



Loose Primary School Newsletter

11th December 2020



Head of School News

I really cannot quite believe this is my final piece for Loose Primary's newsletter after all these years. So many thoughts and things to say are flowing through my mind. Where do I start?

Firstly, most importantly, I am going to start with what has happened this week in school. As we've mentioned before, the resilience of the children constantly amazes us and they inevitably put smiles on our faces. Those stories of naughty elves are never ending! Although Year 1 are not with us in school we can see on Twitter and through Google Classrooms all the work you are doing. We're looking forward to welcoming you back next week. Unfortunately we have had to close the Year R bubble this week.

We are so proud of our Year R classes who have been practising and filming their production of 'Whoops- A -Daisy Angel'. Christmas in school has to have the Nativity. It is one of the major highlights for me of the year and I know it is for the children and parents. Thank you so much to the YR team and Mr Farley for creatively thinking about how the production could go ahead and ensure special memories are made. I hear the film 'The Nativity' starring Early Years is 'coming soon'!

Loose Primary's journey to Lapland is well on its way now. We've got to £242.50. Special praise to those who are setting themselves personal challenges whilst at home and adding to the miles. We've seen you on Twitter.

Personally, I would like to end by saying that I have had such a memorable time at Loose. I say Loose as I first started at Loose Infant when it was a separate school many years ago. I began as a part-time teacher there and worked with such a caring and dedicated team. I also have had a close family association with the school as my 23-year-old twins were pupils here. What is also special to me is teaching children whose parents I happened to have taught at my previous schools - Molehill Copse and Sutton Valence Primary. You know who you are! Having been in the profession for over 30 years (hoping this does not age me!) I love having the privilege of meeting up with previous pupils and recalling special times. Please say hello when you see me.

Loose Primary truly is a special place to be. The children, staff, parents and volunteers all make it the outstanding school it is. I have worked with inspiring people, past as well as present. I wish to especially mention (but very sadly would never expect to write this) two very special people who dedicated much of their lives to the school yet both tragically and suddenly passed away in the last academic year; Mary Holt- Goldsmith (previous bursar) and Darren Webb, our Executive Headteacher. I personally worked closely with them and it has been a privilege to teach, lead, work with, be supported and learn from them.

With the help of many passionate and committed people both within the school and beyond, the school has continued to go from strength to strength and the opportunities it provides for your children, beyond academic learning such as sport, art and soon to be music, is unique.

The major highlight of my time has to be the people and the teamwork; laughing, sharing, supporting, encouraging and understanding. Residential trips, the sponsored walk, productions including the staff Mamma Mia dance at the Hazlitt and the recent use of 'Now Press Play' are those special moments that make memories. I will not forget every child planting a bulb in memory of Mr Webb and in spring I will be back to look and remember his tremendous vision and influence.

I would like to say a massive thank you to all the staff I have had the pleasure of working alongside over the past 17 years or so; the office teams, teaching teams, support teams and catering & cleaning teams - they have all done their bit to make Loose the place it is today. Loose only works because of all the amazing people front of house and behind the scenes who keep the cogs whirring. I will miss you all.

To the children of Loose, you will all hold a very special place in my heart and I will continue to smile and glow with pride as I hear about you reaching milestones and achieving your dreams.

As I move to follow my new challenge in becoming Headteacher of Hunton Primary School my final message is...

Always remember, if you follow the values of compassion, pride, determination, trust and respect and believe that your potential is limitless you won't go far wrong in life.

I wish you all the joy of the festive season and a peaceful, Happy Christmas.

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 2

- 11 Dec - Deadline for changes to secondary applications
- 11 Dec - Parent Council Meeting 1.15pm - 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
- 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
- 05 Feb - Parent Council Meeting
- 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
- 12 Feb - Staff Training Day - children not in school. Children return to school on Monday 22nd February

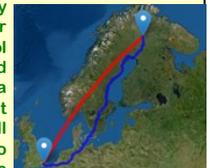
Learners of the Week

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	Sienna K
Opal	Coming soon!	Emerald	Darcy A
Crystal	Coming soon!	Onyx	Sofia M
Diamond	Back soon	Ruby	Cameron N
Sapphire	Back soon	Topaz	Diya B
Moonstone	Back soon	Sunstone	Florence P
Tanzanite	Zane A	Amethyst	Megan S
Aquamarine	Alicia B	Peridot	Ryan C
Turquoise	James D	Zultanite	Jessica I
Coral	Emilia M	Quartz	Luke R
Amber	Ted W		

Race to Lapland

Our race to Lapland has continued this week and what an incredible effort we have seen from the children. We have been amazed by the amount of miles submitting by children at home (over 300 miles!) and we have continued working hard in school covering an incredible amount of miles. We have cleared the 1000 miles mark which is amazing and puts us in a brilliant position to reach the 2322 target we have set ourselves with one big push in the final week. We are still looking for any donations towards our £2500 target so please donate whatever you can via ScoPay so far we have reached £242.50 which is brilliant but we need a big push in the final week to reach our target. All donations for non-school uniform on Thursday 17th December should be paid via ScoPay towards the Race to Lapland. <https://forms.gle/sK6nLdBSpg2v3r5V6>



COVID UPDATE

After we close on the 18th December, where a pupil tests positive for coronavirus (COVID-19), having developed symptoms more than 48 hours since being in school, the school should not be contacted. Parents and carers should follow contact tracing instructions provided by NHS Test and Trace.

POTENTIAL IS LIMITLESS

Weekly Attendance

Opal	99.57%	Jade	94.34%
Crystal	99.17%	Emerald	98.66%
Pearl	100.00%	Ruby	95.42%
Diamond	Back Soon	Onyx	97.67%
Sapphire	Back Soon	Topaz	94.77%
Moonstone	Back Soon	Sunstone	95.31%
Tanzanite	93.40%	Amethyst	90.85%
Turquoise	99.57%	Peridot	91.51%
Aquamarine	99.30%	Zultanite	95.45%
Amber	98.05%	Quartz	98.11%
Coral	95.60%		

Whole School Target
96.5%

Whole School Attendance
XX%

Term 2 House Points Results

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

Christmas Lunch & Christmas Jumper Day - Tuesday 15th December

A reminder that it's the Christmas lunch on Tuesday for those children that have pre-ordered it. All children are invited to wear Christmas jumpers, Santa hats, antlers etc. to school on this Tuesday too!



Christmas Cards and Gifts

A reminder that any items brought in for Christmas will need to be brought in by the end of Monday 14th December so they can be quarantined before being given out. 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.**

PE Term 3 - Years 3 to 6

Next term, we have decided to teach 'Tag Rugby' in all KS2 classes. This will enable children who have purchased boots for 'Football' this term to get maximum use out of them. Please could you make sure your children return to school in January with football boots, shin pads, long football socks and appropriate clothing to keep them warm during their PE sessions. They need a jumper/hoodie and jogging bottoms. Thank you, The PE Team

Bike / Scooter storage

Please note that we provide bike and scooter storage at the side of Orchard building and in Brook playground. Both areas are available for your child to leave their bikes / scooters but please note this is at your own risk as we cannot accept any claims for loss or damage.

Mobile Phones

Likewise, mobile phones brought into school by children are left at their own risk and we cannot accept any claims for loss or damage to them.

Live Concert on Tuesday!

iRock, who do lessons with some children at our school, will be hosting a live stream Christmas concert for schools to enjoy for free. This will be happening on the **15th December at 2pm** and will last approx. **30 minutes**. It's going to be fantastic and their musicians performing are 'top class'! The stream will start at 2pm so any children having to isolate may want to join in at home. Please make sure you click onto the page 5 minutes before! <https://youtu.be/ZpKuQRFAZk>

Tweet iRock! - Please do send pictures into Twitter of your child enjoying the concert. iRock would love to see pictures/videos or your comments about the live stream! Tweet them at @wearirock using the hashtag #irockconcert and don't forget to tag us @LoosePrimary

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.

Assistant Headteacher News

It is Mr Johnson writing to you this week. I wanted to start by saying a huge well done to all those children that have completed miles for Race To Lapland at home. I was so impressed over the weekend seeing children out in their running clothes and getting miles completed. Seeing children really excited about fitness was one of the main drivers behind the Race To Lapland and it has been something that has brought a real buzz to the school over the last few weeks.

Some classes have even set themselves personal class targets - one of the Year 5 classes is aiming to reach Wales!! In a year that has been difficult for us all it is really lovely to see us all working together to achieve something amazing. Keep on getting those miles completed - we can do this! Have a good weekend!

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

Congratulations to this month's Lucky Lotto winner, Chloe Salter! Thank you for supporting the PTA—we hope you enjoy your winnings.

The children have been busy choosing their gifts for their families this week. We were sorry that we couldn't be in school to witness the joy and excitement this year—thank you to the teachers for facilitating it and allowing it happen—it's a special event because the children love it so much! We are thrilled to announce that the Parent / Carer gifts raised £1,500, the Christmas Art project £460 and the Lucky Lotto raised £430. What a wonderful amount despite the limitations of Covid—thank you to everyone for your support!

Mobile Library

Unfortunately the Kent Mobile Library is off the road at the moment so won't be coming in December. Their next visit to Loose will be on Thursday 7th January 2021 and they have increased all current book loan dates until then. See the link below for full information. <https://www.kent.gov.uk/leisure-and-community/libraries/visiting-a-library/mobile-libraries-during-coronavirus>

Nurture at Loose

We are incredibly fortunate to have a Nurture Team here at Loose since September. It didn't start out quite as we had hoped due to Covid, we had grand plans to create a beautiful Nurture room called "The Hive" all set around a bee theme, Bee Kind, Bee Respectful, Bee Amazing etc, but that hasn't stopped us! We continue to support individual children and small groups of children with specific needs such as social and emotional needs, behavioural needs, bereavement and much more but most importantly, we look after every child's well-being and mental health.

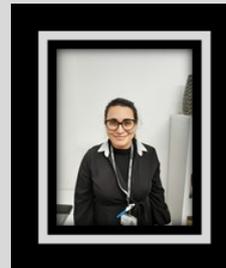
Our Nurture Team consists of myself, Mrs Bremerkamp and Miss Michaelas. We both work closely with all our Teachers and TA's and hand in hand with Mrs Dutch our Families and Community Manager.

We are currently spending time with small groups of children from year group bubbles, hopefully some of your children have been talking about their time spent with us. Working in small groups allows us to carefully select a mixture of children which gives the group time to gain confidence by chatting, taking turns and feeling listened to which in turn boosts their self-esteem so they all enjoy feeling part of the school community.

Many of you are familiar with me but for our newer additions, you will have seen me at the main gate or on the Lancel Lane gate. Please do say hi or drop me a line if you have any concerns regarding your child so we can help them as best we can.



Mrs Linda Bremerkamp
Nurture Lead Teaching Assistant



Miss Jo Michaelas
Nurture Teaching Assistant

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