



LEVENS CE SCHOOL

Loving to Learn, Growing Together, Caring for All

Headteacher: Mrs Jane Farraday

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Dear Parents and Carers

We have enjoyed a wonderful start to term. The children have all settled so well back into school; are happily reconnecting with their peers and the staff; and enjoying their learning. We have all been incredibly impressed with their enthusiasm for every aspect of school life.

It has been particularly wonderful to welcome our new Reception starters this week who have skipped into school with such confidence and excitement each day. We can't wait to welcome our Nursery children on Monday.

Last week, years 1-6 enjoyed a range of fun and engaging activities during 'Wellness Week'. These included Lego creations, painting, weaving friendship bracelets, yoga, multi-skills, launching rockets and we are so grateful to Mrs Mason who got every child baking last week too! Our focus on wellbeing continues throughout the year as classteachers plan a programme of learning on the themes of personal, social and health education using the new DfE framework throughout the remainder of the year. A link to the guidance can be found here: [RSE Curriculum 2020](#).

If you wish to find out more about the curriculum in school, please take a look at the classpages in the 'pupils' section of our website. Classteachers have also posted their class newsletters here so that you can check specific arrangements for each class. Our curriculum page also provides a wider understanding of teaching and learning across school.

Day to Day Arrangements:

I would like to extend a huge thank you to everyone for your contribution to ensuring all our systems are working well. The staff have embraced the new guidance and followed our procedures with such care and attention; and our pupils have quickly adapted to the new expectations and routines responsibly. Thank you to you, our parents, who play a huge part in making sure our school is safe, by arriving and leaving school within your allotted times and using our one-way system.

It is important that children continue to be escorted to and from school by one parent or adult from their household. Whilst further restrictions about mixing in social circles are reintroduced on Monday and a surge in new cases nationally, we are not yet in a position to relax our procedures. If you are struggling to manage



INVESTORS
IN PEOPLE



these arrangements due to work commitments, then please let us know. Our YoYo provision has restarted and we have spaces available for more children to attend.

Attendance and Health:

We have had some parents asking us for support deciding whether their child should be in school when they present with cold-like symptoms. I would like to provide some clarity for parents. If your child is unwell they should not be in school, however mild cold-like symptoms are not considered to be a reason to be absent from school unless your child is really poorly OR your child or another member of your household, presents with one of the three key symptoms: a new continuous cough, a high temperature and/or a loss of taste or smell. In these circumstances, it is imperative that your child and everyone in your household self-isolate. Only the member of your household with symptoms should book a test. If the test is negative and your child is fit; they can return to school (and family members no longer need to continue to isolate).

School is not able to make a medical assessment or advise you on whether your child is well enough to be in school. It is your responsibility to make this judgement. If your child becomes unwell in school, we will contact you immediately and request their collection as soon as possible. If your child develops symptoms in school they will be isolated from other children whilst we await their collection. It is therefore very important at this time that we are always able to get in touch with a named contact with parental responsibility during the school day.

Uniform:

Thank you for supporting our policy on school uniform. Please can I remind you that covering stud earrings with tape is not a satisfactory method of keeping your child safe in PE lessons, therefore earrings must be removed before your child comes to school on their PE days or removed by the wearer prior to the lesson starting. If your child has had their ears pierced recently, we would expect them to be able to adhere to this rule after six weeks. Please contact your classteacher if your child is within this six week period and is therefore not yet able to remove them.

Parent-Teacher Telephone Calls:

Parent teacher phone calls have been underway this week and the staff have enjoyed the opportunity to share with you the positive start to term our pupils have enjoyed. These calls continue into next week for our Reception, Year 3, 4 and 6 pupils. If you have missed a call from your child's classteacher, please be reassured that we will try you again next week.

After-School Clubs:

It is with regret that we are not yet able to resume our usual autumn schedule of after school clubs. There are no plans yet to reintroduce our very popular football club as Kendal FC await instruction from the FA about how to restart this provision in schools safely. As soon as I have news, I will update parents accordingly.

Dates for Your Diary:

14.9.20	Nursery children start school Parent-teacher telephone check-ins 3.30-5pm every day. Years Reception, 4 and 6
28.9.20	YoYo closed - Staff Safeguarding Training from 3.30pm.
21.10.20	Whole School Flu Immunisation – details to follow.
26.10.20- 30.10.20	Halfterm holidays

Further events may be added during the course of the term although many of our usual events such as our Harvest Service at St John's, our Christmas Fair and concerts will not be taking place this term. We will continue to use our website to share newsletters and alert you to updates using the text system.

Music Lessons:

We are pleased to inform you that we are looking forward to welcoming a new guitar teacher into school next week who will be doing a brief introduction to guitar with all our KS2 pupils on Tuesday morning. John Wilson is passionate about all things music; he is hugely respected and admired by other local schools and I am sure he will be a fantastic addition to our already strong team of music teachers. Further information will come home with the children on Tuesday afternoon.

We are also now in contact with Mrs Rainbow (piano), who is resuming teaching her Levens pupils after a long break, and Mrs Hurley (violin) to make arrangements to restart lessons in school from the end of this month. Unfortunately, only pupils who have already had lessons and who are generally quite independent learners will be in the first group of musicians to restart. Further details will be provided very soon and this may involve direct contact from the music teacher.

Thank you again for your support and your co-operation with all our routines and procedures this term. It feels great to be back!

If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to get in touch – every member of staff is committed to ensuring we are able to support you in every way possible.

With my very best wishes



Jane Farraday