



Loose Primary School Newsletter



18th December 2020

Headteacher News

As we draw to the end of 2020 it is a time where we can feel some relief that we have actually made it to the end of term with very few cases appearing to affect us at Loose. We would like to thank you all for your positivity and support at this time where we are all struggling to ensure the children at Loose have a fairly normal school life and are not negatively impacted by our own worries about child care and health. Oh to be a child again! We are truly grateful that you have embraced the many changes this year such as staggered start and finish times, different bubbles working together and remote learning. We are all learning together and I am very proud of our school community for ensuring we do the best we can in challenging circumstances.

I would like to personally thank all staff at Loose for their courage and determination to continue to offer excellence at Loose in the best way we can in current times. Often this can be overlooked but without the amazing team here at Loose we would really struggle to have been open with lots of staff needing to care for their own families and making sacrifices to be in school. Thank you all, myself and the children (and their families) appreciate your time and effort very much.

Goodbye

Of course the end of another term means that we say good bye to some staff. Mrs Godson is one of our midday supervisors and is leaving us today after 22 years service at Loose! We thank her so very much for caring for so many children and ensuring lunchtimes are safe and happy ones. 22 years is an incredibly long time to work in one place and we are very grateful for Sue's time and dedication to our school. We wish her all the very best in new ventures and hopefully a rest too!

Mrs Makey of course is leaving us too today after 17 years at Loose. Mrs Makey as you know will start her first headship in January at Hunton Primary School. She has been an incredible support to the school community, this year especially, but over many years particularly with children with SEND and additional needs. Her support for families has been tremendous and we will definitely miss her very very much. We will of course do our very best to uphold her high standards and ensure children and families are well cared for with our developing inclusion and nurture team that Mrs Makey has helped to set up. We wish Mrs Makey the very best of luck in her new role and look forward to keeping in touch with her in the future.

Music Teacher

We are delighted to be able to offer a specialist music teacher to teach all children from next term. Mrs Harris will start working with us in the new year and we will give more information then. Due to covid restrictions she will focus on percussion performances and music appreciation to begin with and also run some after school clubs for selected year groups.

Swimming arrangements

We have made the decision not to offer swimming whilst we are in tier 3 restrictions as this does mean that we need to have volunteers in to help us ensure the children get safely to the pool and changed. As we are planning to have very small groups (up to 6 at a time) this would involve multiple journeys throughout the school so to keep risks low we have not offered it again this term. We do hope that the spring will mean that Y3 children can swim. Due to the delayed start we will not offer Y2 swimming until they are in Y3 for this year.

It leaves me just to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. I hope that you do have some time with family or friends and that you stay safe.

We look forward to seeing you all again on Tuesday 5 January 2021.

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

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	Back next term	Jade	Eniola M
Opal	Back next term	Emerald	Joseph N
Crystal	Back next term	Onyx	Florence G
Diamond	Faye A	Ruby	Jack W
Sapphire	Olivia C	Topaz	Alex P
Moonstone	Zara S	Sunstone	Annie W
Tanzanite	Back next term	Amethyst	Bonnie W
Aquamarine	Back next term	Peridot	Caitlin T
Turquoise	Back next term	Zultanite	Back next term
Coral	Filips M	Quartz	Jonah W
Amber	Abbie W		

Race to Lapland

The Race to Lapland is finished!! What an amazing achievement by everyone involved!! We have completed the 2322 miles from Loose to Lapland with a few extra miles to get us home again so a huge well done to everyone who took part in the race. We had a lovely festive 'Merry-Mile' day on Thursday and it was lovely to see all the children dressed up and enjoying themselves. We have so far raised £910.50 which is brilliant and will help us provide an amazing resource for the school. Please continue to donate what ever you can via Scopay which will be open until the end of the first week back.



COVID UPDATE

For the first 6 days after teaching ends for the Christmas break (19th December – 24th December only), if a pupil or staff member tests positive for coronavirus, **having developed symptoms within 48 hours of being in school**, the school is asked to assist in identifying close contacts and advising self-isolation, as the individual may have been infectious whilst in school.

For the first 6 days of the holiday, if this is the case, please report a positive test by emailing office@loose-primary.kent.sch.uk. Emails will be checked between 9-10am each day up to and including 24th December.

POTENTIAL IS LIMITLESS

Weekly Attendance

Opal	N/A	Jade	100.00%
Crystal	N/A	Emerald	98.97%
Pearl	N/A	Ruby	96.69%
Diamond	100.00%	Onyx	99.52%
Sapphire	100.00%	Topaz	99.07%
Moonstone	100.00%	Sunstone	90.96%
Tanzanite	100.00%	Amethyst	95.83%
Turquoise	100.00%	Peridot	99.45%
Aquamarine	99.32%	Zultanite	96.43%
Amber	98.22%	Quartz	97.10%
Coral	92.63%		

Whole School Target
96.5%

Whole School Attendance
97.94%

Term 2 House Points Winner!

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

Huge congratulations to Donaldson!

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

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. 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 end of the first week back.

School Dinners

Please note that on our first day back at school (Tuesday 5th January) the Contract Dining Company will serve the menu for Monday the 4th of January. From Wednesday the 6th the menu will be as advertised. You can find details of the menu on <https://www.loose-primary.kent.sch.uk/attachments/download.asp?file=6189&type=pdf>

Happy Christmas to all our Volunteers!

In my diary for this week it was meant to be the 'Thank You' party, held for all our special volunteers. Instead, please accept our thank you in this newsletter. We miss you very much and I know how much the staff and children value your help and often listening ear. We sincerely hope that you can come back and support us again when it is safe to do so. Take care and Happy Christmas. Mrs Makey.

Eco council news

Emerald class has organised a class litter pick of the school grounds this week. The eco council has not been able to do this task due to the bubble restrictions and so it has been decided that a class approach would be a good idea at the moment. Emerald class has started things off and grabbed their pickers and gloves and made sure that the school looks spick and span before the term finishes for the Christmas break. Well done Emerald for doing such a thorough job.

Great Fire of London

Year 2 have an exciting term ahead of them learning about The Great fire of London and Samuel Pepys. There will be opportunities for dressing up (see letter sent yesterday) as well as having some fun using our new school Now Press Play equipment, immersing us right into the drama as it unfolds!

Parent Council

Thank you again to our Parent Council for joining us for our last meeting of 2020. You can view all minutes and some information about your class representatives and the purpose of the group here <https://www.loose-primary.kent.sch.uk/page/?title=Parent+Council&pid=92>

Assistant Headteacher News

It is Miss Burman writing to you this week for the final AHT update of 2020. We are edging ever closer to Christmas and all the excitement that brings for us and our families. I know Christmas will be very different for lots of us this year but we know your children are so excited still and that magic of Christmas is still burning bright inside them.

We have had an exciting week in school with the culmination of our Race To Lapland and I am incredibly thankful to the PE Team for organising the event. The money being raised will be used to provide an exciting resource for the school that will promote reading with all of our children and provide them with high quality texts to take home. The reading vending machine is something I am really excited about seeing our children use so thank you for all the money that has been donated it really is so appreciated by the school. I hope all our children and families have the most amazing Christmas and we look forward to seeing you in January.

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>

The Little Princess Trust

Betsy E in Sunstone Class has decided to do something for Christmas to raise money for charity, so is cutting off just over a foot of hair on the 19th December to raise money for The Little Princess Trust. We are really proud of her - she has raised £345 pounds so far which is amazing! If you would like to help Betsy raise even more money then you can click on the following link:- <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/betsy-ellis>

Sports Achiever of the Term

We are please to list below the children that have been nominated as Sports Achievers of the term for their class. Please note we have trialled this, this term and will be rolling this out next term to all year groups. Well done to the children for all their effort and hard work during their PE Lessons.

Amber	Thais C Ophelia M	Coral	Sophia F James P
Jade	Oliver W Eniola M	Onyx	Steven S
Ruby	Tosan O	Emerald	Chloe F
Zultanite	Megan S	Peridot	Neave C
Quartz	Elliot B		

Message from Chair of Governors

Dear parents and carers,

As Term 2 draws to a close, I know that you will all be looking forward to a well-deserved rest and spending quality time with your children.

On behalf of the Loose Primary Local Governing Body, I want to take this opportunity to thank all staff for everything they do for the children, particularly during such unprecedented times. It is an absolute privilege to work with such supportive, caring and enthusiastic people. With the support and guidance of a dedicated leadership team, all staff continually demonstrate their commitment and dedication to creating a happy, safe and educationally exciting environment for all the children.

As Chair of Governors, I would like to say a huge thank you to Mrs Makey who leaves us this term to take on a new Headship. Throughout her time at Loose, Mrs Makey has supported so many children and families and has been an absolute role model. Her passion, commitment and loyalty to Loose is highly admirable. We wish her all the best in her new and exciting adventure.

I would also like to extend our thanks to all our parents, carers and volunteers for their continued support.

Finally, may I take this opportunity of wishing you and your families and the staff at Loose Primary School a Merry Christmas. I sincerely hope that whatever your circumstances, you and your family are able to enjoy the festivities. I hope that you are able to put aside what has been such a challenging year, even if just for a few days, and spend quality time with your loved ones.

Take care,
Sam McMahon – Chair of Governors

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