



Weekly Newsletter 4th February 2022

Headteacher News

This is our last newsletter of the term and we cannot believe how quickly time has flown by.

In what has been an incredibly difficult term to staff classes we are delighted that we have managed, with high pupil and staff absence, to keep classes open and children in school (even if in a bubbled class). We thank you all once again for your understanding and want to assure you that we, even where classes have been taught by various adults, managed as year group teams to ensure learning was planned for by our super staff. Children have again shown their resilience and positive attitudes to school life and are a delight.

Parents evenings are planned next week (although we have just had to postpone Turquoise class to Term 4) and we are doing all we can to staff these and offer you the chance to come into school to see the classrooms and your children's work which they are so proud of.

We are really hoping that next term things will improve (although I feel I have said this previously!) and life in school can be more settled.

Next term

We are hoping that parents can come in to school to collect their children at the end of the day and we plan to resume Friday Learner of the Week assemblies in school too. Of course these are just plans but we really want to just get back to normal whilst not taking too many risks that may mean absence levels increase.

See below for more information about these changes.

Staffing changes

We are delighted to announce that Mr Johnson was appointed as our Deputy Headteacher last week. This means that our senior leadership team will change to be myself as Headteacher, Mr Johnson as Deputy Headteacher and Mr Farley and Mr Hogwood as Assistant Headteachers with Miss Burman returning following her maternity leave at Easter also as a part time Assistant Headteacher with responsibility for Inclusion, working closely with our existing SEN and inclusion team to ensure all our learners are successful.

We are very sorry to be saying goodbye this term to Mrs Allingham who has been a HLTA at Loose for almost 20 years. In that time she has taught hundreds of children, showing her skill and compassion to children of all ages and being the most amazing staff member offering flexibility and adaptability, especially in the last few years where things have literally changed on a daily basis. We wish you the very best of luck Mrs Allingham and although we are sure we will see you again, hope you can have a well-earned rest before you begin new ventures!

Finally, a poignant reminder much needed in challenging times was enjoyed last week by many of us. Any [The Repair Shop](#) fans out there? When we saw that presenter [Jay Blades had courageously made a film about how he had learnt to read at the age of 51](#), many of us made sure we watched it. Seeing Jay struggle was a such a good reminder about the importance of a solid education and I wanted to finish this term thanking all the staff at Loose and within Coppice Primary Partnership for their unwavering support and dedication to making the difference for each and every child. We do not always get things right, but we are incredibly reflective and dedicated to ensuring no stone is left unturned so your children get the best start in life we can offer them. We cannot promise health and attendance in ongoing pandemic times but we can promise we will do our best to continue to work as a team to do the best we can.

Have a lovely break when it gets here!

Sarah Holman and the team at Loose.



IMPORTANT - Term 4 Changes

For term 4 we are looking to try to bring about more normality to school life. We hope this will make drop off and pick up easier for parents and we enjoy welcoming parents back for Learner of the Week assemblies. See below for how this will work.

MORNINGS / DROP OFF

- Lancel Lane - no change to current arrangement, gates open at 8.40 and close at 9am, parents to drop and go as currently. A member of staff will be on the gate as now.
- Main gate (driveway) and attached side gate **not** to be open in the mornings from term 4.
- Year 4/6 gate (junior gate) and Waldron drive gate will be open but not manned by staff. Children using Waldron Drive and Junior (was Year 4/6 gate) gate to come in by themselves. Staff are on duty on playgrounds to supervise as children come straight in (as they do now) from 8.40 - 8.55am. Gates close at 9am and children arriving late need to enter via the main gate, buzzing the intercom for the office staff to sign them in.

AFTERNOONS / COLLECTION

- Lancel Lane as currently. No change. Year R parents to collect as now from classroom doors.
- Main gate (driveway) and attached side gate **not** to be open in the afternoons from term 4.
- Waldron Drive and Junior (by Year 4 classrooms) gates to be opened at 3.15pm and parents allowed on site to collect their children at the end of the school day (3.20pm) or parents can wait offsite as currently. If collecting a junior child parents to wait on Orchard playground. Children in Year 4 leave via their classroom doors, Year 6 from Hive entrance (as now behind Year 4 classrooms), Year 3 and Year 5 children from lower cloakroom (opposite pool). Year 3 and 5 teachers will wait on playground until their children have left. Children will no longer be taken to other gates.
- Please ensure your child knows where you will be collecting them, especially until they get used to the changes. Staff will be able to help them to begin with but ideally children will walk themselves to be collected. All gates close at 3.30 pm so please leave promptly.

Learner Of The Week Assemblies

We have continued these in classes with virtual shout outs to children who have received a certificate for demonstrating our school values. From term 4 these will be in Brook or Orchard Halls on Fridays (Covid permitting) from 9.00-9.30am. Parents of children receiving certificates will be texted to let them know on a Wednesday afternoon. Parents / family members do not need to attend but it is lovely to invite you so you can join us if you are able to. We apologise this gives little notice but we hope this is not too much trouble for parents, but something to celebrate. We have 11 classes in Orchard hall and the other 10 classes in Brook with parents sitting at the back. There is a chance at the end of the assembly for parents to see their child and certificate.

Orchard Hall - Pearl, Diamond, Aquamarine, Turquoise, Amber, Jade, Ruby, Sunstone, Amethyst, Zultanite & Quartz

Brook Hall - Opal, Crystal, Sapphire, Moonstone, Tanzanite, Coral, Emerald, Onyx, Topaz, Peridot

Assistant Headteacher News

Hello, Mr Hogwood here this week with the AHT news. In our school council discussions, we have decided to select a charity to support alongside Canine Concern, our reading dog charity. This charity will be chosen from a short list the school council came up with. Every person in the school community can have a vote. The 7 charities in the shortlist are:

1: Kent Air Ambulance- Each year it costs over £15.2m to keep us running, 86% of which comes from supporters like you. Find out more below about the many ways you can give to our cause.

2: Heart of Kent Hospice: As a local charity independent of the NHS, our services cost £5 million to run, with over £4 million raised through the generosity of our local community.

3: RSPCA: Animals can rely on us to [rescue](#) them when they need us most. To [rehabilitate](#) them wherever possible, provide them with the very best [veterinary care](#) and to find them new homes, either through [rehoming](#) or [release](#).

4: Giggle doctors: The Giggle Doctor programme improves children's experience of hospital, reduces stress and anxiety, increases opportunities for play and improves wellbeing.

5: Royal British Legion: Through the Poppy Appeal they raise money to support the armed forces community.

6: Spinal Muscular Atrophy (SMA) is a complex and rare neuromuscular condition that affects each individual and their family differently and support families with the condition.

7: Team Seas: [#TeamSeas](#) is a global campaign to raise \$30M to remove 30M pounds of plastic and trash from our ocean, rivers and beaches.

Please vote at the following link: <https://forms.gle/iStSH2dZrZ3CPKHE6>

Voting closes 4pm on Tuesday 8th February

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 3

07 Feb & 10 Feb - Tanzanite Class Parents Evening - parents into school

08 Feb - Emerald Class Assembly - 9am in orchard Hall

08 Feb - PTA Meeting Chequers Pub Loose Village 8pm

09 Feb - Onyx Class Assembly 9am Orchard Hall - new date

09 Feb - Parents Evening Consultations 4-7pm (except Jade, Turquoise & Tanzanite) - **parents into school**

10 Feb - Ruby Class Assembly - 9am in Orchard Hall

10 Feb - Parents Evening Consultation 3.40-6.30pm - **parents into school**

10 Feb - Last day of term

11 Feb - Staff Training Day - children not in school

Term 4

21 Feb - Children back to school

24 Feb - Year R Phonics Workshop 9.15am Brook Hall - see letter for more info

01 Mar - Secondary School Offer Day - emails to parents from 4pm

03 Mar - World Book Day - see letter sent to parents

08 Mar - Diamond Class Assembly

14-18 Mar - British Science Week

15 Mar - Sapphire Class Assembly

18 Mar - Parent Council Meeting

22 Mar - Moonstone Class Assembly

01 Apr - Easter Church Services

01 Apr - Open Afternoon - chance to speak to your child's class teacher and look at their learning. Children can be signed out from 2pm onwards

01 Apr - Last day of term - children return to school on 19 April 2022



Learner of the Week

Pearl - Amelia N

Opal - Vinnie C & Tillie R

Crystal - Sophia C

Diamond - Louise B

Sapphire - Ria N & Otilia D

Moonstone - Ida D

Tanzanite - Hermione G

Aquamarine - Aveyah C

Turquoise - Maks W

Coral - Alicia B

Amber - Toby J

Jade - Freya S

Emerald - Isabel G

Onyx - Molly H

Topaz - Rowan G

Sunstone - Charlie B

Amethyst - Andrew W

Peridot - Shannay S & Ella M

Zultanite - Jacob S

Quartz - Daniel H



Holiday Play Scheme Bookings Now Open

A final reminder that bookings can be made online now for the Holiday Play Scheme for the February half term. See the link below.

<https://www.loose-primary.kent.sch.uk/form/?pid=13&form=237>

Eco Traffic Warden Report

Last week the Year 6 Eco Council did traffic wardening on Wednesday 26th. We put a ticket on a car that was parked in front of the driveway. On Thursday 27th a car was blocking the path so mums with buggies could not get past. On our final day Friday 28th there were 2 cars parked on yellow lines and another was up on a path and it was a squeeze to get through.

Report by Peggy D from Quartz Class



Inclusion

Ensuring the mental health, well-being and resilience of our school community is at the forefront of our minds. The 'Place 2 Be - Parenting Smart' is a super online resource that offers practical tips and support for parents on children's wellbeing and behaviour. It's well worth having a look to check out the ideas and support they provide. You will find support on many areas including mealtimes, anxiety, separation and starting a new school. As always, please do get in contact if there is anything we can do as a school to support you.

<https://parentingsmart.place2be.org.uk/>

Many thanks and enjoy the weekend

Jo Black

SEN Team



Hockey

Dulwich Prep invited our Year 3 hockey team to attend a primary school hockey event yesterday. We got to experience playing on a large astroturf pitch (which most have never done before). The children were a credit to the school. Well done everyone!

Results

Loose 0 Marden 1, Loose 0 Goudhurst 4, Loose 2 Sissinghurst 0, Loose 1 Frittenden 1 & Loose 1 Benenden 2

Well done to Ethan B, Wolfie D, Finley M, Toby S, Jax S, Henry S (Coral) & Isaac C, Lucy S (Jade)

Thank you to all the parents for their help with transport and general support, I know the children appreciated it too.

Miss Carter

PTA Events & Dates

PTA February Meeting

You are all invited and welcome to join our next meeting on **Tuesday 8th February, 8pm** at the Chequers pub, Loose village. Come to listen, find out more, chip in or add ideas etc. We would love to see you there.

Spring Raffle Prize Request

Thank you so much for the offers and donations we have received this week. We are still collecting prizes and donations for our forthcoming event - the Spring Raffle to be held in March. So, if you are a business owner - are you able to gift a prize? Do you know anyone or have any links to people who might provide a great prize? If so, please email the PTA - loosepta@yahoo.co.uk. Many thanks

Loose Primary School Running Club

Community run next date - Sunday 6th February 2022, £1 to join in, 5km distance but can go longer or shorter! All abilities welcome. Meet at the Anglesey Avenue bus stop, 8am or outside school 9am for a slightly later start!

PTA Uniform Shop

Open Wednesdays 8.40am-9.00am. Entrance via Moonstone class to Owl room. Please wear a mask.

Numerous school uniform items available £5 and £1. Donations also accepted at this time - please ensure these are clean and in good condition.



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

