



# Lew Trenchard C of E Primary School

## Weekly Newsletter – 13<sup>th</sup> March 2020



*Together We Grow in Wisdom and Serve with Joy*

Dear parents/carers,

A very busy couple of weeks in school. We have celebrated “World Book Day”, thank you for your support with costumes, we loved guessing the word and were really impressed with the original ideas. This week we have been celebrating “British Science Week” with daily Explorify activities. The children have been in their houses across the school for these sessions and it has been brilliant seeing how they have been learning together. Thank you to Mrs Sutherland for organising this. Today we will be celebrating “Sports Relief” through science. We will upload photographs onto the website next week.

As we have so many events planned for today, we decided not to take part in the Sports Relief as we have junior pupils attending cross country and we had planned a movie night. The decision to postpone this has been taken due to the large number of absences across the school. We will re-schedule to ensure that pupils are able to attend if they wish.

Brentor have been busy undertaking their Enterprise Challenge, some incredible ideas so far, thank you for supporting your child with this and to Mr Payton for organising.

*Miss Davy*

### **School Improvement:**

As you are aware, one of our main priorities this academic year is reading. We continue to focus on this area of the curriculum and Mrs Abbott-Bray is working hard to embed our new approaches. As a staff, we are really noticing the progress that pupils are making in reading across the whole school and their love of reading is really clear to see.

Mr Elliott has introduced some reasoning focused activities across the school to develop pupils’ confidence in this strand of maths. He has also introduced “Penny the Problem Solver” to nurture the learning dispositions that are needed for problem solving and reasoning.

We have appointed our first “Learning Ambassador”, Connor from Brentor, to help lead the school in developing positive learning dispositions. Connor lead a governor tour this week, showing our visitor the areas that we are developing across the school.

We will be forming a team Learning Ambassadors over the coming weeks.

Our Student Council will be meeting before Easter to decide on sub committees who will focus on positive contributions to the school and local community as well as the wider world. We really value this area of personal and school development.

**Uniform Sale:** Last few bits available at drastically reduced prices! Please check school money for availability.



### Attendance for last week

Great Links Tor	93%
Fox Tor	98%
Brentor	97%
Oke Tor	97%
Whole School	97%

(Whole School 93% 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.

**MORE INFORMATION BELOW**

**Toddler Group** – Toddlers theme: **Mothering Sunday crafts**. For more information please see the website/Facebook page or ask Justine for the activities list for the rest of the term. This is a lovely group of parents and toddlers/babies, which meet on Mondays mornings and Thursday mornings (9am-11am) during term time with the fantastic Justine, with a love of messy play, it is usually a good idea to bring along a change of clothes! Each session is £2.00 and takes place in Yes Tor. Please bring your own snack. We hope to see you then!

**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. It also helps us order the correct amount of food to minimise waste and make sure everyone is well fed.

Please note that children need to be collected from Yes Tor (the pre-school classroom) – you will need to access via the wooden side gate, please ring the doorbell on the gate when you arrive. It is quite dark at the moment along the alley way, please be careful.

**Easter Egg Hunt** – All children are invited to join in with the Easter Egg Hunt on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March at 3.00pm. This is a free of charge event organised by the FLS.

Please note that there will be no Easter Egg Grand Draw this year.

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

### Taekwondo with South Coast

**Martial Arts** – Unfortunately, numbers have dropped in this after school club, so a big shout out to all children to see if there is anyone interested in joining on a Wednesday 3.30-4.10pm. The cost is £3 per session. Please see the office for enrolment forms.



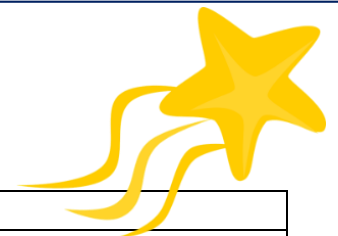
**Car parking** – This is still causing some issues, please do not park on the lines, zig zags or in front of people’s houses. The road markings are there to ensure everyone’s safety. We appreciate it is busy during school drop off and collection but please be mindful of residents other road users.



**Cold and Wet Weather** – Please can we ask that you encourage your children to remember to bring a coat to school every day. The weather is extremely changeable at the moment, and can be very cold as well as very wet, even if it has seemed quite mild first thing in the morning. On particularly cold days a hat is also a good idea.

**Jumble Sale and Grand Draw** – Kay is organising a Jumble Sale for 21<sup>st</sup> March 2020, if you have any items of jumble you would like to donate, please see the office. Also, if you are able to help at all on the day it would be very much appreciated – please let us know! She is also organising a **Grand Draw** for the same day (First Prize is a TV), tickets are available from the office. All proceeds will go to the School.

## **Celebration Awards** 28/02/2020 and 06/03/2020



	<b>Values in action</b>	<b>Good Learner</b>
<b>Great Links</b>	William – caring and compassionate attitude Sofia – mature attitude towards learning	Emma – motivated and enthusiastic learning Whole Class – polite and respectful during Ofsted inspection
<b>Fox Tor</b>	Layla – kindness and care for all Sullivan – resilience and reflection	Isabella – Challenging herself, relection and motivation to improve Joe – motivation and resilience with improving handwriting Isabella – for following the Golden Rules
<b>Brentor</b>	Felicity – caring and compassionate attitude Samuel – Independent writing and responsibility with improved handwriting	Isla – perseverance and challenging herself in maths Whole Class – Showing Golden Rules to visitors and on the Farm Trip
<b>Oke Tor</b>	Bethany – kindness and caring in support of peers Pete – demonstrating independence and positive	Alice – independence and resilience in maths Whole Class – polite and respectful during Ofsted visit.

**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**

16<sup>th</sup> March – Year 3 Parent Meetings (1)  
19<sup>th</sup> March – Author visit  
23<sup>rd</sup> March – Year 3 Parent Meetings (2) and Year 1  
24<sup>th</sup> March – Year 6 Parent Meetings  
24<sup>th</sup> March – Great Links Lambing Live  
25<sup>th</sup> March – Brentor Parent Meetings  
25<sup>th</sup> March – Oke Tor Lambing Live  
26<sup>th</sup> March – Year 2 Parent Meetings and Reception  
14<sup>th</sup> April – Easter Service  
May – Year 2 SATs

**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](http://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



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