

Headteacher: Mrs Jane Farraday Church Road, Levens, Kendal LA8 8PU 015395 60694 office@levens.cumbria.sch.uk www.levens.cumbria.sch.uk Monday 8th February 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Firstly, I'd like to apologise for asking you to read further communication from me so soon after my last newsletter, but I would like to share just a few further updates.

I am very pleased to inform you that Mrs Haslam has started a phased return on a part-time basis working at home this week. I am sure you will all be incredibly relieved to hear that she now feels closer to a full recovery and the staff are overjoyed to welcome her back. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Miss Butler and Miss Eastham, who have worked with me to plan and resource home learning for EYFS since the start of term.

Class Catch-Ups:

We have now hosted some more sessions for our pupils from year 1 through to year 6; and individual meetings for children in Reception via Microsoft Teams. Teaching via remote means is not the rewarding vocation we all chose in life; so the opportunity to catch up face to face with your children has been thoroughly enjoyed by all the staff who have been involved. We are planning more meetings of this type over the next few weeks.

Remote Learning Survey:

This week, we will be distributing a survey via email to all parents to request your feedback on our remote learning offer for this half term. We would request that **only one survey is completed for each child** in your household. Therefore, if you have two children in school, we are asking you to complete and submit two surveys. Parents of children whose time is split between two households should agree on who will take the responsibility for responding to the survey. The survey is completely anonymous and the data will be used to measure the impact of School's remote learning offer. It should only take a few minutes of your time and we would really appreciate receiving your feedback.

Safer Internet Day:

On Tuesday of this week we will be focusing on how to be safe online. Each class will be set work related to ensuring our pupils know how to be behave responsibly and safely – something that seems ever more relevant in our current circumstances. To find out more please follow this link: <u>Home - Safer Internet Day</u>

Parent Teacher Appointments:

It is almost a year since we were able to meet with you face to face in school to conduct our spring term parent-teacher appointments regarding your child's learning and progress. As we continue through this period of school closure and whilst we are connecting with so many parents regularly via emails and on the telephone, we have decided to postpone these meetings for now.

However, we are offering you the opportunity to call your child's classteacher directly for a brief catch up if you feel that this is necessary. These will take place in the first week back after half term. Classteachers will be in touch with you this week to explain how these will be conducted.



Forthcoming Events:

As well as 'Safer Internet Day' on Tuesday, there are some other national events coming up that we will be celebrating in or out of school. Watch this space for more information on World Book Day on Thursday 4th March and Comic Relief day on Friday 19th March.

Outdoor Shelter:

With £2000 of funds raised by FOLS and subsidised by our Sports Funding Premium, we are due to have a new shelter and seating area constructed at the side of our main entrance this week.

As well as providing shelter from the sun and rain in our playground; it will be a lovely outdoor classroom to use in lesson time with additional seating and planters. We are really looking forward to the installation and it will be a wonderful new addition to our school grounds ready for reopening after halfterm! Thanks to everyone involved in FOLS over the last 2 years; both as organisers, leaders and spenders!!



You will be probably pleased to hear that I do not intend to send out another newsletter before the half term break. In the meantime, have a restful, peaceful, happy and healthy half term. Classteachers will not be setting any learning over the holidays. Now, more than ever, we all need a break from our screens and the difficulties this way of working has brought to each and every one of us.

I know that I am looking forward to spending some quality time with my family without the additional pressure and challenges that I have experienced whilst I work and try to keep my own children happy and engaged in their home learning at the same time. I have found this overwhelming and exhausting and I know that many of you are feeling the same. I hope you that you too are able to make the most of next week, whatever your plans.

Take care and stay safe everyone. With my very best wishes

Jane Farraday