



Loose Primary School Newsletter

11th February 2021



Headteacher News

At the end of quite a short term it is quite amazing to look back on the term that had so many changes in it! We are so grateful to you as parents for your continued support and understanding in what is quite honestly the most difficult of times for everyone. I hope, like we are trying to in school, that you can begin to see a glimmer of hope for next term or at least later in spring when we may be able to get back to some sense of normality again.

With the snow and icy conditions all week we could not believe we had to ask parents again to try to keep their children at home if they possibly could. It is at times like this that we really appreciate you so much as families as yet again you managed to do this wherever you could, so thank you.

Parent council feedback

Please read the full minutes here <https://www.loose-primary.kent.sch.uk/page/?title=Parent+Council&pid=92> It was mentioned at the meeting how tricky it is to find a balance with parents wanting more or less work for their children. We are trying to offer a happy medium and if you wish to have more work for your child please remember that we would point you to Oak Academy or BBC Bitesize TV (we tweet the schedule each week for the following week) to offer additional work to parents where their children wanted to do more or who were worried that they would not have enough to do with no screen time on Wednesdays. Remember that Oak National Academy were paid by the DFE to offer online video lessons that can be accessed for all year groups and many subjects here - https://www.thenational.academy/?gclid=EAlalQobChMhZCAoafa7glVTdTICh3P0w_DEAAYAiAAEgLVpD_BwE There are now over 10,000 lessons and you can set up your own schedule and choose lessons and your child's year group from the main classroom <https://classroom.thenational.academy/> Please note, these do not perfectly match our curriculum, but will be age appropriate for your child if you wish to access this excellent resource.

Remote Learning Google Classrooms

Please remember that we are following government guidelines in the work we set (approx. 3 hours for KS1 children and up to 4 hours for KS2 children each day). This includes the reading, online packages like Bug Club, TTRockstars, Spelling Shed as the slides alone are just the main lessons each day. If you feel like having a day off or just submitting some of the learning please feel free to do so. You are welcome to let your child's teacher know if you wish to or if your child is struggling at all so they can offer additional help if needed.

Google Meets and assemblies

These have been a real hit with staff and children alike. A great way to feel part of the school community and see real people too in this socially distanced world that can be quite isolating at times. The Google Meets have included sharing important things from home, sharing learning, top tips to others, bingo, quizzes, art competitions and much more! Thank you for joining in and embracing the changes in school life that online learning has brought to us.

Education at Home

The online work we provide for your child will be based around what they would have continued to learn while in school. We know it is extremely hard to balance home schooling with work responsibilities, but where possible, if your child can do the work provided, it will greatly help them on their return to school. Remember, to plan in breaks and physical exercise too.

Best Wishes

We know many of us - staff, parents, members of our community and our families may be suffering with Covid or have family and friends suffering. Our best wishes continue to go out to you all.

Well-Being Calls / Contact

Your child will be continuing to receive well-being calls or contact from their year group teams or our nurture team weekly. Please note these may be from a blocked number, not the school telephone, as staff may be working from home when conducting these. Please feel free to have a chat with the member of staff yourself, but it is really important that your child also has a chance to have a chat about their learning or just what they have been doing at home.

Holiday

We do hope you manage to have a break of sorts next week, even if only from home learning. Let's hope that by the time the Easter holidays are here we can meet up with others and see family and friends again.

Have a lovely break.

Do take care of each other and stay safe.

Sarah Holman and the team at Loose

**With trust, we lead
With pride, we act
With respect, we serve
With compassion, we care
and
With determination, we excel**

Dates



Term 3

11 Feb - Last day of term
12 Feb - Staff Training Day - children not in school.

Term 4

22 Feb - Children return to school - children of critical workers/vulnerable children
22-26 Feb - Multicultural Week
01 Mar - National Secondary School Offer Day - emails from 4pm
02 Mar - Sapphire Class Assembly - 11.30am via Google Meet more info to follow
04 Mar - World Book Day
05 Mar - Diamond Class Assembly - 11.30am via Google Meet more info to follow
08-12 Mar - British Science Week
09 Mar - Moonstone Class Assembly - 11.30am via Google Meet more info to follow
19 Mar - Comic Relief Day
19 Mar - Parent Council Meeting - via Zoom 1.30-2.15pm
01 Apr - Easter Services at All Saints Church - virtual service
01 Apr - Last day of term - children return to school 19 April

World Book Day

World Book Day will be taking place on 4th March 2021 this year which means that for many of us it will be a virtual event. This year, we will be continuing our vocabulary parade tradition and encourage you to begin thinking about which word you may wish to represent in costume form! We will be sharing lots more exciting details with you in the weeks ahead but for now we suggest you browse through this fantastic PDF full of creative and original words to get you in-spired: https://www.scholastic.com/content/dam/teachers/blogs/alycia-zimmerman/migrated-files/vparade_frasierwordlist.pdf



Loose in Lockdown - Photography Competition

After our incredibly successful bake off, we want to run another whole school competition. We are going to hold a photography competition for all children in the school. One of our global themes for learning is 'Expressive Arts' and photography is one of the newest forms of arts and something we want to celebrate more here at Loose Primary School. Photography is an amazing past time and something children really enjoy engaging with. It is also a brilliant way to encourage time in the great outdoors, exploring nature and looking for brilliant photograph opportunities. The theme for the competition is nature so photos could be of anything outside and every child in the school can, if they wish to join in, submit one photo to the competition. To submit your photo please send an email titled with your child's name, year group and class e.g Joe Bloggs, Year 1, Diamonds to photography@loose-primary.kent.sch.uk to enter. We want to try and save poor Mrs Thomson and Mrs Little the job of sorting through additional emails. The closing date for entries will be **Wednesday 24th February** which gives you plenty of time over half term to get your photos taken and submit your best one when we return back to school for Term 4. We really hope this is another competition the children really enjoy taking part in. As well as announcing winners via a recorded assembly, we will be using the photos to create a wonderful display in the school where every photo entered will feature. We will be looking to upload some hints and tips via our Twitter stream and on a special 'Photography Competition' section on the school website. Please do contact Mr Johnson or Mrs Furniss via the school office if you have any questions.

Track & Trace

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. Therefore during the term break 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.

PTA News

The PTA have been busy securing prize donations for the Spring raffle and we have some amazing news. Lewis's Fish & Grill, Loose Road, have donated the remaining £1500 needed to fund the book vending machine! This generous offer, along with the money raised from the Race to Lapland means the school can now purchase the machine and stock it with books for the first year. It also means that any other money raised from the raffle can go to other projects for the children! **Thank you so much to business owners Gavin and Craig Lewis - we are overwhelmed by your incredible support for our school!**

Assistant Headteacher News

Hello everyone - Miss Burman here this week!

I feel like myself and the other Assistant Head Teachers are constantly repeating ourselves here but I don't think it can be said enough - we really are so proud of all our students, both those in school and those learning at home, for the resilience they have shown over the past year. I believe that we can learn so much from our children; I know I certainly have, especially since the pandemic struck.

In other news, we have World Book Day coming up after half term and myself and Miss Pye are busily making plans to make the day as special for the children as we possibly can. You will receive more information after half term but in the meantime, please do start to think about your vocabulary costumes!

I would also like to thank you all for getting so involved in our new 'Wellbeing Wednesday' initiative. We had our first one this week and it was a true success. Thank you to those of you who shared pictures via google classrooms/our school Twitter account. It was fantastic to see the children enjoying themselves so much. We will continue to update our website with more activities that don't involve a screen for you and your children to take part in every Wednesday!

POTENTIAL IS LIMITLESS