



Loose Primary School Newsletter

20th November 2020



Headteacher News

It is the end of a week we all probably knew would come to Loose but desperately hoped would not, where we had to close a bubble. Consequently multiple staff and children are isolating which means that children, other than those needing to isolate, had to be taught remotely from home. This is not a situation we wanted to be in, but at least the children have enjoyed accessing their teacher and each other, even though virtually. We would like to explain our decision-making in such cases to you so you can hopefully understand – we are very grateful for all the lovely messages and kindness you have shown to us in the last week.

Where we have a positive case of COVID, as this week, or if a large number of staff need to isolate we have no choice but to ask children to remain at home to learn remotely. To keep risks as low as possible we are, wherever possible, reducing visitors to the school and this includes supply and cover staff not assigned to a bubble. In the case this week, due to large numbers of staff isolating (through this positive case and other outside school contacts) staff were just not available to allow Jade and Amber classes to learn remotely in school (which would always be our preference) whilst the teacher taught them whilst isolating at home. This has been able to be the case in Emerald, Aquamarine and Turquoise classes where staff were isolating but other staff within the bubble could deliver learning set by the class teacher or the teacher could remote in to 'see' the learning in school.

This is a new, unusual learning experience for us all but please do rest assured that we will only ask children to learn from home when necessary, if guided to by PHE advice or if we just do not have the staff that are able to ensure children are supervised in school to learn. We, of course, are sorry for the inconvenience this causes and know that, when looking what is happening locally, we are likely to have more similar cases, so just wanted you to know how we plan for such eventualities.

The 'law' that we wrote to you about last term ensuring schools offered a platform to set remote learning was set for a reason and the fact that so many pupils in England are learning remotely is an indicator of expectations to try to ensure children have a 'blended' education experience in the new normal. Rest assured, we are all geared up to offer this but it is not an easy option for us or parents trying to work. Of course it is by no means ideal for children either who miss school routines and their friends but it is sometimes the only option available to us, not a choice. We thank you so much for your understanding in keeping the community safe and learning together even if not in the school building and want to let you know that it will unfortunately often be at very short notice when we need to close a bubble but we will always inform you as soon as we can.

For the children that have been in school we have seen so many wonderful opportunities for our children. Please keep up to date with what your children are learning at Loose by following us on Twitter and do share your learning here too if your child is isolating or learning from home so we can still be a community.

Curriculum Enhancement

Our curriculum is based on our 6 global themes and offers opportunities for children to be successful in the 21st century. You can see our curriculum intent here <https://www.loose-primary.kent.sch.uk/attachments/download.asp?file=3875&type=pdf> We are always considering what the future might look like and what skills children may need for their futures. We ensure we use research to guide our decisions and principles and work with many external partners to support children, teachers and leaders to do this. To be able to offer pupils at Loose an even more exciting curriculum, we are re-starting our GLO curriculum (Global Learning Opportunities) sessions in classes this term. More information will follow but look out for these on Twitter.

Coats etc. for cold weather

Please make sure that your child is suitably attired for school now the weather has turned colder. They do need a coat for lunch times as they will, of course, normally be outside for a period of time. Can you please also ensure that your child brings in a track suit or 'old' sweater and jogging bottoms for outdoor games lessons. Preferably these would be black and plain. They can be left in school in your child's PE bag. It is important that all children take a full part in PE and games lessons and are suitably clothed for outdoor sessions so that they can enjoy them without getting too cold. We are sure you will support us in trying to encourage them to adopt healthy lifestyles now and for the future.

Have a good weekend and take care of each other in our national lockdown and spend a few moments to think about those who are unwell and those isolating in our school community. We wish you good thoughts and best wishes to get well soon.

Kind regards,

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 2 -

- 24 Nov - Sunstone Class Assembly 9am Orchard Hall - **sorry no parents**
- 26 Nov - Kent 11+ Test Results from 4pm
- 01 Dec - Topaz Class Assembly 9am Orchard Hall - **sorry no parents**
- 09 Dec - Year R Nativity to parents & siblings 9.30am Brook Hall - **arrangement to be confirmed - will be done virtually**
- 10 Dec - Year R Nativity to parents 2.00pm Brook Hall - **arrangement to be confirmed - will be done virtually**
- 11 Dec - Deadline for changes to secondary applications
- 11 Dec - Parent Council Meeting 2.15pm - **via Zoom**
- 15 Dec - Christmas Lunch & Christmas Jumper Day
- 18 Dec - Christmas Services All Saints Church - **via Zoom**
- 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	Back soon!
Opal	Coming soon!	Emerald	Isla S
Crystal	Coming soon!	Onyx	Lochlan A
Diamond	Lennon E	Ruby	Elena G
Sapphire	Belle J	Topaz	Jacob S
Moonstone	Charlie S	Sunstone	Theo E
Tanzanite	Max P	Amethyst	Samuel S
Aquamarine	Leo P	Peridot	Alex P
Turquoise	Sophia B	Zultanite	Samuel F
Coral	Back soon!	Quartz	Annabel A
Amber	Back soon!		

Google Classrooms

A big well done to parents, teachers and children that have been completing work this week on Google Classrooms. Children are enjoying the chance to complete their work online and receive feedback from their Year 3 teachers. We understand that Google Classrooms can be challenging to navigate at first. We have created some helpful guides to get you started should your child need to self isolate and complete learning from home. These can be found on the following link. <https://www.loose-primary.kent.sch.uk/page/?title=Google+Classroom&pid=212> Miss Chapman

Children in Need - Friday 13th November

A huge thank you to parents for all your duck race, Pudsey badge and casual dress donations. We raised an amazing £1282.50 for Children in Need. What a fantastic achievement thank you!



COVID UPDATE

A reminder that if your child has any of the following symptoms they must not come into school and you should call 119 and book a test. Sibling should not come into school either until the test results are back.

- a high temperature – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- a new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

POTENTIAL IS LIMITLESS

Weekly Attendance

Opal	99.65%	Jade	N/A
Crystal	96.67%	Emerald	96.64%
Pearl	100.00%	Ruby	97.10%
Diamond	95.00%	Onyx	95.36%
Sapphire	100.00%	Topaz	98.37%
Moonstone	97.33%	Sunstone	98.75%
Tanzanite	94.67%	Amethyst	90.12%
Turquoise	99.66%	Peridot	91.41%
Aquamarine	98.98%	Zultanite	94.12%
Amber	N/A	Quartz	97.13%
Coral	N/A		

Whole School Target
96.5%

Whole School Attendance
96.69%

Term 2 House Points Results

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

Thank you!

Thank you to all the wonderful, generous parents who have donated books to our school via our Amazon wishlist. We have received a huge range of high quality texts that are going into Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 classrooms to support and promote a love of reading. We really are quite overwhelmed with the response and cannot thank you enough. The link to our wishlist is attached below if you would like, and are able, to support our school by purchasing new books. https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/2VSF26XLJP2TL?ref=_wjl_share

Anti-Bullying Week

We would like to thank you all for helping mark the beginning of Anti-bullying awareness week by dressing your children in odd socks! This was a fun way to highlight the importance of showing kindness and saying NO to bullying!

Throughout the week, the children have learnt more about RESPECT which is one of our core values! Through assemblies and class discussions, the children have learnt 'What is bullying?' They have explored the different forms of bullying and how to deal with bullying! Once establishing what bullying is, we have focused our teaching on KINDNESS and helped the children explore the effects that the smallest kind act may have on another!

Please reinforce these important messages at home too!

Top tips for KINDNESS

Do things for people! Not because of who they are or what they do in return, but because of who you are.

Choosing kindness doesn't cost a thing but can help someone enormously. Showing manners, politeness and kindness cost nothing. Every new day we are faced with choices Do you choose # KINDNESS?

Saying or doing a kind act can bring a smile to someone's face! Remember you never know what someone else is going through in their life.

Acts of kindness will never come back to hurt you and will never be wasted on someone.

Being mean, even if you think it's harmless, can hurt someone else very deeply; think twice about what you say and do.

Acts of kindness are good for you as they release Oxytocin.

"Unexpected kindness is the most powerful, least costly, and most underrated agent of human change." - Bob Kerrey

Snacks

A reminder that if children bring snacks into school for their break they must be healthy snacks like fruit or vegetables, raisins, cereal bars (nut free) or plain biscuits. Please do not send chocolate biscuits, bars of chocolate, crisps or Peperamis in please.

Children's Hospital Charity

Thank you for the lovely pyjama donations for The Children's Hospital Charity. There is a box at the Lancet Lane gate and one at the main gate for further donations. All donations go to children in hospitals as per the letter sent home before the end of last term. Many thanks, Mrs Bremerkamp



Assistant Headteacher News

Last week, I had the opportunity to watch a PSHE lesson on 'communities' and it reminded me of all the brilliant people that make up our school community. It is important because it is as a school community that we will get through this together. It has been a very different week at school with our first bubble closure and seeing the impact this has had on the school. I want to focus this AHT update on our brilliant community who have all rallied together this week! Our Year 3 team have worked amazingly at home ensuring that all children are accessing high quality learning whilst they are not in school. Our staff within school have worked brilliantly to cope with the change and continue providing exceptional learning opportunities for all children. I am incredibly proud of our staff teams here at Loose so a huge thank you to everyone. Finally, thank you to all the parents who have been understanding in these difficult times and supported the children learning at home.

Have a good weekend.

Mr Johnson

Year R Admissions for September 2021

If you have a child due to start in Year R in September 2021 we would advise that online applications are now open 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. We hope you have seen our virtual tour here <https://www.loose-primary.kent.sch.uk/page/?title=Admissions&pid=15>

PTA News

Thank you to the huge numbers of children who did some wonderful designs for their Christmas cards and gifts - we are sure there will be plenty of proud parents and children sending out some fabulous Christmas cards this year! We are thrilled that Covid hasn't stopped our Christmas Gifts to Parents event however, we have had to make some changes! Please see your email for full details. Each gift will cost £2 and unfortunately, cashless payments will be required please. All payments will need to be made in advance and the deadline is **Friday 27th November**. The children will be able to choose their gifts at school and bring them home w/c 7th Dec. Please note that all gifts will be quarantined for at least 72 hours before they are distributed to each classroom / bubble. Due to these measures being in place we will be unable to accept any late orders after **27th November** deadline. Thank you for your support and understanding.

Photographs

Please be advised that if you wish to order any Kittle group or individual photographs with free delivery, please place your order with Kittle Photography as detailed on the reverse of your QR code ticket by 2nd December 2020. Any orders after this date may result in postage being charged. All Year 3 Class Photo QR codes and photo id's have been emailed home today separately. Many thanks. Mrs Penny Monksfield.

Amethyst Class Assembly

Amethyst class put on a truly inspiring class assembly this week. Not only did they celebrate their achievements, share their creativity and show off all of their incredible hard work from last term, but they were also able to communicate important messages about how we could be united against bullying, which is this year's focus for 'Anti-bullying Week.'

Even though *Stormbreaker* was a captivating spy story, it also highlighted to us how damaging bullying can be to someone both in school and beyond the gates. Amethyst class agreed that bullying is not acceptable, no matter who you are, even if you are the Prime Minister.

Mrs Whittaker and Mrs Callegari could not be more proud of the children, they were fully committed to communicating such important messages to the best of their ability. They even managed to learn sign language to sign along to the song 'This is me' from 'The Greatest Showman' which was a real treat as we are not allowed to sing in school at the moment.

Our only regret is that our lovely parents and carers were not able to join us. We hope you have heard all about it though. Well done amazing Amethyst class, you continue to astonish us daily.

Community

A message from the parents in Ruby Class

The parents of Amora K in Ruby class both work at Nesbit House care home and are Braving the Shave for Macmillan on the 20th November. Charles, Amora's Dad is the Home Manager and her Mum, Teri, is a nurse. They have both worked the whole way through this year making sure residents are cared for. Teri has beautiful long hair as you can see from the picture and we all think she is so brave for doing this for a great cause! <https://bravetheshave.macmillan.org.uk/shavers/nesbit-house-hamberley-care->

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