

Dear Families

Everyone here at Langley Park wishes you all a great break over the summer. Everyone's life has been turned upside down as we all cope as best we can with this awful virus. We know families have been affected directly with the illness and also how the uncertainty and disruption of it all has made life beyond tricky at times and we all hope that come the autumn term things will be better still. To everyone who has been so kind and supportive we can't thank you sufficiently at times these are just the lift everyone needs.

As ever your children have shone like the stars we all know they are, our Reception Class have come into school with everything pretty much brand new and they have thrived, likewise Year 1 had a year which was very disrupted before they moved from Reception and again they have excelled. Our new starters to Reception have a special mission over the summer to collect as many memories with their new Langley Park Primary Bears as possible and we can't wait to see what they've been up to. If anyone knows anyone looking for an amazing class to join point them this way they will be welcomed with open arms.



Throughout school year groups have been so busy despite everything going on it is only right we say a huge thank you:

Mrs Ross, Miss McKee and Mrs Soulsby in Early Years have had Teddy Bear's picnics, used our outdoors so well and the littlest of all our learners have come on leaps and bounds, they have had a great start to their time in school.

Miss Kelly, Mrs Kennedy and Miss Johnston have had a magical year with our Reception class and their videos kept us going through the Euro's right up to the last hurdle which even their positive vibes couldn't secure a win in the final – still there's always the World Cup coming up soon.

Mrs Bawden and Mrs Owens have had an amazing time and Year 1 is a lovely, lovely group such a credit to you all. Sadly, Miss Bawden has secured a teaching post in an International School in Singapore – she will be such a miss but we all wish her the very, very best of times on her travels.

Mrs Stirling, Mrs Johnson and Miss Atkinson in Year 2 have amazed us with how much their class have learnt and the fundraising has been phenomenal! Thank you to everyone who supported this as well as the thousands of steps Mrs Stirling covered during the dance a thon!

It has been lovely to welcome back Mrs Geddes to Year 3 and the class are going to enjoy the continuity of staying together for next year to have a great year with Miss Atkinson helping too.

Mrs Burnip and Mrs Bonnet have had a great year with the year 4 class, moving with the class into Year 5 will be fabulous and really allow these great relationships to continue. Mrs Bonnett will be taking up a post in a new school in September and I know you will join us in wishing her the best of luck in this new role.

Mrs Davies and Mrs Robson have worked together with Year 5 getting this class ready for Year 6 and their time in our 'Top Class' with Mrs Turner. Mrs Robson has put a huge amount of time and effort into her role as PE co-ordinator and the extra opportunities the whole school has had have been enjoyed by everyone.

Mrs Turner and Mrs Makinson have ensured the Year 6 class are ready for their next schools and made sure any learning which needed to be caught up on was done and then some, everyone here wishes this class of '21 the best start in their next school.

Our front of house stars: Mrs Dillon and Mrs Atkinson as ever have been amazing, dealing with all manner of situations no one would ever have dreamt or imagined as being necessary and I can't thank them sufficiently.

In order to maintain everything on our COVID-19 risk assessment a huge amount of extra cleaning has been going on inside school and the staff are superb, sadly but also well deserved – Lynne one of our lovely cleaners is retiring this summer and I'm sure you will join us in saying a huge thank you for all the hard work she has done here, she's a lovely, lovely person. Mr Hall has told me on several occasions that our school has got through 2 wars and will be still long standing after this pandemic and the extra space and ventilation this building has is one of the many reasons we have managed the situation successfully, local school cases have been incredibly high of late and we are thankful we have got to the end of term with no further positive cases in our school community.

Thank you everyone.



Keeping in touch

Should you need to get in touch please could we ask that you use our school email address. Class DoJo won't be accessed over the summer break.

Email: langleypark@durhamlearning.net

Staffing for September

Rainbows	Miss McKee, Mrs Soulsby & Mrs Pala
Nursery	Mrs Ross
Reception	Miss Kelly & Mrs Kennedy
Year 1	Mrs Davis, Mrs Howe, Miss Johnston & Mrs Soulsby
Year 2	Mrs Stirling & Mrs Owens
Year 3	Mrs Robson, Miss Convery, Mrs Johnson & Mrs Makinson
Year 4	Mrs Geddes, Miss Atkinson, Mrs Makinson & Mrs Bell
Year 5	Mrs Burnip & a newly appointed Teaching Assistant
Year 6	Mrs Turner & Mrs Makinson

1st September 2021

The DfE has published guidance for schools returning in September and it is clear that should cases of COVID-19 rise again in any setting that there should be a contingency plan. The contingency plan will be very similar to what is happening now, staggered starts, children arranged in bubbles and the use of face coverings to help keep everyone safe.

However, when we return on Wednesday 1st September we are planning to revert to how school operated before COVID – 19 (BC!). From Wednesday 1st September should your child display any symptoms of COVID-19 they should stay at home and get a PCR test, should the symptoms present at school you will be contacted and requested to collect your child following advice from Public Health England. In school we will continue with our extra cleaning in school, we will ensure rooms are well ventilated, maintain good hand hygiene and the 'Catch it, Bin it, Kill it' approach will be continued.

Doors will be opened at 8:45am and it will be expected that children are in class by 8:55am. The main doors on the school yard will be opened by class teachers and staff to get everyone in and to help out. Due to restrictions with space etc we would be grateful if staff can show children where to put their bags, coats etc so please allow your child to be greeted by their teacher at the door.

Nursery pupils will start school at 8:45 for morning sessions and will come into and leave school using the entrance clearly marked at the end of the school drive.

Rainbows and Reception will use the Rainbows entrance just past the kitchen, again along the drive.

School will end at 3:05pm and children will be handed over safely to parents and carers as usual. Rainbows and Nursery will finish at 3:15pm as their afternoon session begins at 12:15pm.



Breakfast Club & After School Clubs

This year has been really tough in this respect with bubbles and groupings in after school clubs causing huge issues in other schools with rising cases and many, many pupils isolating. As a school we have been cautious with this respect and as a result have not had the disruption other nearby schools have had.

Breakfast Club will be in the **Community Room** from 7:45am onwards and we would appreciate you letting Mrs Atkinson or Mrs Dillon knowing whether you will be accessing this via email.

After school clubs this year are going to be fantastic, a detailed letter will be coming out and the normal after school club will continue in the main hall as it has done, however, keep checking your emails for the other exciting clubs which we will be offering. Our usual after school club will be operating up until 4.20pm in the **main hall** as well as the other after school activities we are offering.

PE

We would welcome pupils coming to school for PE sessions wearing their PE kit as this has been one of the few positives from this awful pandemic. PE kit would be a plain white or red T- shirt, black shorts or grey/black joggers or leggings. If your child does not have their PE kit they will be provided with one by school. Ear rings should be removed for these sessions and newly pierced ears will be expected to be taped to keep everyone safe.

Reception will have PE on Fridays

Year 1 on Thursdays

Year 2 on Fridays

Year 3 Thursday & Friday

Year 4 Thursday & Friday

Year 5 Thursday & Friday

Year 6 on Fridays

This is for the first term , any extra sessions occurring we'll let you know about straight away. We will be continuing to work with Durham School Sports Partnership

A pair of Wellies with your child's name clearly written inside should be brought into school so that your child can access our school field should the weather be poor. Football boots unless specifically requested should not be worn for breaks etc.

School Dinners

When we return to school in September the current menu will still be in place, starting from week 1. We will assume that children who are on school meals at the moment will continue to have them in September, but please let the office know if there are any changes.

The cost of meals is increasing to £2.15 per day/£10.75 per week. Universal free school meals are still provided for Reception, Y1 and Y2.



School Uniform

Expectations of our school uniform can be found on our website:

<https://www.langleyparkprimaryschool.co.uk/school-uniform>

We totally understand how at times this year it has been difficult to get items such as shoes etc but as of September we will expect everyone to be wearing full uniform.

Mobile Phones

As a school unless there are exceptional circumstances we would request mobile phones do not come to school, any pupils bringing them must have the following form completed. The DfE is currently reviewing the use of mobile phones in schools and we will follow their guidance when it is completed.

<https://www.langleyparkprimaryschool.co.uk/downloadable-forms>

Summer Activities

Our super local library is offering a great reading challenge for everyone over the summer.

<https://youtu.be/e-3CZ2YEiTU>

The Summer Reading Challenge combines FREE access to books with fun, creative activities during the summer holidays. Throughout the Challenge, library staff and young volunteers support the children, helping them to discover new authors and illustrators and to explore a wide range of different types of books and ways of reading,

How the Challenge works

- Children sign up through their local library and receive a Wild World Heroes collector poster
- Children set a reading goal and borrow and read library books of their own choice during the summer, collecting special stickers to complete their poster and extra incentives along the way
- The Library Facebook page will be hosting weekly FREE events to coincide with the Summer Reading Challenge and will be uploaded every Wednesday but will be available to play back at a later date.
- Each County Durham Library will be giving out weekly FREE craft activity packs to keep children entertained over the summer. There will be weekly 'how to' videos uploaded to our Facebook page on a Monday.
- Library staff and volunteers are on hand to advise
- Children who complete the Summer Reading Challenge are presented with a certificate and a medal
- The official Challenge website, wildworldheroes.org.uk, hosts digital rewards, author videos, games and more for children to enjoy all summer



Autumn Term

There will be the opportunity to meet your child's new teacher once everyone is settled in and we will give a thorough list of all of the important dates as soon as we get back to school. Obviously how these meetings happen will depend upon any restrictions we are told we must follow at the time. We sincerely hope we can do these meetings in person as this is one aspect of school life we have all missed throughout this awful time. We want to be able to show you first hand the progress your child has made.

Our Chair of Governors sent a letter out to all families outlining a really positive and exciting new chapter in our school's development. Many local schools have recently become academies and throughout the Autumn term information and opportunities for yourselves to be involved in this process will be shared. The Government is clear that it expects most schools to become academies and this is not a sign of weakness rather a chance for us to work together to get the very best for our whole school community.

Finally, to everyone who has shared kind words and support over the past year can I personally thank you. I wish everyone a safe, happy summer break. Look after yourselves and each other.

Take care

Mr Walton
Headteacher

