



# Lew Trenchard C of E Primary School

Weekly Newsletter – 23rd October 2020



*Together We Grow in Wisdom and Serve with Joy*

Dear parents/carers,

What a fantastic first half term back. The children have been amazing and it has been a joy to see them back in their classes, together learning. We have already seen brilliant progress in this short time and are excited for the rest of the academic year. Thank you all for adapting to new procedures and for your unfaltering support.

I will upload the afterschool club information via Class Dojo again, please message me via Class Dojo. I will confirm start dates ASAP, we had planned to start the second week back but some of our providers are happy to start the first week.

We hope you all have a restful half term together and look forward to welcoming everyone back on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November.

*Miss Davy*

## **School Improvement:**

Teachers will upload pupil learning reports by the end of the day, instead of face to face meetings. If you wish to speak to teachers regarding these reports, please arrange a convenient date via Class Dojo after the half term. I will be checking Class Dojo over the week, but ask that messages to other staff are sent after the half term break, as I would like staff to have a rest and come back refreshed, thank you.

We have planned Autumn Term two recovery sessions to commence the week of November 2<sup>nd</sup>:

Fox Tor: Wednesdays after school for Years 2 and 3 – Mrs Sutherland, Miss Davy and Mrs Abbott-Bray

Oke Tor: Wednesdays after school for Year 4 and 5 – Mr Payton

Great Links: Mondays after school (selected pupils only at present). Daily morning sessions for selected pupils.

Thank you for supporting these sessions, we have already seen progress as a result of them.

### Uniform Sale:

Pre-loved uniform available, please contact the office to check what we have.

### Attendance for last week

Great Links Tor	97%
Fox Tor	92%
Brentor	99%
Oke Tor	98%
Whole School	97%

National expectations are 97%  
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.

### Toddlers

We are very pleased to confirm that our Toddler sessions will be returning on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> November. These will be held at the Victory Hall between 9.30am and 10.30am, and will be with the fantastic Justine! Sessions will be £2 per child. Please bring your own snacks and refreshments as we are unable to provide these in the current situation.



### Hamper Donations

Please could we have donations of luxury hamper items for the Christmas Hamper. Any alcohol or glass items should be handed direct to a member of staff please at the gate. Donations will be greatly received by the 6<sup>th</sup> November. Thank you

### Picture News

Comic Relief has announced that from 2021 its red noses will be plastic-free for the first time. The new noses will be made from bagasse, a natural by-product of sugar cane, and take more than 18 months to create! The charity, which "strives to create a just world free from poverty", made the change after it received letters and emails from the children of Furlanesend Community Primary School asking them to create a plastic-free version of the nose to help reduce plastic waste.

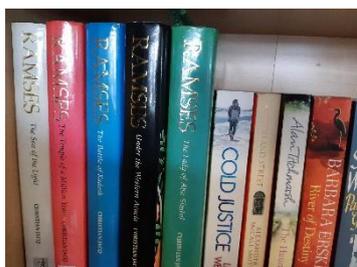
Things to talk about at home... Have you ever bought or worn a red nose? What did you do with it after the fundraising event/day? What do you know about Comic Relief? Can you think of any alternatives to the red noses?

Share your thoughts and read the opinions of others on our discussion board: [www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss](http://www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss) or message us on Class Dojo



## Book Swap

The following books are available in our book swap, please message admin if you are interested...



**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](https://oneonline.devon.gov.uk/CCSCitizenPortal_LIVE/Account/Login?ReturnUrl=%2fCCSCitizenPortal_live)

### **Dates for your diary:**

Monday 26<sup>th</sup> – Friday 30<sup>th</sup> October -Half Term

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November – Back to School

Monday 9<sup>th</sup> November – Toddlers to resume at the Village Hall

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> November – Children in Need

Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> November – Flu vaccine

Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December – Last day of term

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”)

### **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 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](mailto:flsfundraising@hotmail.com)  
[lewtrenchardgovernors@andaras.org](mailto:lewtrenchardgovernors@andaras.org)  
[lewtrenchard@andaras.org](mailto:lewtrenchard@andaras.org)