



Newsletter Friday 5th January 2024

Headteacher News

Happy New Year and welcome back. I hope that the community has had a restful break. I am sure there were moments of peace amongst the frenzy of the festive season but, if yours was anything like mine, they were few and far between.

We finished the term so beautifully with our Christmas service. The children were wonderful and having such a strong sense of community with the high numbers of people attending made it even more special and memorable for the children and staff. Again, just another thank you to the team in preparing this and making it work so well.

So , welcome back! We have already started with a great training day for the team. The three schools of the trust got together and had a day with Action Jackson; the UK ambassador for happiness. He was fantastic and shared some great insight into well being for ourselves and the pupils. he really got us to think about how we keep our cups full and making time to do so. For me, I'm really going to focus on the

health cup and have committed to drinking water and eating more fruit! How about you? I'm hoping to get him booked in here for the children so watch this space.

This week we have thought about being brave, being the first and being determined to achieve our ambitions for ourselves. We spoke about Snowdrops being the first flower of spring and how brave it is to poke its head out in the cold and inspire other flowers to do the same. Do take a look if you would like to.. it's a lovely little story. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/school-radio/assemblies-ks1-ks2-new-year-the-snowdrop-new-beginnings/z8x3n9q> The children also shared some of their ambitions for the year.. one of them told us he wanted to travel the world. We might join him!

I must say the school is feeling amazingly calm and focused given the excitement and business of the holiday. The children have been saying hello and wishing me a happy new year which really brings a smile to my face.

There have been a few staff changes over the holiday so I thought it would be nice for you to know where.

In Year R, Mr. Fellows has joined us to create some capacity for Mrs. Oliveri to coach and develop the whole EYFS team so that we can continue to develop the excellent practice. She will now be working three days a week. He has really settled in well and the children are warming to a new face well.

In Year 2, Mrs. Way is still recovering from an operation so Mrs. Wilson will remain supporting while this happens. We are super thankful for this. We have also had Miss Brook join us in Year 2 and is building on the good work started by Mrs. Woods.

At the end of last term Holly Bassett joined the support staff team supporting in Year 3.

I'm really excited about the term ahead and look forward to seeing your children flourish here at Loose.

Happy New year.

Mr. Trevor North



Assistant Headteacher News

Happy New Year and it was good to see all the children back on Wednesday for the start of term. Even though it is a shorter term, there is lots of exciting things to look forward to.

As I wrote in my last piece I am running the London Marathon on Sunday 21st April for the fantastic charity Whizzkids (<https://www.whizz-kidz.org.uk/>) who provide opportunities and equipment for children in wheelchairs. Training is going well and I am keep the miles going! I do have a Just Giving page and if you can donate anything for this cause, I would be very grateful. In March I am organising a mini-marathon fun run for the whole school to participate in so watch this space for further information and how you could help!

https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/chris-hogwood-tcs-london-marathon-2024-charity-place?utm_source=copyLink&utm_medium=fundraising&utm_content=chris-hogwood-tcs-london-marathon-2024-charity-place&utm_campaign=pfp-share&utm_term=d4918dc85db84a34a4999f4478c3aee0

Children's mental health week is coming up from 5th to 9th February, where we will be having a focus on the theme of 'My Voice Matters!' Miss Wood and I will be planning some exciting activities where the children's voices will be given a platform to express themselves; there might even be a twitter takeover by the children!

As a prelude to this on Thursday 25th and Friday 26th January, we have Captain Wonderweb and the Esteem machine coming to share some useful strategies to support physical and mental health, this initiative is commissioned by the NHS so is free to the school. We are very excited to have this celebrating healthy bodies and healthy minds.



Job Vacancies at Loose & Coxheath

A New Year always inspires thoughts of change. Are you looking for a new role? Do you want to make a difference to your local community school? Do you have a passion for creative learning and brilliant schools? If you are looking for a new job or want to talk to use about our vacancies here at Loose or

Coxheath, please do check out the links below. We are recruiting for support staff to join our passionate team here in making sure potential is limitless for everyone.

Please see the link below for job vacancies at Loose Primary.

<https://www.kent-teach.com/Recruitment/Vacancy/VacancyDetails.aspx?VacancyId=127520>

Please see link below to vacancy at Coxheath Primary School.

<https://www.kent-teach.com/Recruitment/Vacancy/VacancyDetails.aspx?VacancyId=127546>



Year R Admissions September 2024 - Deadline 15th January

If you have a child due to start in Year R in September 2024 we would advise that online applications are now open for parents wanting to apply. **The closing date is midnight on the 15th January 2024.** Applications be should made online. Offer day is 16th April 2024 where you will be offered a school for your child.

Please see link below for full details and for the link to make your application. There is also a booklet with lots more information for parents to read.

<https://www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-children/schools/school-places/primary-school-places#tab-2>

If you have any queries, please contact Mrs Thomson in the school office.

Diary Dates

Term 3

15 Jan - Shaun the Sheep Assembly KS1

15 Jan - Deadline for new Year R application for September 2024 Intake

16 Jan - Shaun the Sheep Assembly KS2

23 Jan - Sunstone Class Assembly 9am Orchard Hall - families invited

25 & 26 Jan - Captain Wonderweb & the Esteem Machine workshops for whole school

30 Jan - Young Voices Trip for choir

30 Jan - Topaz Class Assembly 9am Orchard Hall - families invited

05 Feb - Onyx Art Exhibition - Landmarks - more info to follow

06 Feb - Safer Internet Day

06 Feb - Amethyst Class Assembly 9am Orchard Hall - families invited

06 Feb - Ruby Art Exhibition - Landmarks - more info to follow

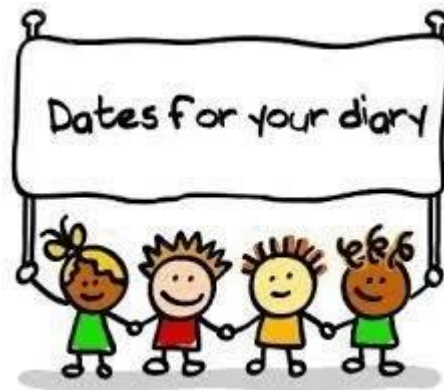
07 Feb - Parents Evening Consultations 4-7pm

07 Feb - Parents in to watch the Young Voices Choir performance - more info to follow

07 Feb - Emerald Art Exhibition - Landmarks - more info to follow

08 Feb - Parents Evening Consultations - 3.40pm-6.30pm

09 Feb - Last day of term - children return to school Monday 19th February



Space to be me

Space to be me is a local charity offering parents and carers 1:1 family support which can be accessed by completing a short online form with the option of directly booking a 30-minute **clinic appointment** or waiting to be contacted by the team of highly skilled Family Support Workers.

The team offer their time and expertise to parents and carers who have specific concerns about their child or who maybe just need a little extra help themselves.

Please use the link below for further details <https://space2beme.org.uk/services/family-support/>



Magazines Wanted!

Do you have magazines at home that you have read and no longer need? If so, they could be turned into an art collage resource! Several year groups use magazines as part of their art learning so please can you send in any suitable magazines (children's ones, gardening, craft, food, Good Housekeeping, sport etc) for the attention of Mrs Planck who will put them to good use. This is an on-going request so please feel free to drop them off any time. Many thanks, Mrs Planck, Resident Artist.

Shout Outs

Well done to Zara S in Emerald Class who did amazingly well in her pantomime performances throughout November and December. Lots of her friends at Loose came to watch her. She got to fly every night next to Peter Pan!



The Contented Child Parent Workshop

SUPPORTING AND EMPOWERING YOUR ANXIOUS CHILD ST JOHN'S PRIMARY SCHOOL, PROVENDER WAY, BEARSTED

23 JANUARY 2024 9.30AM - 11.30AM £10 per person YOUR FACILITATOR - NIKI GREEN

'Anxiety is a thin stream of fears trickling through the mind. If encouraged, it cuts a channel into which all other thoughts are drained.'

Arthur Somers Roche

Since Covid 19 we have seen a dramatic rise in young people experiencing anxiety. The daily pressures on our children are increasing from targets and testing in the classroom to the rise of pressure advertising and social media. For many of our children the world, or certain aspects of it, is overwhelming, complex and scary.

From separation and social anxiety to performance and health anxiety, an increasing number of children now benefit from direct support to manage their worries.

This workshop will introduce you to the current thinking around children's anxiety and move onto exploring ways to support young people to manage their anxiety more. Strategy led and with a useful resource pack we aim to help you support your child moving forward.

PARENT REVIEW

'I was amazed by how many parents are experiencing the same types of anxiety issues in our children, made you feel like you were not alone. I have searched the internet myself for solutions but Niki, the trainer gave us some great techniques and tools to try and recommended resources such as books, tools and exercises. Also useful is how Niki explained how anxiety affects the different parts of the brain and how this translates into my child's brain, made me think of when I really see my daughter struggling with her anxiety.

Totally recommend, great value'.

BOOKING LINK

<https://thecontentedchild.co.uk/event/supporting-and-empowering-your-anxious-child/>

Find us on Facebook and Instagram.



The Contented Child

Kent Locality Model for SEN Inclusion

We would like to draw your attention to a live full public consultation for parents, schools, stakeholders, charities and other services known as the 'Localities model for SEN Inclusion' which **closes on the 24th January 2024**. This is your opportunity to have your voices heard in a level playing field.

Kent are proposing to establish a Locality Model for Special Educational Needs (SEN) Inclusion in Kent, to help drive necessary countywide improvements to mainstream inclusion and education, for children and young people aged 5 to 16 years old with SEN. It seeks to raise the profile of SEN Inclusion and the benefits of children with SEN being educated with their peers.

The proposed Model, would mean:-

- SEN support and services being accessed and delivered in a new way
- Children's needs being identified accurately and assessed in a timely and effective way.
- KCC, schools, the NHS and other SEN service providers working together locally to secure improvements
- Helping all pupils to thrive at school
- Helping parents to have confidence in a mainstream offer for their child.

Should you wish to read the consultation document the link below will take you to an easy read option and the more detailed document.

www.kent.gov.uk/localitymodel

Once you have read and considered the proposal you can create an account and complete the questionnaire. The account creation is a quick and easy process.

Thank you for taking the time to look at and read this.

Jo Black

(SENCo)

Correct Contact Details

extended.services@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.

absence@loose-primary.kent.sch.uk - please use this email for all absence related matters including illness and hospital appointments and holiday notifications.

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

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