



Langtoft Primary School

Newsletter #143

Term 1 Friday 4 September 2020

Article 28 You have the right to a good quality education.

You should be encouraged to go to school to the highest level you can.



Dear Duty Bearers,

Welcome back. How great it is to be writing a newsletter for you and not a *School Closure Update* or a *Welcome Back Plan*.

You know how they say that planning a wedding or moving house is the most stressful event in your life? I reckon interpreting guidance from the *Department for Education* and sourcing handwash trumps all of that. The staff have done a brilliant job of settling the children in to our new routines. I cannot thank them enough for their energy, flexibility and willingness to 'make it work' whilst still being committed to teaching and learning and the children's wellbeing. The children – as always – have been a real credit to you. Understandably, there were some anxious children (and parents and staff) yesterday. What a difference a day makes! This morning, Day 2 of 'back at school', was sunnier, more relaxed and 'slicker' as the new routines become familiar. It is just great to have our school back to doing what it does best – helping children to learn and looking after each other.

Y3 enjoying lunch outside with their friends in their designated area.



STAYING ALERT

Whilst the number of confirmed cases in our area remain relatively low, we continue to remain alert. I thank you for following the guidance and 'rules' I have been sending out in the run up to returning to school. It has helped the staff to settle the children in to their new routines. The number one rule remains:

Only send your child to school if they and everyone in your household are not displaying symptoms of COVID-19.

HOME-TIME

A significant change to our routine is how the children in Key Stage 2 are dismissed at the end of the school day. With parents of Key Stage 2 children unable to enter the site (to reduce the number of people on site), each teacher from Key Stage 2 is leading their class to Gate #3 and sending them to walk to find the adult collecting them. With this comes extra risk. To help minimise risk, please consider the following points:

1. When waiting for a child in Foundation Stage or Key Stage 1, queue on the path that runs along the road that leads to the pavilion car park.
2. When waiting on Manor Close for a child in Key Stage 2, move to one side of the pavement to allow the children to pass so that they do not have to walk on the road. Do not wait on the other side of the road as children will run across the road to greet you without checking for traffic. Keep clear of the school gates, using the yellow zig-zag lines to guide you so that children and staff have a clear view of the roads around the school.
3. Once you have collected your children, set off home to free up space on the pavement.
4. Agree a meeting point if you are collecting your child from Key Stage 2. We have instructed all children to return to school if an adult is not waiting for them where they have agreed to meet.

I may well put on my road traffic police uniform (!) and stop the traffic from coming around the corner at key times to help the children to cross safely. Thank you very much for your help with this.



Y5 and Y6 eating their lunch at picnic tables in their own 'bubble', separated by the black and yellow tape with a large section of the field for each 'bubble' to play in.

Y2 enjoying a story with Mrs Pennell after lunch. The children are sitting rows of four. Aren't they sitting smartly? Notice their box of tissues and hand sanitiser arranged neatly on their desk top.



WHAT NEXT?

For Term 1 (September and October), we shall offer a broad and balanced curriculum during the school day. We shall not be offering any lunchtime or after-school clubs run by staff, parent volunteers or external companies. This is to reduce the number of adults entering the site and to ensure 'bubbles' do not mix. As guidance updates, we shall reconsider our provision and keep you up to date.

Private music lessons provided by *Crazy for Music* will recommence week beginning 14 September and private music lessons provided by *Music for Schools* will recommence week beginning 21 September. We have worked with both providers to agree a lower-risk environment in which the lessons take place.

The timetable for lessons for *Crazy for Music* will be shared next week. *Music for Schools* tend to communicate directly with parents. If you have signed up with either provider (which you would have done back in July) then please keep an eye on your inbox.

The *Milk in School* scheme will resume shortly. Look out for details of how to order milk for your child to drink in school on *ParentMail* next week.

P.E. DAYS

Children are asked to come to school dressed in their uniform P.E. kit on the days when they have P.E. We know that the weather in England is changeable without warning so please send your child to school wearing more than just their uniform P.E. t-shirt and uniform P.E. shorts (not tight-fitting, 'cycling shorts'). We recommend jogging bottoms and sweatshirts. Children cannot do P.E. in their coats so please make sure they have enough layers of clothing.

	EYFS	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
Monday			✓				✓
Tuesday					✓	✓	
Wednesday		✓	✓	✓			✓
Thursday					✓	✓	
Friday	✓	✓		✓			

Thank you for your continued support. Your messages of support and gratitude have arrived at just the right time.

Yours sincerely,

Mr J McCullough
Headteacher