



Lew Trenchard C of E Primary School

Weekly Newsletter – 9th October 2020



Together We Grow in Wisdom and Serve with Joy

Dear parents/carers,

We honestly cannot believe that we have completed five full weeks of Autumn Term. Teachers are beginning to plan new themes for the next half term. Please see next week's newsletter for the PE provision and after school clubs for Autumn Term Two. PE days will change for all classes so please note the new day that your child/children will need to wear their PE kits to school. Thank you.

After much discussion and considering our risk assessment in the current climate, we have decided that we will send home a short paper report this term instead of the normal face-to-face parent consultations, which will be a short summary of the key areas of learning and next steps for your child.

We are also exploring an appropriate way to celebrate Harvest Festival whilst adhering to current guidance, more information to follow soon.

Miss Davy

School Improvement:

Despite a few set-backs, all pupils from Year 2- Year 6 have undertaken their "STARS" assessment for Accelerated Reader and have chosen their books. These are for home and school reading, please bring these into school every day, along with pupil reading records. The pupils seem very enthusiastic and literally have their heads in a book at any opportunity, which we love to see. We are really looking forward to see the impact upon reading across the school, which, together with phonics, is our key area for improvement.

Spelling Shed – we will be setting new spelling assignments every Thursday. It has been brilliant to see so many pupils engage with Spelling Shed last week.

Times Tables – we will be sharing the Times Table and division focus for each class every week:

Fox Tor – 5's

Oke Tor – 3's

Great Links Tor – revising all tables but improving PB's on TTRS

Attendance for last week

Brentor	99%
Fox Tor	93%
Oke Tor	98%
Great Links Tor	98%
Whole School	97%
(Whole School	97% for the Year to Date)
National expectations are	96%

Please call the school office if your child is ill or late. We cannot rely on receiving Dojo messages, as the internet isn't great. Thank you.

School fundraising event - Bag 2 school - 21st October

Date and time for drop of to be confirmed as we are unable to store any clothing at school.

Bag 2 school

WHAT WE COLLECT

We accept the following 'good quality' items for RE-USE*:

Men's, Ladies' and Children's clothing	Paired shoes (tied together or elastic band around)
Handbags	Hats
Bags	Scarves and ties
Jewellery	Lingerie
Socks	Belts
Soft toys	Household linen
Household curtains	Household towels
Household bedding (bed sheets, pillow cases and duvet covers)	

* We reserve the right to refuse any unsuitable items

We DO NOT accept:

Duvets and blankets
Pillows and cushions
Carpets, rugs and mats (including bath, shower and toilet mats)
Soiled, painted, ripped or wet clothing
School uniforms with and without logo
Corporate clothing and workwear
Textile off cuts, yarns or threaded material

In the event of inclement weather please protect your Bag2School investment by covering with a plastic sheet or storing bags undercover as wet items cannot be accepted.

Uniform Sale: Last few bits available at drastically reduced prices! Please check school money for availability or contact the school office.

We also have pre-loved uniform available, again please contact the office to check what we have.

Multi-skills event

Ocra will be leading a multi-skills event for Brentor and Fox Tor on Tuesday 13th October. Please can pupils in these classes wear their PE kits to school on this day. Thank you.

Breakfast Club and Wrap around care

This is available to book via SchoolMoney. **All bookings for breakfast club and wrap around care need to be made in advance** as much as possible as this helps us plan staff ratios needed.

Virtual Cross-Country Event

On Wednesday 14th October, we will be taking part in a virtual cross-country event run by Arena, for pupils in Years 3-6. Pupils in Years 3 and 4 will run half a mile and pupils in Years 5 and 6 will run one mile. This event will take part during the school day, so please can all pupils in these age groups wear PE kit to school on Wednesday. We are asking all our pupils to take part, whether they are runners or not, even if they choose to walk the distance. We know our families are very supportive of these types of events and have asked us to hold more sporting events which we are doing as much as possible.

School Money Payments – A reminder that all payments for School Dinners should be made *in advance*. If you have any issues with payment or access to the website, please see the office and they will help where they can. **All dinner bookings should now be made and paid for in advance please.**

Please could we ask that any outstanding monies be paid as soon as possible. There should be no monies outstanding now please.

Free School Meals – A quick reminder that Free School Meals not only entitle your child to Free School Meals, but can also provide the school with extra funding for your child to go towards other areas of learning. If you think that you may be entitled to Free School Meals, even if your child brings a packed lunch every day, you can follow either of the links below:
<https://www.devon.gov.uk/educationandfamilies/school-information/school-meals>
https://oneonline.devon.gov.uk/CCSCitizenPortal_LIVE/Account/Login?ReturnUrl=%2fCCSCitizenPortal_live

Dates for your diary:

Tuesday 13th October – Multi-skills event for Brentor and Fox Tor

Wednesday 14th October – Virtual Cross-country event for Years 3, 4, 5 and 6

Wednesday 21st October – Bags2school collection

Monday 26th – Friday 30th October -Half Term

Wednesday 18th November – Flu vaccine

Drop off/collection: Can we please ask that parents/carers park in designated areas. Drop off at the gates is only permitted at breakfast club due to parking limitations at that time.

Also, can we ask that once you have dropped/collected your child/children, you move away from the gates promptly so that we can hand over pupils quickly and safely. At busy times, you are welcome to come through the main gates and out of the single gate to help with this.

Thank you.

An Daras Vacancies – Please follow the link for information on vacancies within the An Daras MAT

<http://www.andaras.org/web/vacancies>

(Information below is taken from “[indirect.gov.uk/school-attendance-absence](https://www.indirect.gov.uk/school-attendance-absence)”)

School attendance and absence

Going to school regularly is important for your child's future. Parents are responsible for making sure their children receive full-time education. Parents are legally responsible for making sure that children attend school. If your child doesn't go to school, you could get fined or prosecuted.

Benefits of school attendance

Good attendance at school is not just beneficial, it's essential. Attending school is directly linked to improved exam performance which should in turn lead to further learning opportunities and better job prospects. As well as this, going to school helps to develop:

- Friendships
- Social skills
- Team values
- Life skills
- Cultural awareness
- Career pathways

Absence from school

- All schools must record details of pupils' attendance and absence at school. They do this at the beginning of morning and afternoon sessions meaning that each day your child receives two half day marks.
- If your child is going to be absent from school, (e.g. for an unavoidable appointment) then you should let the school know as soon as possible. If your child has been absent due to an unexpected event such as bereavement or illness then you must also let the school know on the first day of absence in accordance with the school's attendance policy.
- The school will then record the absence. If you fail to notify the school as to why your child has not been present then the school may record that period of absence as being unauthorised.
- The Education Welfare Service (EWS) has access to all attendance information for each pupil and if your child is missing school without good reason, schools and the EA have the authority to find out why.

Attendance in figures

- Schools will advise parents of a child's attendance levels at least once a year. This will usually include a percentage attendance figure.
- Achieving 90 per cent in an exam or test is a fantastic result but if your child is at school for only 90 per cent of the school year then they will have missed 19 days - almost four whole weeks of school.
- For primary-age children, this can mean almost 120 guided learning hours. This is a big gap for any child to make up.
- If your child is a pupil at post-primary school, 120 guided learning hours is the equivalent of studying one full-time GCSE (normally taken over two years).

How to prevent your child from missing school

You can help prevent your child missing school by:

- having a routine from an early age and sticking it to it
- making sure your child understands the importance of good attendance and punctuality
- making sure they understand the possible implications for themselves and you as a parent if they don't attend
- taking an interest in their education - ask about school work and encourage them to get involved in school activities
- discussing any problems they may have at school and letting their teacher or Head Teacher know about anything that is causing concern
- not letting them take time off school for minor ailments or holidays during term time

To avoid disrupting your child's education, you should arrange (as far as possible), appointments and outings:

- after school hours
- at weekends
- during school holidays

Term time holidays

• Term time holidays have been increasing over the last number of years. Parents should make every effort to ensure that their child does not miss school due to holiday plans. Schools are not obliged to agree to you taking your child on holiday during term time. They are entitled to record such holidays as being an unauthorised absence

Support for parents

• As a parent, if you find it hard to talk to your child about their attendance at school or other school-related matters, support is available.

Support from your child's school

• Your child's school should have an attendance policy in place and made available to you, normally from the school website. As a parent or guardian, you should ensure that you adhere to the guidance provided in that policy regarding attendance and notifying absence.

• Your child's school is the first place to discuss any attendance problems. The school should try to agree a plan with you to improve your child's attendance.

• A school can refer your child to the Education Welfare Service (EWS) if they feel there is reason to be concerned at their level of attendance. The EWS is a specialist education support service which helps young people of a compulsory school age and their families to get the best out of the education system.

The EWS can offer advice and support to help you and your child to have good attendance at school

Support from the Education Authority

The Education Authority (EA) can also help if you are struggling to make sure that your child goes to school

Support from other organisations

As well as school and the EA, you may also be able to get advice and assistance from other organisations.

These may include your local community centre or local community group.

ParentingNI

provide a wide range of helpful advice and resources as well as a parent's helpline.

Parent Teacher Associations can also provide further information and resources through their website at ParentKind

School Dinners – Please can all Dinners be paid in advance of at least a week via School Money * **Sickness and diarrhoea** - If your child experiences an upset stomach, they should be kept off school for a **minimum of 48hrs**, in order to minimise the spread the illnesses * **Morning drop-off** - Children should be at school in time for the bell at 9am. If your child is ill, or will be in late, please could you make sure that you contact school (**01566 783 273**) so we can inform class teachers. If your child is not in school by 9.30am, and we have not received a message, they could be registered as late, and this will affect their attendance * **Wet Weather Coats** - please ask that all children come to school with appropriate outdoor clothing – water proof coats for all children please, and wellies for Yes Tor. * **Comments for Governors** - If you have any comments or suggestions for the school Governors these can be placed in the red box outside of the office



flsfundraising@hotmail.com
lewtrenchardgovernors@andaras.org
lewtrenchard@andaras.org