



LEVENS CE SCHOOL

Loving to Learn, Growing Together, Caring for All

Headteacher: Mrs Jane Farraday

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Dear Parents and Carers,

What a wonderful return to school we have all enjoyed this week. It has been particularly special to welcome our new children into Nursery who have already settled so well and have enjoyed lots of fun meeting new friends and exploring their new classroom. I can honestly say that every single member of staff has reported to me that it is like we have never been away!! All the children, without exception, seem settled, happy and confident as they get back into the routines and expectations of school life. It has been the most fantastic start and we are filled with hope and optimism for the future. I am sure you are all equally pleased and probably relieved to have your children back in school again too and I sincerely hope that they have shared with you some of the highlights of their week.

This morning we had our first whole school live assembly via Microsoft Teams and it was just so lovely to see the whole school joining together from their classrooms. We talked about words that describe the kind of people we need to be in school and each class had an opportunity to share their ideas which included:

helpful kind polite respectful friendly caring brave
happy loving responsible sensible listening resilient trying our best

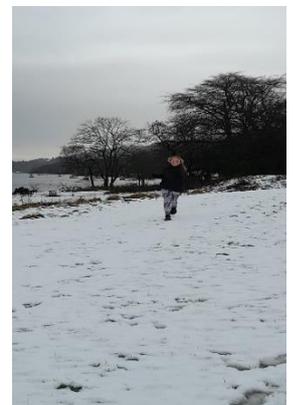
Your children have demonstrated all these things and more this week!

Running Challenge:

Well done to everyone who took part in Mrs Coker's running challenge. Medals and certificates have been presented to all involved this week.

I would also like to take this opportunity to say a huge well done to Ailsa Stewart, who decided to take this challenge to the next level setting herself a goal to run a mile every day in February. Ailsa actually completed almost 38 miles in all weathers to raise money for Manchester Children's Hospital. Her determination and commitment to her goal whilst raising money for charity is inspirational. Ailsa featured in one of our assemblies this week on endurance and setting ourselves personal challenges.

If you would like to support Ailsa's charity - even just a small amount of change to gift - why not send in your donation to school in an envelope marked 'Ailsa's Challenge' and we will ensure it is passed onto her. I know Ailsa would be overjoyed to receive even the tiniest donation to her very worthwhile cause.



Comic Relief:

You should have already received a flyer for our fundraising day next Friday involving a competition to design a 'Red Nose Day' mask, eye-patch, headband or bandana and a non-uniform day also.

Music Lessons:

Please note all music lessons restart week commencing Monday 22nd March. Our three music teachers are engaged in LFD testing twice a week; understand and have agreed to follow all the measures we have in place in school; and have read our current risk assessments. Please ensure guitars, violins and music are in school on the correct day.

Arriving and Leaving School:

Please can I remind all parents to ensure you are arriving and collecting within your 10minute allotted time. **It is really very important that parents and children do not come onto our playground before 8.30am or before 2.45pm** as PE lessons may still be taking place outside. If you arrive early, please wait outside our gates until it is time to enter.



We have asked children not to arrive at school on scooters or bikes for the time being. If your child likes to travel to school by either of these means, please ensure they dismount and walk into our school grounds each day.

School Meals:

We are delighted to have been able to recommence our hot meal service, cooked on site by Orian, on a 3-week cycle. Whilst we have been able to hold the cost of a payable school meal at £2.65 for the last two years, this is no longer sustainable and will need to increase to £2.75 from our return after Easter. Meals will continue to be free for infant children in Reception-Year2 under the government initiative. For those eating on a payable basis, we are able to offer a 'mix and match' arrangement should you want your child to eat school lunches some days but not others. Please have a look at the menus on the website and get in touch if that would be of interest.

You may qualify for a free school meal on family income grounds, so please be encouraged to phone the office to speak to Mrs Coker to discuss criteria and the process if you think you may be entitled.

Vacancy for a School Team Member:

Might you have the capacity to join our wonderful team as a Midday Supervisor for two or three lunchtimes a week? We have been struggling along since Margaret and Mrs Gott left us some time ago, sharing the role between us, and we would love a member of our community to join us. The role could be filled by a parent, grandparent or a neighbour and it would be 1.5hrs per day. It really is a very rewarding role; you would be joining a super team; and it would be a great way to help us out and earn at the same time. Please email or phone school to discuss; we would love to hear from you.

Parent-Teacher Appointments:

Our usual appointments in early March have now been re-scheduled for the last week of term and will be held remotely via Teams. More information will follow soon but please add these dates to your diary:

Monday 29th March – Skiddaw 3.30pm onwards

Tuesday 30th March – Bowfell Nursery 1pm-3pm

Tuesday 30th March – Bowfell Year 1 and Reception 3.30pm onwards

Wednesday 31st March – Scafell 3.30pm onwards

This will be a good opportunity to find out how your child has settled back into school and about their learning and progress. However, please do not wait until this date if there is anything that is concerning you, or you have a question or want to share something with us. You are always very welcome to get in touch by emailing your child's class teacher directly. If necessary, you can of course request a telephone conversation with a teacher ahead of these meetings.

Easter Challenges:

We would like to set you all a final family challenge for the term. Children in KS1 and EYFS are invited to design and make an Easter hat and we would like pupils in KS2 to decorate an egg. Please send in your photographs to your child's classteacher no later than Monday 29th March. There is a prize for everyone taking part and we will blog lots of lovely designs on our website too.

Important Dates:

Thursday 1st April school closes for the Easter holidays at 2pm.

Thursday 1st April Yoyo after school care from 2pm until 4pm.

Monday 19th April School reopens for the summer term.

Thank you for all your support with our procedures this week to keep our school safe and the part you have played in getting your children back into all the routines of school life. School now feels the vibrant, engaging and happy place to learn that we all enjoy so very much.

With my very best wishes



Jane Farraday