



November 2020 Newsletter



Dear Parents & Carers

Can I take this opportunity to welcome everyone back after our half term break. It has been great to see so many of our pupils settle straight back into their learning and friendships again . If we as a school can help out in any way please let us know as we do appreciate how tough things can get and we are all in this 100% together.

This half term is quite simply the best time anyone can be in a primary school and even though we are following very different guidance this year we are determined that all of our pupils get an amazing Christmas experience here at Langley Park Primary School. Over the forthcoming weeks more details will be given and we are hoping to be able to offer you the chance to see some of the lovely things classes have been doing with a link sent out on Christmas Eve just for yourselves to enjoy.

In the mean time please take care and look after yourselves,

Mr Walton & Everyone at LPP

Attendance

Thank you to everyone who has been so supportive in sending their child into school in these very difficult times, the Government has made it very clear that schools remaining open is a top priority.

If a member of your household is isolating due to COVID please keep us informed. There are so many reasons why this may be the case and when we know of these cases in households we can help and support as much as possible.

If your child is not going to be in school you must inform us as soon as possible, school attendance is a legal requirement and the Local Authority has stated that it's attendance procedures including issuing fines will carry on.

Should any positive cases of COVID occur in school which impact on other individuals we will take advice from Public Health England and act accordingly informing yourselves at the earliest opportunity by email and text.

Ways of gaining support

We know that things are tough for many of us at present, if we can help please let us know.

The County Durham School Benevolent Fund is an independent registered charity which offers a grant towards shoes and coats for school pupils. A grant of up to £35.00 can be awarded towards a winter coat and up to £35.00 for a pair of shoes for families who are eligible.

The home page of the Durham County Council website www.durham.gov.uk/schoolbenevolentfund

If you think this may be of help please follow the guidance given.

Emails

Please can we ask that everyone shares their most up to date email addresses with us, simply email the office and we will update any records we have.

This is especially important as if we need to contact a number of people quickly with important information this is how we will do it.





Berna and Angela make fabulous food in our school kitchen. If you would like your child to have a really great cooked meal please let us know.

Free School Meals

If you feel your circumstances may have changed in these uncertain times and think you may qualify for a free school meal we are sending out a form to check this on your behalf next week.

Being entitled to a free school meal not only ensures your child could have a cooked meal in school but also could access extra funding for your child in school.

It may also entitle your child and family to hampers, subsidised visits and other extras.



Don't let it snow, let it snow, let it snow!

As a school we have always tried really hard to stay open in cases of severe weather. This year as we will need to keep year groups separate wherever possible, decisions as to whether we can stay open will be even more challenging. We will always try to remain open but do ask for your support whenever a decision needs to be made. We will inform you via text of any such decisions.

It is crucial that if your child is absent from school that you access the home learning packs we have ensured you have. We have put together a combination of physical resources which match what your child would be taught in school as well as online resources. Your child's class teacher will also keep in contact with you using class do-jo, this will allow sharing of work and feedback directly between yourselves.



Feeding Families

Feeding Families is a local organisation, based in Bishop Auckland. They are trying to provide Christmas food hampers for around 5000 families this year.

We have a collection box outside the office, where our staff have been contributing to a reverse advent calendar of dried/Christmas foods. Any contributions would be most welcome.

If you would like to apply to receive a Christmas Hamper, please visit

<https://feedingfamilies.org.uk/receive/>

there is an online form to fill in.



How to apply for a hamper



Christmas Raffle

Christmas Raffle - tickets will go on sale on Monday 30th November, £1 a strip. Prizes include; a gingerbread house, Lacoste gift set and a Christmas Hamper. The raffle will be drawn on Monday 14th December. Any money raised will go towards updating school resources.



Children In Need

Thank you for everyone who donated towards this fabulous charity. As ever your amazing children fully embraced everything Pudsey related and not only raised £145 but also learnt first hand about the good this charity does.



Remembrance Day

Our school took part in workshops in conjunction with the DLI, classes produced some stunning art work and I know lots of Year 2 in particular were really excited to be able to share this with yourselves as it is taking pride of place on their windows. It looks tremendous and they are rightly proud. In school like everyone in the country we held a two minute silence to remember those brave people who sacrificed so much for us.



Parking

Every school is always really busy at the beginning and end of the school day, please park with consideration to others to ensure everyone's safety at all times.



Picking up and dropping off

Thank you to everyone who is following the guidance we produced to try to keep everyone as safe as possible.

Can we ask that :

- Everyone walks down the path on the way into school and exits walking along the driveway.
- Maintains social distancing at all times.
- Wear a mask or face covering if you cannot maintain this social distancing.
- Keep your children with you at all times and don't allow them to play on the outside apparatus.
- Only have one adult picking up or dropping off to limit the number of people on site.

Key Dates

8th December—Flu immunisations

16th December—Christmas Dinner

Week Beginning 14th December—Class Christmas Parties

Thursday 17th December— Last Day of Term

4th January 2021—First Day back at school!