



# LANCHESTER E.P. (Cont.) PRIMARY SCHOOL



Weekly Bulletin 3 – Friday 28<sup>th</sup> September 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

I would just like to thank you all so much for your wonderful support during our Ofsted inspection this week – it meant so much to us all. We were so touched with the many messages of support and positivity from you all, as well as the letters and comments sent into the inspectors. We also appreciated so many of you completing parent view and taking the time to complete the pupil questionnaires with your children. Your support of our work with your children, really is a strength of our school. The outcome of the inspection remains confidential until the letter is published on the Ofsted website which should be before the end of this half term. Obviously, when we receive the letter in school, we will share it with you.

### **Mr McLoughlin – Parental Leave**

Mr McLoughlin will be taking shared parental leave after October half term. As many of you know, his baby was born earlier this year and he has decided to take three months of parental leave. This means that he will not be in school next half term leading up to Christmas. During the first half term after Christmas, he will be working one day a week carrying out statutory meetings and reviews for children with special educational needs. He will return to full-time work after February half term. I am sure you will wish him all the best during this time.

However, we have ensured there is good continuity for his class as Mrs Pat Riddell will be taking over his teaching responsibilities. Mrs Riddell already works part time in Reception and teaches Mr McLoughlin's class for a day every week so the children are familiar with her. Mrs Riddell will also be present for the Parents' Evenings during the last week of this half term which gives all parents the opportunity of meeting her more formally. Mrs Davis and Mr Knighton will be the main point of contact for any questions about SEND during this time. If you have any questions about this, please do not hesitate to contact me.

### **Reading Creativity Week and Book Fair**

The whole school will be enjoying a variety of reading activities next week to help foster their love of reading. In addition to this, the book fair will be open from Tuesday every day after school at 3.15 pm until 4pm in the Junior Hall. This is always very popular with the children as they stock a great range of children's books. The children will have the opportunity to visit the book fair during the week with their teacher.

### **Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2018 - Athlete in School and Sponsored Event**

We are all looking forward to Sally Scott, an Olympic athlete joining us in school for the day on Tuesday. All children from Year 1 – Year 6 will be taking part in a fun fitness circuit and some fun sporting activities. All children were given sponsor forms last week to try to raise money to both support GB athletes to compete for our country and raise money for new sports equipment in school. I am sure it will be a special day and one which all children will enjoy.

### **Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> October - Friends of the School Meeting at 6pm**

The Friends of the School are holding their October meeting on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> October at 6pm. Please come along, enjoy some companionship and friendship. We will be talking about our forthcoming events as well as ideas for new events. We look forward to seeing you there.

### **Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> October – Reception Transport Trip Group 2**

After the success of the first of the Reception Transport trips this week, it is the turn of the first of Mrs Burke's groups to go off on their own adventure. I'm sure they will have another fantastic time – keep your eyes on our twitter feed to see what they get up to on the day.

### **Wednesday and Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> October - Play in a Day for Year 4**

Our Year 4 children will be enjoying a Play in a Day on Wednesday and Thursday next week. Mrs Grayson's class will have theirs on Wednesday and Miss Jackson's on Thursday. There is also the opportunity for parents to come and watch the play at 2.45pm each day so if you can make it, please come along.

### **Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> October – Special Lunch**

On Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> October we are inviting all pupils who usually have packed lunch to join us for a special menu inspired by the Fun Fair. Please see the attached letter for details and to choose your child's menu for the day.

### **Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> October – Online Safety Workshop for Parents**

On Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> October at 9.15am and 6pm, Mr Bailey is holding an online safety workshop for all parents and children in the Junior Hall. This is such an important and very topical subject and one which I know you will all find very useful.

### **Friday 5<sup>th</sup> October - Emotional Resilience Workshops**

Year 6 will be participating in two workshops which aim to boost their emotional resilience on Friday afternoon which are led by Samuel de Lange from The Striker Boy Campaign. He is travelling up from London in order to work with our children and I am very grateful for this as I am sure they will all get a lot from it.

### **Friday 5<sup>th</sup> October - MacMillan Coffee Afternoon**

We are holding a coffee afternoon on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> October from 2.30pm until 4pm. This is in aid of the MacMillan Appeal which is always a very worthwhile cause. We will also be having a cake stall and any contributions will be gratefully received. The book fair will also be open during the coffee afternoon. Please come along, enjoy a drink and some social time together.

### **Friday 5<sup>th</sup> October – FootyAid Day**

We are asking all children and adults to come to school dressed in their football kits/shirts or non-uniform in exchange for £1 donation. All money raised will go towards the Mind Charity (mental health) which I am sure you will all agree, is a very worthy cause.

### **Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> October – EduFootyAid Family Fun Day – 12pm until 5pm**

We are all looking forward to our family fun day on Saturday. Come along and enjoy some fairground rides, side stalls and watch some of our staff take part in the North vs South football match! It is going to be a great occasion with many teachers travelling hundreds of miles in order to take part. The football match kicks off at 2pm when Mr Knighton, Mr Stephenson, Mr Bailey and Mr Mordue will be testing out their footballing skills! Refreshments will be on sale all throughout the event and the rides will still be open while the match takes place.

The Striker Boy campaign will be there in full force with lots of support for the event from national educational computing companies including the Times Educational Supplement and 2Simple. We look forward to seeing you there.

### **Parents' Evening Bookings**

Bookings for the parents' evenings during the last week of the half term will open on eSchools next week. Please make all bookings via the eSchools system for pupils in Reception – Year 6. Nursery parents will be able to book parents meetings with their child's keyworker from the week beginning 8<sup>th</sup> October. Thank you.

### **Foundation Stage News**

Thanks to all those who attended our Phonics and Maths workshops this week. We hope you found the sessions useful and informative. If anyone else would like a copy of the Phonics Tracker, please see Mrs Burke or you can also find it on our website.

Look out for a note coming home to Nursery Parents about your child's group and Key Worker. Apologies for the time this has taken, but we really try our best to organise our groups to suit the mix of personalities.

Over the next few weeks you will start to hear about your child's achievements at school via our online journals. Please ensure we have the correct email address for you on our system so you receive fortnightly updates about what they have been up to in school.

We are continually trying to add to our collection of loose parts for open ended play outdoors. If you have any broken wheeled items, please save the wheels for us as they are invaluable in our play! Other useful items include offcuts of guttering and plastic pipes, empty cable reels, old pots and pans and kitchen utensils, door numbers, cardboard tubes, carpet tiles and plant pots. We can find a use for most things! Please remember to follow Lanchester EYFS on Pinterest for some ideas of things we would like to make for our outdoor area. You might have just the thing we need!

### **Reception 2019 Admissions**

There was an error on the newsletter – apologies for this. This section should have stated: If your child turns **four** between 1st September 2018 and 31st August 2019 you need to apply for a school place (for whichever Primary School you would like them to attend) via <http://www.durham.gov.uk/schooladmissions>.

As usual, if there is anything at all that you would like to talk about, or that is concerning you, please do not hesitate to contact me at school. We are here to help you and your child.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Jane Davis  
Head Teacher