



Weekly Newsletter 10th December 2021

Headteacher News

What a special time of year it is here at Loose as Christmas approaches. This is the last newsletter of 2021 and we would like to wish you all a very peaceful and Happy Christmas.

As we come to the end of this busy term we would like to thank the children for working incredibly hard. They will be ready for a break and the opportunity to recharge their batteries. We would like to thank all parents for their continued support and also to our volunteers who give their time so willingly. This helps us to attend regular swimming lessons, go on educational trips (when we are able to) and run events to raise funds for the school. We look forward to working with you in the New Year.

These last 2 weeks are just wonderful with exciting Christmas and end of topic events occurring around the school almost every day.

Year R Nativity

Our Year R Christmas performances are always very special events. The children were so excited about performing, 'Whoops- a -Daisy Angel' for you (even though it is a recorded performance); their enthusiasm and enjoyment were matched only by the quality of the performance they gave. Well done to all the Year R children and a huge thank you to the dedicated Year R team who worked so hard to enable the children to perform so successfully and provide wonderful experiences during their first terms at school.

Informing parents of Covid 19

We will no longer be sending out individual class letters to inform parents of individual cases of Covid-19 within a class. We will inform you when any/if any further actions that may be needed within a class or year group. This is in accordance with government guidelines and as a school, we feel is a better way of tracking cases as not to create any unnecessary anxiety amongst our parents and student community.

Goodbye and best wishes

We wish Miss Bonser and Miss Aplin all the very best in their new ventures and we would like to take this opportunity to thank them from everyone at Loose Primary School. We also wish Mrs Spencer our love and best wishes for the imminent birth of her baby. In January Mrs Stockwell will be joining us in Topaz Class, Miss Locke joining Jade Class, Mrs Cottage will lead Aquamarine with Mrs Ellis and Mrs Loudon teaching Tanzanite.

We would also like to thank our Chair of Governors as she takes on a new role in our governing board as associate governor. Mrs McMahon has been instrumental in ensuring the leadership role of governors to support and challenge all we do at Loose. She has been there in the most difficult circumstances over the last few years. Thank you so much Sam, we are so pleased you can remain on our LGB! Peggy Murphy is a previous governor at Loose and a current trustee and she will take the chair role until a new chair takes over. We are very grateful to her for her support and look forward to working closely with Peggy once again next year.

Christmas Jumper Day & Christmas Lunch

Next week, on Tuesday (14 Dec), we have Christmas jumper day and Christmas lunch. We would love the children to wear jumpers over their school uniform, hats, hairbands, antlers etc. No donation is needed. Just join in the fun.

We would also love you to join us for your child's year group carols (separate letter sent earlier this week) if you can make it.

We wish you all the joy of the festive season and look forward to welcoming children back on Wednesday 5th January 2022!

Merry Christmas from Sarah Holman and the team at Loose



Diary Dates

PLEASE NOTE THAT SOME DATES AND EVENTS MAY BE SUBJECT TO CHANGE OR CANCELLATION DUE TO THE CURRENT SITUATION WITH COVID IN SCHOOL. WE WILL KEEP PARENTS/CARERS INFORMED AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE

Term 2

- 13 Dec - Carols to parents in playgrounds 2.30pm - Yr R & Yr 3 - see letter for full info
- 14 Dec - Carols to parents in playgrounds 2.30pm - Yr 1 & Y4 - see letter for full info
- 14 Dec - CDC Christmas Dinner and Christmas Jumper Day
- 15 Dec - Carols to parents in playgrounds 2.30pm - Yr 2 & Yr 5 - see letter for full info
- 16 Dec - Carols to parents in playgrounds 2.30pm - Yr 6 - see letter for full info
- 17 Dec - Last day of term

Term 3

- 04 Jan - Staff Training Day - children not in school
- 05 Jan - Children back to school
- 10 Jan - Year 6 Magistrates Talk
- 21 Jan - Non-uniform Day - more info to follow
- 24 Jan - Fire Safety talks for the whole school
- 25 Jan - Onyx Class Assembly - 9am Orchard Hall families invited
- 01 Feb - Ruby Class Assembly - 9am Orchard Hall families invited
- 02 & 03 Feb - Jade Class Parents evening - more info nearer the time**
- 04 Feb - Parent Council Meeting 2.15pm -3.00pm

08 Feb - Safer Internet Day

08 Feb - Emerald Class Assembly - 9am Orchard Hall families invited

09 Feb - Parents Evening Consultations 4-7pm (except Jade)

10 Feb - Parents Evening Consultation 3.40-6.30pm (except Jade)

10 Feb - Last day of term - children are due back in school on 21st February



Learner of the Week

Diamond - Lilly A

Sapphire - Imogen H/G

Moonstone - Alexis-Rose M

Tanzanite - Reuben C

Aquamarine - Lola O & Jacob S

Turquoise - Harry D

Coral - Henry S

Amber - Tomasz N

Jade - Eric the Elf & Dexter F

Emerald - Theo W

Onyx - Edward W & Mitchell B

Ruby - Pippa T

Topaz - Jude B

Sunstone - Florence W

Amethyst - Robbie H

Peridot - Jack M

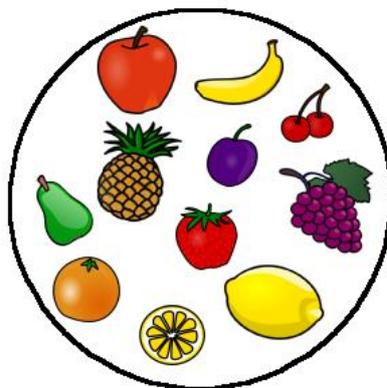
Zultanite - Amelie A & Teagan G/C

Quartz - Caydence P



Healthy Snacks & Water

Over recent weeks, we have seen an increase in children coming to school with squash instead of water in their water bottles and unhealthy snacks for break time. Please could we ensure that all water bottles are filled with water only and that snacks are healthy and nutritious. Thank you.



Thank you to Kingswood Christmas Trees!

We would like to thank Kingswood Christmas Trees for the fabulous trees they donated to the school. Please visit the Kingswood Christmas Tree Farm they have a wonderful selection of Christmas Trees, decorations and Santa's Grotto & reindeer. <http://kingswoodchristmastrees.co.uk>



Extended Services

We are now approaching the last week of term and there are still many debts outstanding for after school, breakfast and homework clubs that need to be cleared by the end of term. ***Please could you make your payments via Scopay by Monday 13th December 2021.*** I have directly contacted those parents that need to clear their balances. If you have any queries relating to your payments please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Monksfield on 01622 743549. Many thanks. School Office.

WhatsApp

We know that we are once again in uncertain times with Covid within the school community and that many of you are discussing your thoughts on WhatsApp. We would encourage you all to be doing this in support to each other. As a school we have no connection to such accounts. These are

personal groups created by parents who wish to join. As a school however, we have been made aware that some class groups have been quite unkind to some individuals (re covid cases, mixing with others unnecessarily, etc) which saddens us all.



September 2022 Year R Admissions

If you have a child due to start in Year R in September 2022 we would advise that online applications are now open for parents wanting to apply. The closing date is midnight on the 17th January 2022. Applications should, where possible, be made online using www.kent.gov.uk/ola. Offer day is 19th April 2022 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.



Assistant Headteacher News

Hello everyone, Mr Hogwood here this week with some very exciting news. I have been trying for months to source a dog for schools charity where we would have a dog come into school and support the wellbeing of our children and staff. This has been discussed extensively at both Governing Body meetings and our school Council, who are very excited! This week I have had contact with Canine Concern <https://canineconcern.co.uk>, a charity who sees the huge benefit of dog visits to schools, care homes and other places. We are very fortunate to have found a volunteer

in the local area that will come into school once a week to hear children read and talk about the dog. The dog is a long haired German Shepherd called Sable.

The Read to Dogs Programme: The children find comfort from the dogs and are able to relax when they are with them and the volunteers, which helps them to become more confident readers who are then able to participate more in school work. Not every dog can do this work, and both dog and human volunteers are carefully assessed prior to becoming a Read to Dogs partner. The aims of the sessions are for children to visit the dog 1:1 with Sable's handler (Bob) and read to her in a designated area of the school.

A full risk assessment has been made and hopefully we will meet Sable very soon in school. Please do get in touch if you have any questions or queries regarding this. We look forward to meeting Sable and Bob very soon.



Inclusion News

We know that technology will really help lift barriers for some of our pupils, especially as they move through their secondary education and beyond, when organisation, independent study and revision skills become more important. We use technology in primary classrooms frequently - the use of the 'visualiser' to help the teacher model the steps to being successful in a task is embedded, as is the use of online quizzes, applications and websites as hooks and memory aids for children as they learn, through our interactive whiteboards.

If parents are interested in finding out more about how technology can develop their childrens' literacy skills in particular, you may want to watch Caroline Bateman's videos (via YouTube, or her website) as she breaks down very clearly how to use free Microsoft functions, such as 'talk to text', and the importance of key-board skills and touch-typing. For Microsoft users who can access web-based versions of Office 365 (office.com), you will be able access all the advantages of 'Im mersive Reader', with a helpful video available at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vSLAOSP_Yrg

As a self-confessed technophobe, I am keen to understand how we might develop our use of technology in school and outside school to support pupils. Please do not hesitate to contact a member of the SEN team if you discover something that we may not have tapped into!

Mrs James - SENCO



PTA Events & Dates

Christmas Presents for Parents and Carers

The children were so excited choosing their gifts this week. Thank you so much to Sam for organising and to her team of volunteers for helping to wrap and help the children select their gifts and all the other behind the scenes work that goes into such a fun event for the children. If you paid by bank transfer and your child was off school, Mrs Dutch has a selection of gifts ready for when they return. If your child will not be out of isolation by the end of term please contact the PTA and we will try and come up with a plan!

Loose Primary School Running Club

Community New Year Return - Sunday 2nd January 2022, £1 to join in, 5km distance but can go longer or shorter! All abilities welcome. Meet at the Anglesey Avenue bus stop, 8am but like our Facebook page in case details change.

Next Meeting Information

We will be meeting on Thursday 13th January, at The Walnut Tree pub (opposite school) for 8pm - our first meeting of the New Year. Come and join us - we would love to see new faces, have new ideas and more pairs of hands to help as and when you can. Please feel free to pop along just to find out more.



House Points

Weekly House Points

1st - Parks

2nd - Curie

3rd - Donaldson

4th - Attenborough

Well done to **Parks** for winning this week!

Term House Points

1st - Curie

2nd - Attenborough

3rd - Donaldson

4th - Parks

Congratulations to **Curie** for being the term 2 winner!!

Contact Us

brook@loose-primary.kent.sch.uk - this is for parents to contact teachers re work/passwords & every day matters etc in KS1 (Year R, 1 & 2)

orchard@loose-primary.kent.sch.uk - this is for parents to contact teachers re work/passwords & every day matters etc in KS2 (Years 3 - 6)

lasc.asc@loose-primary.kent.sch.uk - please use this email address for **ALL** extended services bookings/queries/requests etc. Please do not email the office with these.

office@loose-primary.kent.sch.uk - use this for all other emails and urgent matters

Phone Number 01622 743549

