



LANCHESTER E.P. (Cont.) PRIMARY SCHOOL



Weekly Bulletin 4 – Friday 1st February 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am delighted to inform you that we have been awarded the Silver Level of the National SMSC (Social, Moral, Spiritual and Cultural) Quality Mark. The assessor visited our school last Tuesday and met with governors, parents, children and staff when assessing our school. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all our parents who freely gave up their time to talk to the assessor as well as our children who were their usual delightful, honest and eloquent selves! Thanks also to Mrs Coyle who has led this and been instrumental in our success. Please read the extract of the report received this week:

Strengths of the school's SMSC development:

It is very clear that there is an assortment of SMSC related strengths at Lanchester Endowed Parochial Primary; the following are a few examples that particularly stood out:

- You have a very welcoming atmosphere/culture. Your ethos and school values in practice are SMSC in action; demonstrating that your mission statement truly is owned and applied by all. This was very strongly supported by the feedback from the members of your school community that I met.
- The Erasmus programme is superb – what a wealth of amazing opportunities it provides.
- Your weekly use of 'Picture News' is a great way to facilitate discussion and provide clarity to the pupils in relation to the (sometimes scary) world in which they live.
- Home-School links and communication with parents/carers are strong.
- The following list of words used by your school community to describe your school is something to feel proud of:

Inclusive, Aspirational, Respectful, Morals, Nurturing, Family, Outstanding, Phenomenal, Fair, Spectacular, Kind, Togetherness, Caring, Friendly, Togetherness, Sensational
....and I'm sure the list goes on!

Areas for development:

- Place a visitor's feedback book in the reception area along with the portfolios that you plan to develop and display.
- Investigate 'Eco-Schools' as a way of getting recognition for the recycling/environmental work that is already taking place. [www.eco-schools.org.uk]
- Develop a mechanism to enable your Pupil Leaders/School Council to communicate with Governors.

Tuesday 5th February 2019 – Chinese New Year Workshops for KS2

Our KS2 children will be welcoming Yumei Hsu into school on Tuesday who will be leading some workshops for Years 3-6. All children will be taking part in a number of activities all linked to Chinese New Year.

Tuesday 5th February 2019

We are looking forward to welcoming Revd Earle into school on Tuesday morning to lead Worship for the whole school.

Wednesday 6th February 2019 – Polish Workshops for KS1

Our KS1 will be welcoming Madga Palucha into school on Wednesday morning for some Polish dragon making activities. Hopefully they will tell you all about what they have done at home!

Thursday 7th February 2019 – School Discos

Our termly discos organised by The Friends of the School will be held on Thursday 7th February. The first one takes place from 3.20pm to 4.30pm and is for our Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 children. This is then followed by our KS2 disco from 4.45pm until 6pm for Years 3, 4 5 & 6 children. The younger children will be helped to change into their

disco clothes at the end of the school day and if the older children want to stay in school, just book them into After School Club!

Thursday 7th February 2019 – Booking closes on eSchools for Parents' Evenings

Please remember to book a Parents' Evening appointment with your child's teacher before this date, as slots are filling up quickly. If you are unable to do it via your eSchools log in, please call in to the School Office, or email us and we can book an appointment for you.

Sickness and Diarrhoea

I would just like to remind you that all children need to remain absent from school for at least 48 hours after any bout of sickness or diarrhoea. This is the recommendation by the Health Authority to try to control any spread of infection. As you can imagine, with so many young children, germs can be spread very easily. Whilst we realise this rule may cause childcare issues, we want to avoid an epidemic at this time of the year. One poorly child can spread their germs to many in a single day.

Foundation Stage News

To support the children's independence in Foundation Stage, could you please ensure that their shoes, clothes, wellies, gloves, hat and bags are all clearly marked with their names? We have over 120 children to oversee and that makes a lot of odd gloves to sort out! It would really help if Nursery parents could check at home time that their child's wellies are paired up beside their coat peg (either in the box above their peg or under the bench) to make it easier for them to find them in the next session. Little hands find it difficult to hang up coats on pegs, so please consider attaching a loop of string or a bobble to the loop sewn into their coats to support them. Coats hung up on hoods too easily get knocked off pegs and mixed up! Thank you.

Next Wednesday (6th Feb), children in Nursery will be having a Chinese New Year Celebration, so they are invited to come in their own clothes. A red and gold theme would be lovely but your child can wear whatever is comfortable for them. We hope to have some delicious Chinese snacks, dance to some traditional music and perform a Dragon Dance amongst other fun activities!

Look out for a letter coming home next week about an exciting trip on Beamish's new Teddy Bear Tram Experience for the Nursery children! The trips will happen on Wednesday 6th and Wednesday 13th March and we will be looking for some adults to support us for the half day visits. We are also in the process of organising a Spring trip for the Reception classes. More details to follow.

After a slight change in timetable, Reception's PE day is now on a Monday for both classes.

A reminder to Nursery parents that the group plan and story plan for each week are displayed on the Welcome Board. Please feel free to have a look to see what your child will be doing with us in Nursery. Don't forget to follow us on Twitter @LanchesterEP for daily updates on the things we do. When your child says they have 'just played', they are in fact very, very busy with us!

A final plea... please, please discourage your child from bringing in toys from home. We understand that some children need a comfort item, and this can be discussed with your child's teacher, but bags full of toys can and do cause a problem. Conversely, we are losing a lot of equipment from school that goes home in pockets. Please remind your child that school equipment needs to stay in school. All the little things add up and cost a lot to replace!! Thank you so much for your support.

Best Wishes,

Mrs Jane Davis

Mrs Jane Davis
Head Teacher