

Langley Fitzurse Church of England Primary School



Newsletter



Newsletter 8

Tuesday 3rd November 2020

Welcome Back Everyone!

I hope that you all had a safe and enjoyable half term break. It seems that such a lot has happened since we broke up at the end of October, and within this newsletter I would like to update you on these matters.

So grab a cup of tea, there is a lot of information to digest!

Traditionally, Term 2 is a busy one with the Nativity Play and Christmas plans and preparations. This year will be different but I am hoping that we will be able to celebrate these in some form. Please be patient with us as we work through logistics and an ever-changing landscape.

Your child's education is a partnership and we will all need to be working together to navigate and overcome the challenges ahead.

I thank you in anticipation for your continued support this term.

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Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal



We are delighted to be supporting the Poppy Appeal again this year. In order to keep everyone safe, we will be doing this on a class by class basis, so that our bubbles remain intact. We have poppies (£1), enamel badges (£2), poppy reflectors (50p), snap bands (£1.50), and wristbands (£1.00). Please send your child in with the right money on the following days:

**Wed 4 November—Hercules; Thu 5 November—Pegasus; Fri 6 November—Phoenix;
Mon 9 November—Chameleon**

Don't despair if your child misses their slot—just email admin@langleyfitzurse.wilts.sch.uk with your child's order and then send them in with the right money., and we'll get the goods to them!

Wrap Around Care

At Langley Fitzurse we will continue to offer wrap around care whilst we are able to do so. Here is the latest information from the government:

Parents will still be able to access some registered childcare and other childcare activities (including wraparound care) where reasonably necessary to enable parents to work, or for the purposes of respite care.

Our school clubs: Ballet, Football, Street Dance, and Multi Sports, as well as our EMC and ASC , all form part of our wrap around care package, and will run as usual unless government advice changes. Music lessons will continue as usual, although piano lessons will remain online for the foreseeable future.

You may find the following information useful:

Early years settings can remain open. Parents are able to form a childcare bubble with another household for the purposes of informal childcare, where the child is 13 or under. As above, some households will also be able to benefit from being in a [support bubble](#), which allows single adult households to join another household.

Some youth services may be able to continue, such as 1-1 youth work and support groups, but most youth clubs and groups will need to cease for this period.

For more information please click on the following link:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/new-national-restrictions-from-5-november#childcare-and->

Attendance and Punctuality

We have been asked by a few parents how we record absence should a child be off school due to COVID related circumstances. In these instances children will be marked absent, but there is a special code to recognise absence due to COVID. This includes self isolation.

We appreciate that staggered starts / ends to the school day are not ideal and does mean that some families are waiting for siblings to go into school or leave at different times. Whilst you are waiting, please can I ask that social distancing is maintained, particularly during the forthcoming period of lockdown.

Please try to be punctual for the start time of school. Currently classes are waiting for the whole class to arrive before entering the school, and if children are late, classes are kept waiting. This is something we wish to mitigate, especially as the weather gets colder and wetter. The school is currently exploring temporary undercover shelter for classes for these times, however, this is posing a challenge due to securing shelter to the ground. We will keep you updated as we move forwards.

A final plea please... children should not play under or climb the trees or go down towards the stream before or after school. Thank you for working with us to keep you and your children safe

COVID Update

The school has updated its Risk Assessment to reflect the Government's Guidance for Schools : 22nd October 2020. In this document it gives details of the Systems of Control that schools should follow:

System of controls

- 1) Minimise contact with individuals who are unwell by ensuring that those who have coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms, or who have someone in their household who does, do not attend school.
- 2) Where recommended, the use of face coverings in schools.
- 3) Clean hands thoroughly more often than usual.
- 4) Ensure good respiratory hygiene by promoting the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach.
- 5) Introduce enhanced cleaning, including cleaning frequently touched surfaces often, using standard products such as detergents.
- 6) Minimise contact between individuals and maintain social distancing wherever possible.
- 7) Where necessary, wear appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE).
- 8) Always keeping occupied spaces well ventilated.

Numbers 1 to 5, and number 8, must be in place in all schools, all the time.

Number 6 must be properly considered and schools must put in place measures that suit their particular circumstances.

Number 7 applies in specific circumstances.

Response to any infection

- 9) Engage with the NHS Test and Trace process.
- 10) Manage confirmed cases of coronavirus (COVID-19) amongst the school community.
- 11) Contain any outbreak by following local health protection team advice.

Numbers 9 to 11 must be followed in every case where they are relevant of actions schools must take.

You may be asking what this means at school?

During the time the children are in classrooms or occupied spaces, windows and/or doors will be open to ensure there is good ventilation. This will mean that it will be colder in classrooms and so we are asking that children wear layers to school that can be taken off should they become too warm.

The heating will be on in school but during class time teachers will turn the heaters off so that we are being as energy efficient as possible. This is not an ideal situation but one that all schools will be adopting.



This November we are taking part in a competition for Maths Week England. It's called Rock Out 2020 and it's all done online via play.ttrockstars.com. KS2 children have automatically been signed up for the competition through their usual TTRockstars account. Year groups within school will be competing with each other as well as with other schools in the country.

For every correct answer to a multiplication or division question, your child will earn their year group a point. The Times Tables Rock Stars platform will calculate the year group's average (the number of correct answers per pupil in the year group). Winning classes in the school and in the country as a whole will be the ones with the highest average.

All game modes (Gig, Garage, Studio, etc.) will count but only from games played between 7.30am and 7.30pm on Monday 9th, Tuesday 10th, Wednesday 11th, Thursday 12th, Friday 13th and Saturday 14th November.

In the spirit of the competition, please encourage and support the children, but it isn't supposed to cause high stress levels or impact on family plans!

Thanks for your support and for letting the children borrow phones, iPads and laptops to play – the children's times tables are really improving and it has such a huge impact on their learning in maths lessons!

Miss Causer

What does Christian Distinctiveness mean at Langley Fitzurse School?

As a Church of England School, the quality and value we place on RE teaching as an academic subject is very important. The curriculum is based on the agreed syllabus provided by Wiltshire SACRE (Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education). Through the study of Christianity and other religions we seek to increase children's knowledge of other people's beliefs, values and religious practices, and so promote an attitude of respect, understanding, and tolerance.

Over the last year or so we have been using the 'Understanding Christianity' resources. The key purpose of this resource is to support pupils in developing their own thinking and their understanding of Christianity, as a worldwide faith and one which has a significant impact on our culture and heritage. This resource supports pupils to ask questions and begin to explore and express their own views – it is not seeking to convert children to Christianity. It is an exciting, interesting, and challenging way for pupils to discover and develop their own religious, spiritual and philosophical ways of living, believing and thinking.

Katherine Bloomer,

part of the Draycot Ministry Team and member of the Christian Distinctiveness Committee.

Housekeeping—Uniform, Snacks, Packed Lunches

Uniform

Just a reminder that on PE days, children should come to school in PE Kit—this comprises grey PE sweatshirt and joggers. Black leggings are acceptable should you be struggling to source grey jogging trousers. Your child should also wear a gold round necked t-shirt, which can be ordered via the link on the school website or Mrs Howe has some stock in school. Again if you are struggling to source them, a plain white t shirt is fine. No other colours of jogging trousers/leggings, t shirts or sweatshirts should be worn please. Trainers should only be worn on PE days.

On non PE days, normal school uniform should be worn. This includes black school shoes.

Children will need to bring coats into school now we are moving into the winter months. School bags, if necessary, should be as small as possible, as these are stored in classrooms rather than cloakrooms currently.

Snack and Water Bottles

Children should bring in a clean water bottle everyday. This also means they need to remember to take them home at the end of the day too! Children are able to fill up their bottles during the day from the water cooler in the foyer. Children are more than welcome to bring in a snack for morning break. This must be a healthy snack—fruit/vegetable is preferred or a plain biscuit is allowed. No crisps or chocolate biscuits please. Please also be aware of some cereal bars which may appear to be healthy, but sometimes aren't when you look at the ingredients. The Government Key Stage 1 Fruit and Vegetable Scheme continues, but class teachers tend to give this out at different times of the day to morning break.

Packed Lunches

A huge plea for children who have packed lunches. These must be healthy and balanced to keep your child fuelled and able to concentrate without a sugar spike during the day. This will impact on concentration levels and learning. If children are bringing in crisps and chocolate biscuits every day, this is a lot over a week. Please keep sweets for an after school treat.

Just a reminder, hot dinners are available everyday. Children do not need to sign up for a lunch everyday. They are cooked to order, fulfil the Government Food Standards guidelines, and are delicious!

Home Learning

We are currently reviewing the school's Home Learning Policy, and the way Home Learning tasks are set. During the first term, very little homework was sent home. The reason for this was to support and settle the children back into school life. Activities were limited mainly to reading and spelling, and all classes reintroduced the expectation that children should read at home at least 4 times per week.

Moving into this term, children will be set a more varied range of home learning tasks including those linked to maths and topics/science.

Teachers will be explaining this to their classes in the coming days and we will share this with parents next week.

Should the school, class or an individual be in a local lockdown due to an outbreak of COVIDm then remote learning will be set. We have reflected on the school provision from the first lockdown and we are very much aware of the pressures placed on families regarding IT and internet connectivity and printed sheets. Therefore there will be a mixture of online and paper activities