



LANCHESTER E.P. (Cont.) PRIMARY SCHOOL



Weekly Bulletin 3: Friday 7th May 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

I am sure you will all agree that the weather this week has just been totally bizarre! Why does it always happen at home time too – I am sure you will all have been drenched this week with those hailstones! Let's just hope the temperatures start to pick up and it starts to feel like May soon!

It is hard to believe that our Year 6 children should have been taking their statutory tests next week if life had been 'normal'. This is the second year they have been cancelled and I know that whilst many children are delighted, there are also many children who are disappointed, as they like to challenge themselves and prove how much progress they have made.

However, what we are trying to instil into the children is that actually, the most important thing to us is that they leave us as good citizens with a solid foundation of core Christian values such as compassion, love and trust. Being a 'caring, kind and compassionate' person is so much more important than good SATs results. We hope they remember this as they continue to enjoy their last few weeks with us.

Monday 10th May - Year 6 Breakfasts

We are still treating Year 6 to a week of rather tasty breakfasts next week! This has become a school tradition and is something which all the Year 6 children look forward to as part of their SATs week. We thought they still deserved this treat, even though they aren't completing the SATs! So, at 9am every morning next week, they will enjoy a tasty treat for their breakfast. I am sure you will be treated to a share of photos of it all on Twitter!

Tuesday 11th May – Space Day in Reception

Our Reception children have an exciting 'Space Day' planned on Tuesday with Mr Bailey and the Reception Team. They will have a variety of practical activities which they will enjoy throughout the day. I am sure you will see lots on Twitter and also hope that they will tell you all about it at the end of the day!

Tuesday 11th May - Year 2 Meet the Teacher with Mr Innes

Mr Innes will be hosting a Meet the Teacher session at both 3.45pm which will then be repeated at 4.30pm. This will follow the same format as the Meet the Teacher presentations which normally take place in September, but we just thought it would be nice for parents of his class to be able to meet him virtually and get to know a little more about him and his plans for the children and class over the next term. Please just click on the link below – it is the same link for both meetings:

<https://zoom.us/j/91032939813?pwd=Tk9pZTh2cnd1b2tMaEFVMkxyT1ArZz09>

Wednesday 12th May – Mr Stephenson's Class at Jarrow Hall

On Wednesday, Mr Stephenson's class will be visiting Jarrow Hall as part of their History work this half term. All children are asked to wear old jogging bottoms and either wellies or sturdy outdoor shoes. They will need to wear a school jumper. Children will also need to take a rain coat as they will be outside and may need sun hats and sunscreen depending on the weather although it currently looks as though wellingtons would be the better option! Please ensure all children have a coat – it is amazing how many children still come to school with only their school sweatshirts!

All children will also need a packed lunch. If you are entitled to Free School Meals and would like us to provide you with a packed lunch, please just email the School Office no later than Monday at 4pm.

Thursday 13th May – Mrs Grayson's Class at Jarrow Hall

On Thursday, Mrs Grayson's class will be at Jarrow Hall and their trip will be identical to that which has taken place the day before. Please refer to the information above which is exactly the same for Mrs Grayson's class.

Friday 14th May – Year 6 Pizza Lunch

On Friday, we will be treating Year 6 to a pizza lunch from the village! Usually, we would take them to the restaurant, but obviously that is not currently permitted. So instead, we will pick up the pizzas and they will be able to enjoy their pizzas either in the classrooms, or hopefully, sitting outside on the grass!

Saturday 22nd May – 12pm – The Northern Saints’ Trail Pilgrimage

Some of our children will be singing and sharing our banner at this event which will take place around mid-day on Saturday 22nd May. More information will be shared next week, but please keep this date and time free, if at all possible. It will be a wonderful occasion when we will all be able to share in some worship with Bishops Paul, Sarah, Christine and Mark. It will just be wonderful to be able to be part of this wonderful celebration.

Class Photographs

Your child should come home this week (it may be today) with a proof of their class photo that was taken by Phototronics last week in school. Inside there is a form to complete if you would like to order a copy. These will need to be completed and returned to school, either with your child or handed into the School Office. Please make sure that the order has your child's name on it and that all orders are sealed. We recommend paying either by cheque or with your card details. However, if you pay by cash please make sure that this is securely in the envelope with the order form. The school office does not check who has handed orders in or how they have been paid for - if money is not securely in an envelope with the order then you may not get your photograph order and there will be no way for you or us to trace/prove whether this amount was sent to the company - by suggesting you do not pay in cash we are trying to protect you and your money.

You will notice that the form provided with your photograph proof asks for you to provide your cards security number (otherwise known as the CVC code - the 3 digits on the back of your card). Part of the Visa rules state that merchants are not allowed to ask for this on a written form and writing this down can expose you to fraud. We have flagged this up with the company, along with the fact that the form they are using is outdated, but please be aware that you should not need to fill this information in.

New Reception Starters for September 2021

A letter will be sent to all parents of our new starters for September at the beginning of next week. The letter will include all the information you need for the New Starters Meeting, Transition Days and September. Please look out for this which will be sent via email. Thank you.

COVID-19 Information

Please remember that if your child displays any of the key symptoms of COVID-19 whilst they are in school (a high temperature/raised from what it usually is, a new and persistent cough, a loss or change in the sense of taste or smell) you will be contacted to come and collect them and they will not be able to come back into school until they have a negative PCR test result or have completed their period of isolation (if they get a positive result). If your child has siblings, they will also need to be collected at the same time.

Whilst we understand this may be frustrating, please remember that we are only doing our job and trying to keep the community safe. We are not medical professionals; we can only stick to the guidelines we have been given.

If your child has COVID-19 symptoms or needs to isolate, please make sure you let the school office know either via email or on the absence line – this information is important as whilst most of the time it is a false alarm, it enables us to be prepared if there ever was a case in school and we had to send other children or staff home. Likewise, if a child tests positive on an evening or during a weekend, please email Mrs Davis on j.davis@lanchesterep.net with the email subject ‘COVID-19 Positive Result’ and include your child’s name and class group in the email text.

Please also remember that LFT tests can be ordered for all adults to take at home. Just click on the link for more information about this: <http://www.durham.gov.uk/CovidLFT>

Positive Thinking

***We can complain because rose bushes have thorns,
Or rejoice that thorns have roses.***

As usual, if there is anything at all that you would like to talk about, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Yours sincerely,

Jane Davis

Mrs Jane Davis
(Head Teacher)