



LEVENS CE SCHOOL

Loving to Learn, Growing Together, Caring for All

Headteacher: Mrs Jane Farraday

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Thursday 22nd October 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

I would like to begin by saying a huge thank you to everyone in our school community who have contributed to ensuring our first half term has been a positive one. The children have remained happy, engaged and enthusiastic at school each and every day despite being away from a classroom setting for such a long period of time; the staff could not have shown greater dedication or commitment to school and their extended roles; and our parent community have been so supportive during such unusual times.

Thank you to everyone for supporting our Harvest celebration this year by contributing groceries for Kendal Foodbank and home-grown vegetables for our hampers. Three elderly members of our Levens community were presented with a basket of fruits and vegetables at their door; and several heavy bags of groceries were sent to the foodbank last week. More information about how we explored the theme of Harvest and hunger can be found on our website.

Our flu vaccinations for children from Reception to Year 6 have gone extremely well this week. If your child missed this in school and you are keen for them to receive the vaccine, the NHS will contact you directly to offer you a catch up clinic.

Staff News:

We are very sorry to inform you that Angela Troughton who works in various roles across our school including leading our YoYo and our lunchtime provision; will be ending her time at Levens on Friday. We are very sorry to be losing such a well respected and cheerful member of our Levens team and wish her happiness and success in all her future ventures. She will be sorely missed by children and staff alike.

YoYo Arrangements:

In order to ensure our provision for YoYo continues throughout the term without interruption and to keep our school safe, I am very pleased to inform you that YoYo will be led by our existing teaching assistant staff who know our school and our children so very well.

The arrangements for YoYo remain unchanged, however, please could I remind you that if you wish to book or cancel a place for your child, this needs to be done at least 24hours in advance of the required session. Late requests for places may



result in parents being disappointed as we might not be able to take additional children at the last minute if we are unable to adhere to adequate staff-pupil ratios.

Parent-Teacher Interviews:

By the end of this week you will have received an invitation to your meeting via email from your child's classteacher. If we have not received a request for a meeting from you, staff will allocate you a telephone appointment on one of the three days allocated for these meetings.

Please note that some of our telephone appointments will be made from the school mobile number (07563938887) rather than the landline.

Systems and Procedures:

Covid cases in Cumbria and in the South Lakeland area are rising and we all need to continue to be vigilant to enable our school to remain open as we approach the winter months. If your child or any member of your family display symptoms then please keep your child at home and book a test. It is important that we know the result of this test as soon as possible.

If you need to report a positive test to school during halfterm then please email me directly at head@levens.cumbria.sch.uk

Please could we ask that parents avoid delivering items to school during the day such as water bottles, PE kits, musical instruments and lunchboxes and ensure that children have the equipment they require with them when they arrive at school.

Please may I also remind parents to keep to your arrival and collection times as much as possible as this has an impact on unseen procedures going on in school.

Finally, if you need to contact the school office to report a child's absence or pass on an urgent message, you may not be able to contact us on the telephone until after 8.30am as the office is not manned until this time. Pupil absence can be reported via email and should be communicated to us by 9am on the first day of absence.

Uniform:

A reminder that our children should be wearing school shoes not trainers in school, unless it is their allocated PE day.

Unnamed or incorrectly named uniform has caused some difficulties this half term. Please can you ensure that all items are named and if the item once belonged to another child, that name is clearly removed or obscured, this is really important to maintain safety for pupils and staff.

Remembrance:

Although we are unable to hold our service at the memorial at St. John's Church this year, we will be participating in a service in our school grounds for pupils and staff. One of our talented parents is making a large wooden cross as the central

focal point of our prayers and reflections and we would like children from Reception to Year 6 to make a poppy out of recycled materials during the half term holidays. These will be attached to the cross during our special service on Wednesday 11th November.

We will not be selling poppies in school this year, but if you would like to make a donation to the British Legion, you can do so by following this [link](#).

Christmas:

Whilst some of our Christmas events are not able to go ahead this year, we are certainly not about to cancel Christmas and I am pleased to share with you some of the things already in our school diary including our Christmas lunch, Christmas jumper day, Class parties and an Experience Christmas event with St. John's Church. Details about these will follow soon.

Every child in school has already designed a Christmas card which has now been sent away for printing. After halfterm, your child will be bringing home a sample of their card for you to view before deciding whether you might like to make a purchase of one of the items available to buy. I am sure this will enable you to send something very special to your friends and family at such a difficult time and be a little fundraiser for school also.

Headlice:

Please check your child's hair over halfterm and treat if necessary as we have had several reports this term of these unwelcome visitors! We do encourage all pupils to have long hair tied up to reduce chances of attracting headlice; but also to ensure the children are safe when running and playing outside.

Dates for you Diary:

26.10.20-30.10.20	Halfterm holidays
2.11.20	UK Parliament Week – Children across school will be learning more about our country's democratic systems.
3.11.20	Scafell Pupils are involved in an online workshop direct to Westminster.
3.11.20	Parent-Teacher Interviews for pupils in Bowfell. Details to follow.
4.11.20	Parent-Teacher Interviews for pupils in Skiddaw. Details to follow.
5.11.20	Parent-Teacher Interviews for pupils in Scafell.
12.11.20	Boxes of Hope to be brought to school no later than 9am today please. These should be brought into school by your child and not handed to staff on the playground.
13.11.20	Children in Need Day – details of how we will raise money this year will follow soon.

20.11.20

Individual Photographs for children in Reception – Year 6 (TBC). We will not be able to offer family group photographs this year.

Please keep an eye on our online calendar on the website for further updates.

Thank you again for your continuing support for school; it is hugely appreciated.

Although our half term break might not be the week you were planning, on behalf of all the staff and governors at Levens School, I wish you a happy and healthy week and look forward to welcoming everyone back to school on Monday 2nd November from 8.30am.

With my very best wishes

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jane Farraday".

Jane Farraday