



News and Views



Headteacher: Mr S Bowsher

www.LarchwoodPrimary.co.uk

Friday 6th November 2020

Headteacher's Comment

I hope everyone has had a good two weeks off school and you are all feeling refreshed and recharged. Last half term was the longest of the six that we have and I know I was glad of the rest.

We don't usually do a News and Views during half term, but yesterday the country entered Lockdown 2.0 as the number of COVID cases has been steadily rising. The big difference this time is that schools are remaining open as the government are rightly prioritising children and education. However, they have published additional guidelines for how schools should operate. There are actually only a few changes that we need to make.

The biggest change is that we are sadly no longer allowed to run extra-curricular clubs. After school club can continue as normal (as can breakfast club and the catch-up tutoring we will be starting), but football club, multisports, cross country and any other extra-curricular clubs have to stop during the lockdown. Unless the rules are changed before Monday there will be no clubs for this half term. For those of you who paid for football club, we will refund back half of the money you paid.

As a reminder, from Monday 9th November all parents/carers need to wear a face covering when entering the school site unless you are unable to. The guidance for schools now says that where adults can't keep 2m apart on a school site they can be asked to wear face coverings. Although there is plenty of room in the playground, people do pass each other entering and leaving the site. You were already wearing them on the Friday before half term so thank you. You will also notice that staff will now be wearing face visors when out in the playground at drop off and pick up.

The government have also said we can now only meet one other person outside. Obviously when you come to pick up your child there is more than two of you together, but please bear in mind the new rules when you come to drop off and pick up. Drop off in the morning is between 8:30am and 8:45am. Please avoid arriving early. Similarly, please only come to pick up your child at the correct times. There are a number of parents who arrive early and are then making the site or the area outside more crowded than it needs to be. Only parents with more than one child to pick up should be waiting. For clarity the arrival times and pick up times for each year group are as follows:

Reception: Arrive 3:00pm, pick up 3:05pm

Year 1: Arrive 3:05pm, pick up 3:10pm

Year 2: Arrive 3:05pm, pick up 3:15pm

Year 3: Arrive 3:15pm, pick up 3:20pm

Year 4: Arrive 3:10pm, pick up 3:15pm

Year 5: Arrive 3:15pm, pick up 3:20pm

Year 6: Arrive 3:20pm, pick up 3:25pm

It feels we have an ever increasing amount of rules that we are living by at the moment. Ultimately though it is the collective responsibility we all have to keep each other safe that will mean we get through these challenging times together. You have been fantastic so far this term, as have the children.

Children in Need

On Friday 13th November it is Children in Need day. Children can wear spots (or non-uniform) and pay a £1 to do so. All money will be collected in class and go to this good cause.

I'll leave you with a final thought. It is only 49 days until Christmas! Have a great weekend and see you all on Monday morning.