



LEVENS CE SCHOOL

Loving to Learn, Growing Together, Caring for All

Headteacher: Mrs Jane Farraday

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Friday 3rd July 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

First and foremost, I hope this letter finds you and your family safe and well.

Since my last communication, the government has issued further updates on plans to reopen primary schools to all pupils on a fulltime basis from the very beginning of the autumn term. I am sure that, like me, you welcome this news. Yesterday, more detailed guidance about how this can be managed was published by the DfE and school leaders are already working hard to enable us to achieve this goal. We will continue to update parents with our preparations for September as soon as we are confident we have adhered to updated guidance and had time to review and adapt our risk assessments accordingly.

Since we re-opened on Tuesday 2nd June, I have remained confident that our approach has been both prudent and careful to ensure the safety of our staff, our pupils and our families as our main concern. However, I am also conscious of the fact that for many of our pupils, their time out of school has already been too long. As a result, our plans are to give all our pupils an opportunity to return for one day in the last days of term; to re-establish relationships; become re-connected with each other and with staff; to experience school again, before we finish for the long summer break. For most of our pupils and those not currently back in school, this will give them time with their classteacher.

To ensure we are reducing risk of infection as much as possible, we will ensure a 48hour gap for staff currently working within a different bubble; we will be in the outdoors as much as possible; groups will be limited to no more than 15 in each bubble; and we will maintain social distancing between staff and pupils. Toilets will be assigned to different groups on different days; and both toilets and classrooms will undergo a thorough deep clean before welcoming a different group the following day.

Friday 10 th July	Year 5 are invited to visit Mr Dean in Scafell for the day. Arrival time: 8.45am-9am. Collection time: 2.30-2.45pm. Enter through Scafell fire door.
Tuesday 14 th July	Year 1 will visit Mrs Wadey in Skiddaw. Arrival: 9-9.15am. Collection: 2.45-3pm. Enter through Bowfell gate. Last day in school for Year 1.
Wednesday 15 th July	Last day in school for Year 6.
Thursday 16 th July	Year 4 are invited to visit Mrs Farraday in Scafell for the day.



	Arrival time: 8.45am-9am. Collection time: 2.30-2.45pm. Enter through Scafell fire door. Last day in school for Reception.
Friday 17 th July	Year 2 + 3 are invited to visit Mrs Wadey in Skiddaw for the day. Arrival time: 8.45am-9am. Collection time: 2.30-2.45pm. Enter through Bowfell's gate. Last day in school for our Key worker group and Nursery. School Closes at 3pm instead of the usual end of term time of 2pm.
Tuesday 1 st September	Staff Training Day
Wednesday 2 nd September	School reopens for years 1 – 6.
Friday 4 th September	'Picnic and Play' for our Reception children 11.30am-1.30pm. Details to follow.
Monday 7 th September	Reception begin school, phased through the first week.
Monday 14 th September	Nursery provision resumes.

So that we can prepare for additional children returning to school, please could you email your child's current classteacher to let them know whether you would like your child to accept their invitation to attend no later than midday on Wednesday 8th July.

If your child is currently in Reception, year 1 or Nursery but did not opt to return from the 1st June, please let us know if you would like your child to join their year group bubble in the last week of term. Again, please could you contact your child's classteacher (by Wednesday 8th July) so that the necessary adaptations to the environment can be made for these days:

Nursery – Friday 17th July

Reception – Wednesday 15th and Thursday 16th July

Year 1 – Monday 13th and Tuesday 14th July

Please ensure you take time with your child to look at the videos and photographs on our recent blog posts and letters issued to other year groups about how to return to school safely, including what to wear and what you are allowed to bring into school. Your child will be able to enjoy a delicious packed lunch from our school kitchen or bring in their own packed lunch from home. Please also ensure you and your child read the 'Home-School Agreement' published on the homepage of our website.

Children attending our key worker group will continue to attend school in this bubble during the last week, however, for the majority of the week they will be located in a different area of school. Please be reassured that we are making sure there are

opportunities for teachers to engage with their key worker group pupils during the last few weeks of term so that they can prepare for a return to their own class in September and are not disadvantaged because they are not able to visit their new class with their peers.

Home learning:

Since March, the teaching staff have done their very best to support all our pupils and parents with home learning by setting a broad variety of learning across the curriculum; offering additional or individualised resources; giving feedback and praise to our pupils; and by answering questions and concerns via email. Thank you for engaging in this learning and for keeping in touch with us during an incredibly challenging time. If you would value another telephone conversation with your child's classteacher before the end of term then please let us know by contacting us via the class email accounts.

As we approach the end of term, you may see a reduction in the amount of work set for each class and home learning will not be set in the summer holidays. It is also important to note that towards the end of the final week, classteachers will begin to restore our class pages to their usual format ready for September. Although many of the links to useful websites will be available at all times, you may wish to download any activities or tasks before these changes are made.

Wellbeing Week Wednesday 2nd September – Friday 4th September:

During the first few days back in school in September, we are planning three days of activities related to our wellbeing. From the first morning, it is our intention that every pupil will move into their new class groups with their class teacher. The focus for all our sessions during the first three days will be on health and wellbeing. Therefore, the children will enjoy a range of activities including: cooking, sport, music, STEM activities and art.

We want to provide our pupils with opportunities to talk to us and to each other; to ask questions; to share their feelings. We want to ensure they feel good to be back in school; that they feel safe; and can adapt to being back in a school environment. I am sure that you will agree that this is so important to achieve, before we can begin to re-establish our usual curriculum of learning. We will then move on to assessing what our children know and understand; this will inform our lesson planning to ensure our teaching is finely tuned to enable everyone to make good progress; with a particular focus on reading, writing and maths.

Autumn Term Events:

Our autumn term calendar is usually packed with many events taking place in and out of school. Unfortunately, we are uncertain at the moment whether these can take place as planned.

As you may already be aware, the Westmorland County Show is cancelled this year, so our usual visit will not go ahead.

We await to hear news on when school swimming lessons can commence, but at the moment there is no information as to when leisure facilities will reopen for public swimming so we cannot make plans for these to restart in September.

We also need to determine how our one-to-one and small group music lessons can resume for all those learning the guitar, the piano and the violin.

After school sports provision such as Football Club may not re-commence immediately.

It will not be possible to hold our Harvest Festival in St. John's Church this year; or indeed in our school hall as children will continue to operate within their bubbles. Whole School assemblies will remain suspended until further notice.

School meals:

During this term, Helen has been providing freshly made packed lunches for the children attending school. From September, we intend to resume cooked lunches and I am pleased to be able to inform you that our price per meal remains unchanged at £2.65 for junior and nursery pupils and free to all children in Reception to year 2. To facilitate our arrangements, we will assume that all qualifying pupils will eat a school meal, and that others will continue to eat school meals as they did in March. Parents of children moving from Year 2 to Year 3 and therefore transitioning from free to paid meals are asked to email Mrs Coker: office@levens.cumbria.sch.uk to advise if you would like your child to continue on a paid basis for the whole or part of the week. Please do this by Friday 10th July. Menus are available to view on our website.

YOYO after school care:

We hope to be able to resume YoYo support from September, however the arrangements for YoYo may have to be adapted and this may mean increased staffing costs, which are likely to impact our charges to parents. Please contact Debbie Coker in the school office: office@levens.cumbria.sch.uk should you require a place for your child/children from Wednesday 2nd September, clearly stating which days and times would be needed. Please get this request to us by Friday 10th July at the very latest and note that it is unlikely that we would be able to offer any special sessions at a reduced rate for the time being. Please also be aware that at this stage we are ascertaining demand. I will update you with further information as soon as I am able.

Invoices for school meals, music tuition and school trips:

I would like to advise all parents that we are no longer in a position to split invoices between parents. If relevant to your personal circumstances, please ensure full payment is made to school by one parent. Duplicate copies of invoices will be issued to both parents and receipts issued where payment is made. This change will be from Wednesday 2nd September 2020.

Attendance:

From the beginning of the autumn term, attendance at school will revert to being compulsory and our attendance policy will be reinstated. Please ensure all unnecessary absence from school is avoided, including holidays in term time.

Reminder about School term dates:

School year 2020/2021

Term	Start of term	Half term	End of term
Autumn	Wednesday 02 September 2020	Monday 26 October to Friday 30 October	Friday 18 December
Spring	Tuesday 05 January 2021	Monday 15 February to Friday 19 February	Thursday 01 April
Summer	Monday 19 April	Monday 31 May to Friday 04 June	Friday 16 July 2021

In the meantime, please stay safe and well. I will be in touch with further updates as soon as I am able.

With my very best wishes



Jane Farraday