



# Loose Primary School Newsletter

## 22nd January 2021



### Headteacher News

We are well into term 3 now (and it feels like I am sure I can hear you saying!) and I would like to start by thanking each and every one of you for such positivity and support for our staff and of course your children. We can do this and now we are all settling into a routine things are feeling a little better in the new normal (not sure how many news we are on now!)

#### Remote Learning

Keep checking in with our staff teams who are there to support you and your children during lockdown (or bubble closures). We are trying to keep our critical worker and vulnerable pupils in school as small a group as possible so most of you (70%) are learning from home. Our nurture team are on hand and can call you if you wish to speak to anyone regarding supporting your child at home, health matters or any worries or concerns you have. Mrs Dutch and Mrs Bremerkamp are calling families each day just to check in with them and they can always fit in a few more, so just ask and we are happy to try to help.

Our normal teaching philosophy of 'I do, We do, You do' still applies online. Teachers, when planning learning for pupils, choose modelled examples to share how to complete a calculation, write complex sentences, sketch using a soft pencil, read using phonemes, etc. The children then are encouraged to have a go (normally in class this is together with another pupil or adults) and then are left to independently learn and practice new skills and concepts. We are trying to replicate this online and teachers are mindful to ensure as much learning as possible (especially for older pupils) can be carried out independently whilst so many of you are trying to work from home too.

Feedback from you and the children shows that there are high levels of engagement and that children are enjoying their learning. This is very important to us and we are delighted that the work is just about right in terms of challenge, support and time for learning and to enjoy more relaxing things also at home. Teachers are continually adding new things to ensure the way of learning remotely is fresh (as they would in school) and that children become more involved in their own feedback and marking as time goes on. We find this is the very best way for children to make progress and take responsibility for their own learning – both of which they do very well.

#### Reminders

Read our remote learning protocols and pathways documents here <https://www.loose-primary.kent.sch.uk/page/?title=Home+Learning&pid=139> for more information of how we offer blended learning for all pupils at Loose. Our google classroom support pages can be found here <https://www.loose-primary.kent.sch.uk/page/?title=Google+Classroom&pid=212>

#### Lateral Flow Tests

You may have heard that staff in primary schools will have weekly lateral flow tests in schools from next week. Ours have arrived this week and we will use them to ensure that where staff test positive, they can immediately isolate and help to reduce the risk of spreading COVID to others. This of course may lead to staff absence and bubble closures for key worker and vulnerable children, but we are hoping how we have set up teams of staff to work in year group bubbles, this will have as little impact on learning as we can manage.

#### Behaviour

Our high expectations for behaviour ensure children behave very well at Loose. The Parent Council at our last meeting wanted us to share information about how we ensure this is the case in a newsletter to you. At this time we felt it was most pertinent to share our ladder and ways to use this at home should you wish to encourage your child to do their best at home too and Mr Johnson has shared these resources to help with this earlier this week. Our ladders are key to our policy which is in place at all times (including break and lunchtimes). You can view it here <https://www.loose-primary.kent.sch.uk/page/?title=Policies&pid=106>. This applies also when learning from home remotely. We are delighted to have moved many children (virtually or you may have printed one out already) to the top of the ladder – please do reward your child at home if this happens – and offer praise and encouragement to maintain high standards and a love of learning.

Have a lovely weekend, do take some time for yourselves too – family learning, working and being together all the time for those of you at home is quite exhausting.

Take care  
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 3

- 26 Jan - Turquoise Class Assembly - Postponed
- 02 Feb - Aquamarine Class Assembly - Postponed
- 05 Feb - Parent Council Meeting - via zoom 1.30pm-2.15pm
- 09 Feb - Tanzanite Class Assembly - Postponed
- 09 Feb - Safer Internet Day
- Consultation - 4-7pm zoom or 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 - to be confirmed

#### Screen Brightness

In the spirit of our continued learning, colleagues from a local school have very kindly provided details on how we can adjust the colour, brightness and tint of our screen on both iPads/phones and laptops. This would particularly benefit children that may have dyslexia or those who experience visual discomfort when reading as a coloured filter can reduce the glare enabling children to read for longer periods. <https://www.loose-primary.kent.sch.uk/attachments/download.asp?file=6296&type=pdf>

#### Assemblies

We have started to record assemblies for the children to watch to try and keep a strong sense of community and togetherness during these difficult times. You may have seen some of these already. To make this easier they will be included in the Google Slide presentations that each of our children receive everyday. The assemblies will be on a range of topics and each Friday we will have a special 'Shout Out' assembly similar to our usual Learner of the Week assembly to celebrate children who have worked hard both in school and outside.

#### PTA Uniform Shop

The PTA Uniform Shop is back! All requests for uniform can be emailed to [loosepta@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:loosepta@yahoo.co.uk). If we have your requested items in stock then they will be labelled and delivered to your child's classroom door, so they can bring the items home with them. For pupils not in school these will be kept until they return. All items are £1, except for school jumpers and cardigans, which are £5 each. Stocked items include: school jumpers and cardigans, ties, white school shirts (long and short sleeved), grey trousers, shorts, skirts and pinafores, PE kit items and Loose School grey book bags.

#### Loose's Lockdown Bake Off.

Wow! What an amazing response we've had for this already in the first week. We have had over 60 entries to the competition from across the school which is amazing. Please remember the deadline is Wednesday 27th January which gives you another weekend to get baking and get your entries in. We would love to see as many entries as possible so please keep them coming into to either Brook or Orchard email addresses. Get baking!! Mr Johnson



#### Learning Behaviour Support

We have developed some resources to help support you to encourage positive learning behaviour at home. One of the biggest obstacles with home learning is getting the children in the right mind set. One of the best ways to support them is to use the same behaviour system we use in school which is our behaviour ladder. Please use the resources that you can find by following the link below to help use the system at home to encourage positive learning behaviour. Your child's class teacher and teaching assistants may also use this system when giving your child feedback on their remote learning to reward positive behaviour. Please do contact Mr Johnson via the school office if you need any support with using this at home. <https://www.loose-primary.kent.sch.uk/page/?title=Learning+Behaviour+Support&pid=213>

#### Blue Peter

CBBC have launched [Blue Peter on YouTube](#). Blue Peter is the longest running kids TV show in the world and they are uploading videos to it that are suitable for 5-11 year olds. They have world record breaking challenges, arts and crafts, environmental videos, cooking and baking how tos, inspirational films, gaming, celebrity appearances, dance routines and music performances. They also feature ways of getting a Blue Peter badge, behind the scenes footage and extra content about our incredible presenters Adam, Lindsey, Mwaksy, Richie and Henry the Blue Peter dog. If you think your children would be interested in this they can subscribe to <https://www.youtube.com/bluepeter> - (it's obviously completely free to subscribe!) and don't forget to watch the live programme on CBBC at 5.00pm every Thursday, or on BBC iPlayer.



#### Google Classroom

A huge thank you to all of you for staying so positive about Google Classroom. We have had some lovely feedback from parents already. There will be a 'Google Classroom Help & Tips' zoom session for parents on Monday 25th January at 9am lead by Mrs Oliveri, which will include time for questions. The zoom link for this will be emailed beforehand. There have been a couple of occasions this week where slides have been accidentally deleted from children's Google Classroom assignments. If this does happen please watch the following video to recover the slides. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SeEHwBwp-s>. Miss Chapman and Mrs Oliveri

### Assistant Headteacher News

Hello everyone, it is Mr Hogwood here. I am your new Assistant Headteacher, and I'm also teaching in Quartz Class (remote learning!). I am very happy to have joined Loose Primary School and look forward to getting to know you all in due course. I must say I am very impressed with the children in school and the remote learners, as it is not easy, but you are all rising to the challenge. I would like to thank you as parents for embracing the new technology and supporting the school and your children in engaging in Google Classroom, we could not do it without you. I cannot believe that we are now at the end of week 3, it has flown by for some but seems like an eternity for others. One of my roles at Loose will be focussing on wellbeing, so look out for an assembly next week and further guidance in the coming weeks, plus there are great website links and documents on our website <https://www.loose-primary.kent.sch.uk/page/?title=Wellbeing&pid=144>. Enjoy the weekend, recharge, and rest ready for the week ahead.

**POTENTIAL IS LIMITLESS**