



Loose Primary School Newsletter



4th December 2020

Headteacher News

It seems unbelievable that we have only 2 weeks left of the term. Although turbulent, difficult and often testing we (as we are sure you are too) are delighted that we can see the festive season in sight. Although very different for many families this year, it is an important time to remember and be thankful for our health and a time to reflect on those in difficulty, poor health and those who are lonely at Christmas time. It is also a time to take time for ourselves, be grateful for the little things as we battle with the struggles of not seeing family members and loved ones. Many of us have not seen those close to us for a long time and it is important to recognise that this is a sad time too. Like many in history, we are making small and big sacrifices daily just to get through the days.

Everywhere you look there are Christmas lights, songs on the radio and TV and we find ourselves as adults reminiscing and thinking of Christmases past and future. The delight of working in school is that children live very much in the here and now. They are just thinking of advent calendar chocolates (whatever happened to the ones just with a picture behind?!), what the elf may do tomorrow and what Father Christmas will be bringing them in 21 sleeps.

The wonder of Christmastime is definitely at Loose for the children, there are wonderful decorations in and around the school and we have our usual trees in the halls. Year 1's - thank you for sharing such amazing learning with us on Google Classrooms and Twitter. You are stars! Yes, many things will be very different this year, but we are very much trying to keep things as normal as we can at school and that is keeping us sane at the moment!

Staffing

I would like to thank staff so very much for showing such perseverance and determination to do so much for the children in this and past weeks. We have had up to 20 staff off daily and this has meant that so many staff have had to miss break or lunchtimes, cover classes, do office cover and much, much more. From our midday supervisor teams, to our admin and site, HR and finance, nurture and wellbeing and class teachers and teaching assistants we are so grateful for all your hard work and efforts. Without the amazing staff at Loose we most definitely, like other schools would have needed to close more classes and bubbles.

Have a lovely weekend and take care of each other.

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 -

- 08 Dec - Year R Nativity being filmed - going to be uploaded to our Loose YouTube website
- 09 Dec - Year R Nativity being filmed - going to be uploaded to our Loose YouTube website
- 11 Dec - Deadline for changes to secondary applications
- 11 Dec - Parent Council Meeting 2.15pm - via Zoom
- 15 Dec - Christmas Lunch - wear a Christmas jumper, hat, antlers etc!
- 17 Dec - Loose's Race to Lapland Merry Mile Event
- 18 Dec - Christmas Services All Saints Church - via Zoom
- 18 Dec - Last day of term - children due back in school on 5th January 2021

Term 3

- 04 Jan - Staff Development Day - children not in school
- 05 Jan - Children return to school
- 11 Jan - Year 6 Magistrates Talk - to be confirmed
- 15 Jan - Deadline for Year R September 2021 Online Applications
- 22 Jan - Non School Uniform Day - more info to follow
- 26 Jan - Turquoise Class Assembly - sorry no parents
- 02 Feb - Aquamarine Class Assembly - sorry no parents
- 09 Feb - Tanzanite Class Assembly - sorry no parents
- 09 Feb - Safer Internet Day
- 10 Feb - Parents Evening Consultation - 4-7pm possible telephone calls - to be confirmed
- 11 Feb - Parents Evening Consultation - 4-7pm possible telephone calls - to be confirmed
- 11 Feb - Last day of term - children return to school on Monday 22nd February

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	Liam E
Opal	Coming soon!	Emerald	Ethan J
Crystal	Coming soon!	Onyx	Ryan D
Diamond	Back soon	Ruby	Amelia H
Sapphire	Back soon	Topaz	Florence H
Moonstone	Back soon	Sunstone	Ivy L
Tanzanite	James A	Amethyst	Jenson K
Aquamarine	Darryl S	Peridot	Neave C
Turquoise	Joey P	Zultanite	Back next week!
Coral	Sonny Y	Quartz	Back next week!
Amber	Ted T		

Race to Lapland

This week our Race To Lapland began! The children within the school have started and we are nearly 150 miles into the journey. An amazing parent made a suggestion and offered lots of support to us about using a Google Form for you to submit any miles completed at home to make it simpler for you. Underneath this message is a link to a Google Form. You simply need to click on the link and complete the short form attached. This will then send your response straight to a spread sheet that will track the completed miles for us. We want to encourage all forms of exercise so you can walk, jog, run, cycle or any form of exercise to complete the miles. Lets achieve something amazing!

<https://forms.gle/sK6nLdBSpq2y3r5V6>



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> or call 119 if no internet access.

If you are asked to self-isolate because you have come into contact with someone who is positive, you need to remain at home for the full 14 days, even if you have had a negative test, as symptoms can take up to 14 days to appear due to the incubation period of the virus.

POTENTIAL IS LIMITLESS

Weekly Attendance

Opal	100.00%	Jade	98.69%
Crystal	99.33%	Emerald	96.21%
Pearl	98.30%	Ruby	95.16%
Diamond	Back Soon	Onyx	97.48%
Sapphire	Back Soon	Topaz	97.19%
Moonstone	Back Soon	Sunstone	98.75%
Tanzanite	92.66%	Amethyst	93.87%
Turquoise	99.32%	Peridot	87.10%
Aquamarine	97.24%	Zultanite	98.32%
Amber	97.50%	Quartz	98.67%
Coral	96.25%		

Whole School Target
96.5%

Whole School Attendance
95.94%

Term 2 House Points Results

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

Christmas Lunch & Christmas Jumper Day

A reminder that all orders and payments for the Christmas lunch on Tuesday 15th December for children in Years 3 to 6 must be done via ParentPay (including those eligible for free school meals) **no later than Wednesday 9th December**. No orders can be accepted after that date as the kitchen needs to do their final order.

Children are invited to wear Christmas jumpers, Santa hats, antlers etc. to school on this Tuesday too!



Christmas Cards and Gifts

Any items brought in for Christmas will need to be brought in by Friday 11 December so they can be quarantined before being given out (14th for Year 1). This includes cards as we have class post boxes and feel it is important that children can get into the festive spirit for the last few weeks of term, in what has been a turbulent year. **Teachers can't pass cards across bubbles so children should only post cards in the box for the children in their own class.**

Year 6 Make Do and Mend

As part of our Year 6 learning linked to WWII, next term we will be embracing the need during the war to 'make do and mend' by upcycling old fabric or items of clothes and making slippers as part of our Design and Technology topic. In order to start this next term, children will need to bring in any fabric/old clothes they are going to use **before the end of this term** so that the fabric can be quarantined over the Christmas break. Think about the thickness of your fabric – it needs to be thick enough to create warm slippers but not too thick that you couldn't push a needle through (the thickness of felt is a good guide). Please make sure material comes into school in a named carrier bag before the last day of term 2.

Year 2

Year 2 have been looking in Science at how they change and grow from babies to children and beyond. We have loved seeing all the baby photos and trying to guess who they are. The word 'cute' and 'ahh' has been used so many times this week. Thank you for supporting our learning in the classroom. Year 2 Team.

Thankyou, thankyou, thankyou!

I am delighted that this week, Ruby Class have received 2 items from the Amazon Wish List. We have 'The Worst Witch' box set AND Onjali Rauf's 'Boy At The Back Of The Class'. Having high quality texts available in class is so very important and we are so excited to get reading! Mrs Muir

YouTube Channel

Loose Primary School now has its own YouTube channel. Along with our EYFS promotional video, we are beginning to add some of the teaching and learning clips being used with our children during isolation. We hope they prove useful to you. Please keep checking back to see new additions. <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCseoa2V1nNfAjfzV7ZCGyA>. Look out for our amazing animals helping us learn!

Bringing in items from home

Can we ask that wherever possible you do not bring in items from home. We are trying to reduce the risks and will ask that any non-essential items are quarantined in the class boxes. If children are struggling with items, they can bring things in a carrier bag (e.g. lunch, bottle etc.)

Assistant Headteacher News

Hi everybody - Mr Farley this week.

I hope you're all keeping well and despite the circumstance we are in, are looking forward to Christmas now we are in December.

Early years are busy preparing for their nativity. This year, we will be recording the nativity and editing it together in a montage, including rehearsals and maybe even some bloopers!

Please remember to send your children in every day with warm clothing now. Although they often get hot running around in the playground and take coats off, class teachers may take children out to explore the grounds during some lessons, so they're always needed. Take care everyone.

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

The PTA would like to send an enormous thank you to everyone who has paid online for the Christmas Gifts to parents. 21 boxes of gifts will be delivered to school today to allow for quarantine over the weekend. Each class will then ensure that the children will have the opportunity to select their gift(s). It is such an exciting time - no peeking when the children bring the gifts home! We hope you like the Christmas cards and gifts that got delivered to school this Week - they looked so charming!

Topaz Class Assembly

Topaz class put on a fantastic 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 road-safety.

The class thoroughly enjoyed reading Stormbreaker last term and have created some incredible work linked to the book, but the story also highlighted the importance of road safety. Road accidents happen every single day on British roads and so Topaz wanted to spread some important messages which are:

1. Always remember to wear your seatbelt.
2. Never distract the driver of any vehicle you are in.
3. Always remember to cross somewhere safe.
4. STOP, LOOK, LISTEN, THINK.

Miss Aplin and Mrs Lerpiniere are so proud of Topaz class, they have worked so hard since September and they did an absolutely brilliant job in their class assembly. It was a massive shame that we were unable to have parents and carers join us to celebrate all their hard work but we have shared some photos on twitter. Well done Topaz class, you should be very proud of yourselves!

Holiday Playscheme Closure

We have taken the very difficult decision to cancel our Holiday Play Scheme this December. We are doing this as a precautionary measure, to prevent further spread and to protect all members of our school community – both staff, children and their extended families. We also had a very low uptake from families so it was going to be difficult to work in bubbles. We are still operating on the 4th January so only bookings that have been made for that date are still going ahead. We do still have a few places available on the date. Should you require a place please email holiday.playscheme@loose-primary.kent.sch.uk.

Extended Services Invoices

Please be advised that the invoices for extended services for this term all need to be settled before we close on the 18th December. Should these not be settled we may not be able to offer you use of the extended services from term 3. Please could I ask you to refer to your Scopay account for any balances outstanding. Any queries can be raised with Mrs Monksfield on 01622 743549 or Lasc.Asc@loose-primary.kent.sch.uk Many thanks.

Parking at King George V Park

We have been asked to remind parents by the Loose Parish Council that they should not use the King George V car park for anything other than pickup and drop off unless they are using the Parish Council facilities. Hirers pay for the use of the Pavilion and should be able to park their cars in the car park when needed.

Laces

If your child has football boots in school that lace up, can you please teach them to tie laces as the sports coaches do not have time to tie lots of laces up before each PE lesson. Thank you.

POTENTIAL IS LIMITLESS