenings
Hopefully you will manage to speak to your child's teacher at our parent evenings this week. If you have any further concerns please always contact your child's teacher via the school office. It is a great way for you to catch up with your child's teacher (s) and see how well they are progressing.

PTA
A special thank you to our PTA. They are busily trying to create ideas of how to fund raise when events at school cannot be held. They are conscious of the impact the lack of funding from fund raising will have on our school. Please support them with any ideas you may have yourself. At the moment there is the Lucky Loose Lotto – have go! Christmas Cards will come home for children to design at home. Please can they bring back when completed.

Finally we acknowledge that change is not always easy to manage. What we all need to think about is the safety of everyone and we are pleased that by putting systems in place in Term 1 all children and staff have been safe. For us to continue to be healthy and prevent spread of the virus we (along with the request of some of yourselves as parents) are strongly advocating that you wear a mask and socially distance when dropping off and picking up from the main gate and Y4 & 6 gate.
If you are coming into the KS1 playground our school rules are:-

- 1) Masks should be worn by all parents on the school site and when waiting outside the school gates unless medically exempt.
- 2) We have noticed during the last few weeks that social-distancing between parents has become more relaxed. Please remember to walk in single file on the Lancet Lane path, keeping at least 1 metre distance from adults from other households.
- 3) Only 1 adult per household to accompany their child onto the playground.
- 4) We would ask that parents do not bring food onto the school site after school when collecting their child.
- 5) Children must hold their parent's hand or stay with them and should not be allowed to play whilst you are waiting for your other children to come out of class at the end of the day.
- 6) Exit the school site promptly and do not use this opportunity to chat to teaching staff or other adults on site.

Thank you for co-operation in all these matters.

Have a wonderful holiday and we look forward to seeing you all again on Monday 2nd November.
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
22 Oct - Parents Evening Consultations - 4-7pm phone calls
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
02 Nov - Deadline for online Secondary Applications
03 Nov - Flu Vaccinations for Year R to Year 6
05 Nov - Online applications for September 2021 Year R Intake open
11 Nov - Kittle Photography taking KS1 Individual & Class Photos
12 Nov - Kittle Photography in taking KS2 Individual & Class Photos (excl Y6)
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
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 - Deadline for changes to secondary applications
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

COVID Arrangements

We wanted to let you know that all arrangements in place are regularly checked to see how things are working in terms of reducing risks and keeping us all safe. We receive daily updated guidance from the DFE and all is considered and changes put in place as necessary. From next term we are able to resume swimming lessons for Y3 children and hot lunches for all pupils. Regarding staggered start and finish times, although not ideal they are working very well for the majority of children who come into school beautifully to start their day and leave sensibly at the end of the day. We are of course aware that this is not a choice we would normally make, but wanted to let you know that if you are experiencing real difficulties please do contact us so we are aware of any concerns and may be able to help you. Government guidance tells us to ensure plans in place are suitable for the academic year and possibly beyond, so this is not something that will change and allow us to go back to normal.

Hot Meals

We are delighted to inform you that Contract Dining will be providing hot meals again for children in Years 3 to 6 from week 2 of Term 2 this will be starting on the 9th November **not the 2nd November**. Please can all parents ensure they book on the ParentPay system if a hot meal is required. We also require parents whose children have free school meals to book on the ParentPay system however when you checkout the balance will be zero. This is to ensure the kitchen have the correct daily/weekly numbers of hot meals required. The menu can be found on the school website <https://www.loose-primary.kent.sch.uk/attachments/download.asp?file=6189&type=pdf>

Year 1 Bog Baby Day

On Monday Year 1 had a lovely outdoor activity day finding the lost Bog Baby, building a giant Bog Baby home and using their special binoculars to spot digraphs. We all had a lovely autumnal day!



Covid Reminders

Could parents please make sure they are wearing masks while on the school site or collecting from the main Loose Road gates, unless medically exempt. Please also walk up and down the Lancet Lane entrance in single file to allow social distancing from parents walking in the opposite direction. This is for the safety of your children, all staff and yourselves.

POTENTIAL IS LIMITLESS

Weekly Attendance

Opal	95.42%	Jade	93.75%
Crystal	99.16%	Emerald	94.53%
Pearl	100.00%	Ruby	94.14%
Diamond	99.12%	Onyx	97.92%
Sapphire	95.00%	Topaz	97.66%
Moonstone	95.36%	Sunstone	99.61%
Tanzanite	98.75%	Amethyst	99.23%
Turquoise	99.58%	Peridot	94.07%
Aquamarine	94.58%	Zultanite	94.14%
Amber	97.55%	Quartz	99.22%
Coral	97.11%		

Whole School Target
96.5%

Whole School Attendance
96.92%

Term 1 House Points Results

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

Year 4 TT Rockstars Battle

This week Year 4 engaged in a fierce TT Rockstars battle. The children were incredibly hard working and scored some amazingly impressive scores. Emerald Class were the eventual winners of the battle with an average score of 3,000 correct answers per child. An incredible feat! Onyx Class came second and Ruby came in third. Well done to all our hard working Year 4 children. Who will win the next battle?

FINAL REMINDER - Flu Vaccinations

A reminder the school nursing team will be in school on the 3rd November to give flu vaccinations to the children across all year groups. The letter giving parents all the details and a link for your permission or to advise you do not want your child vaccinated was emailed out earlier this term. **The deadline for completing the online form is the 27th October.** See website link below for the letter:- <https://www.loose-primary.kent.sch.uk/attachments/download.asp?file=6094&type=pdf>

PTA News

Your child(ren) should bring home information for this year's Christmas Art project. Due to the Covid restrictions we are unable to go into school to help the children create their artwork this year so we are relying on the children completing their pictures at home. Their design will be able to be made into Christmas cards, labels, water bottles etc. We have a couple of exciting projects coming up after Half Term so keep an eye out for them when we return to school.

Thank you to everyone who entered the Lucky Lotto, it was a wonderful response. 85 tickets sold totalled £850 to be split 50/50 between the PTA and a prize fund. £425 will go directly to projects for the children and £425 will be spread over 10 months to be a £42.50 monthly prize. Congratulations to Ruth Coutinho who is the first winner!

Kittle Photographs

We are pleased to confirm that Kittle Photography will be joining us to take our school photographs on Wednesday 11th and Thursday 12th November 2020. The KS1 children will have their pictures taken on the Wednesday with KS2 children, excluding year 6, on the Thursday. We are hoping to take the Year 6 individual and year group pictures next summer. Due to social distancing, the class photographs will be taken in a traditional style and not a posed long picture. Please ensure your child is in full school uniform, including cardigan, ties and jumpers. Many thanks.

Spy Training

On Tuesday 20th October the Year 5 classes had a spectacular time when they spent the day training to be MI6 Secret Agents. The day began with the new recruits receiving a briefing from top senior agents before swearing an oath of allegiance. They learnt how to skilfully dodge laser beams, follow the correct pathway through a minefield and memorise a complicated message to pass onto fellow spies. Their physical fitness during boot camp was very impressive as was their teamwork and support of others. During the day, stealth and secrecy were key to completing trainee missions, including decoding encrypted messages, creating secret handshakes, carrying out surveillance and completing a range of secret tasks. This was all an exciting conclusion to our first term's learning based around Anthony Horowitz's *Stormbreaker*. Thank you to the parents and children for creating some amazing spy outfits along with an impressive range of gadgets. The Year 5 Team



Assistant Headteacher News

We've come to end of the first term of the new normal and I want to say a huge well done to all our school community. A well done to everyone, from the parents who have got used to all the new drop off times and to our amazing teaching staff who have gone above and beyond to provide exceptional learning for all children. Finally, a huge well done to our brilliant children who continue to amaze us with their resilience, enthusiasm for learning and compassionate nature. As a school community, we can feel proud of the efforts we have all made in this first term and will continue to make throughout the rest of the academic year. Please enjoy your half terms. Stay safe and we look forward to seeing you all again at the beginning of Term 2.

Mr Johnson

FINAL REMINDER - Secondary School Applications

A final reminder that online applications for secondary school admissions will close at midnight on the 2nd November. The Kent Test results will be emailed to parents on 26th November from 4pm. 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. Applications can be amended up to the 11th December by emailing kentonlineadmissions@kent.gov.uk. 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.

Year R Admissions for September 2020

If you have a child due to start in Year R in September 2021 we would advise that online applications will open on the 5th November 2020 for parents wanting to apply. The closing date is midnight on the 15th January 2021. Applications should, where possible, be made online using www.kent.gov.uk/ola. Offer day is 16th April 2021 where you will be offered a school for your child. Please see www.kent.gov.uk/primaryadmissions for full details or contact Mrs Thomson in the school office should you have any enquiries.

Children's Hospital Pyjamas Charity

In Term 2 we will be collecting donations for the Children's Hospital Pyjamas Charity. For more information, please see the letter attached. Many thanks, Mrs Bremerkamp



PE Term 2

We have decided that all classes in KS2 will have football as their focus for PE lessons in Term 2. Please could you make sure your child has football boots and shin pads ready for when they return in Term 2. Having these really speeds up the PE lessons and allows maximum time to be spent outside learning rather than sorting out equipment.

The children in Year 1 and 2 will have 'Send and receive with their hands' as their focus for PE learning. For this the children will need their normal PE kit. However, please can all children have a hoody and tracksuit bottoms as part of their PE kit to stay warm in the cold weather.

Tables

If anyone wants any of the IT tables below, please contact our site manager Neil on 07753 328366. They are 160cm wide, 80cm deep, 65cm high - see photo below.



Communities

Coxheath and Farleigh under 11's football club are looking for players to join the team. Any girls or boys in Year 6 interested in joining a friendly and successful local football team to play every Sunday morning please contact Andy Pellow on 07469 088505 or email pellow@gmail.com

Emma King, one of our parents, was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer in August 2019. She has undergone various treatments and it's still ongoing. We are raising funds to support her family and to provide alternative treatments. Please donate if you can, every little bit helps and is greatly appreciated. This is the GoFundMe link for Emma's Army. <https://gf.me/u/yunzh6>

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