



Langtoft Primary School

School Closure – Update #1

Friday 8 January 2020



GOOD NEWS!

Let's start with some much-needed good news. In the *School Games KS2 Virtual Football Competition* our school came **FIRST** in the Y3/4 category and **FIRST** in the Y5/6 category. I believe that is called a clean sweep!

The top five highest scoring boys and the top five highest scoring girls combined their scores to create our school score.

The Y3/4 highest scoring entrants were; **Joshua B, Ethan N, Alfie P, Daniel F, James T, Niamh P, Isabella C, Caitlin G, Eva N and Astrid F-A**

The Y5/6 highest scoring entrants were; **Charlie R, Alex H, Ethan B, Austin E, Harley W, Harper G, Lucy P, Jessica H, Evie R and Faith H.**

Congratulations to everyone who took part and represented our school. I attach a certificate to this Newsletter for you to print off at home.



OUR SCHOOL IS CLOSED

Our school is now closed until at least Friday 12 February 2021, the end of this term, Term 3. It will open for children identified as being vulnerable and for children of critical workers. The *Department for Education* writes:

Children with at least one parent or carer who is a critical worker can go to school if required. This includes parents who may be working from home. Schools should speak to parents and carers to identify who needs to go to school. If it proves necessary, schools can ask for simple evidence that the parent in question is a critical worker, such as their work ID badge or pay slip. **Parents and carers who are critical workers should keep their children at home if they can.**

The last sentence is crucial. Please do not use your status as a critical worker like a 'golden ticket'. To stop the spread of the virus, we need as few children as possible in school. Of course, we will support those families that need to use our school. Let us be responsible and not send children to school 'just because' we can.

REMOTE LEARNING

The national lockdown has forced us to move over to remote learning. We have chosen to use Seesaw to deliver this to the children. During our virtual staff meeting today, I shall be asking class teachers to give me an indication of how you are getting on at home.



I have already received some great feedback from parents. Thank you for taking the time to let me know. If you are experiencing any problems, please get in touch. **Please do not use Seesaw as a private messaging service between home and your child's teacher.** Please go through the correct channel of calling school on 01778 343419 or sending an email to enquiries@langtoft.lincs.sch.uk

Thankfully, the Department for Education have provided clearer guidance on how many hours per day (three, on average) of remote learning primary schools should provide and how often (once a week) feedback by the class teacher should be given. This has helped us to focus the learning on the core areas of phonics and reading, increasing vocabulary, writing and mathematics.

STOP PRESS: updated guidance published yesterday afternoon now states three hours for EYFS and Key Stage 1 and four hours for Key Stage 2. I shall be asking teachers to adjust their plans accordingly over the coming days.

With this in mind, please note that school will open at 08:55 (rather than 09:00) for those attending with the morning session now finishing at 12:00 (rather than 11:45).

THANK YOU

I would like to thank the staff who have worked hard and beyond their hours and pay grade to ensure that remote learning is up and running and that school remains a safe environment in which children learn. As we all appreciate, Monday's announcement gave us all very little notice to change our plans. Thank you, parents and carers, for being patient with us and giving us the time to make arrangements and communicate these to you. I hope that you have found our communications helpful and clear and as timely as ParentMail would allow.

REPORTING TEST RESULTS FOR COVID-19

If your child is NOT attending school at the moment i.e. during lockdown, you do not need to inform the school if your child's test result is positive. This is because your child is not mixing with anyone in our school community and so it is not considered 'school business'.

If your child is attending school (because they fall in to the vulnerable group or because you are a Critical Worker), you **must keep your child at home if they or anyone else in your household has symptoms.** You **must inform the school of a positive test result** so that we can inform others who have been in close contact.

I informed you on Wednesday of a positive case. It was a child who tested positive. I am grateful to the family for keeping me well informed. I was able to act swiftly to safeguard the other children in the bubble. The children in the bubble were instructed to isolate for ten days. Members of staff in the same bubble do not need to isolate because they have not had 'close contact' with the child.