

# Leadgate Primary School – Friday Newsletter

*Caring, Sharing, Learning Together*

**Friday, 25<sup>th</sup> September 2020**

## This day in history

**122** Building begins of Hadrian's Wall

**1966** Star Trek appears on TV for the 1st time on NBC



## Face Masks

Face masks are not required for children under 12 according to the government guidance. If your child wears a mask to school, we would ask that disposable masks are disposed of in the bin at the door and reusable masks are stored in a plastic ziplock bag until home time and washed everyday.

## A Star Attendance

I am pleased to say that we are continuing to work with A Star Attendance to monitor and support our families. This is a first step approach and is there to support Parents with any issues that they have with their child's attendance. By starting conversations early we can support families with a range of needs from how to engage poor attenders, how to support with medical issues or how to support families to access school nursing should their child be suffering from the same medical / illness absence. If you receive a card through your door - please don't worry. This is simply to offer you the opportunity to access support should you want or need it.

If you have any further queries please don't hesitate to contact Jill on 07387371915 or speak to Leanne who is available to offer support via telephone and socially distant home visits.

## Hand Sanitiser

Hand sanitiser is provided in every classroom and at various other stations throughout school. Children should not bring in hand sanitiser from home. And parents are reminded that this is 70% alcohol.

## Bags and Additional Equipment

Please do not send your child to school with bags unless necessary. Additional equipment such as pencil cases should also not be sent in. Everything required is provided for the children in school.

## PE Kits

PE kits should be worn to school on the days the children have PE to minimise the number of bags coming in to school. The PE days for each class are listed below

REC – Tuesday and Thursday

Y1 – Tuesday and Wednesday

Y2 – Monday and Thursday

Y3 – Wednesday and Friday

Y4 – Tuesday and Friday

Y5 – Monday and Thursday

Y6 – Tuesday and Wednesday

Until further notice from the County – there will be no swimming lessons for any classes.

## Water Bottles

Can we remind parents the children should only have water or sugar free water based drinks in school. No fizzy drinks, energy drinks or milk shakes are allowed. If you are unable to provide a water bottle please contact the office as we have a limited number of water bottles which can be sent home for home to school use.

## School Uniform

Should you wish to purchase school uniform, School Uniform is available online from Tots to Teams.

[www.totstoteams.com](http://www.totstoteams.com)

There is also a link to follow on our school website in the Parent's Section.

## School Meals

School meals for Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are provided under the Universal free school meals, however the costs for Upper school pupils is £2.10 per day payable on Monday. **Please note the increase in price. Meals for a week will now be £10.50.**

If your circumstances change and you think you may be eligible for free school meals please contact the school office.

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## Secondary School Places for September 2021

If your child is in Year 6 and will be transferring to secondary school in September 2021, you must apply for their school place before October 31<sup>st</sup> 2020. This is done through Durham County Council. Please visit [www.durham.gov.uk/schooladmissions](http://www.durham.gov.uk/schooladmissions) for further information.

When you apply on-line you will receive an acknowledgement and you will be offered a school place for your child by email on 1<sup>st</sup> March 2021. Late applications may not receive their first choice school. As Consett Academy was oversubscribed last year we would advise you to apply as soon as possible, if this is your first choice.

## Reception Places for September 2021

If your child turns 5 between 1<sup>st</sup> of September 2021 and 31<sup>st</sup> August 2022 you need to apply for a Reception place for September 2021. This is done through Durham County Council. Please visit [www.durham.gov.uk/schooladmissions](http://www.durham.gov.uk/schooladmissions) for further information. Applications are now open.

**You still need to apply for a Reception place even if your child already attends our Nursery.**

## Flu Vaccinations - REMINDER

The flu vaccinations are due to be delivered in school on 24<sup>th</sup> November 2020. Consent forms have been sent home with your child today. Please complete the form and return to school by Friday 25<sup>th</sup> of September 2020.

All children from Reception to Year 6 may have the vaccination. It is free and recommended for children. It is administered via a quick and simple nasal spray.

If you do not complete the form your child will not be able to have the vaccination in school.

## NSPCC – STAY SAFE

We will shortly be starting some work with the NSPCC SPEAK OUT STAY SAFE programme this will involve an online assembly and short lesson. Speak out Stay safe is a safeguarding programme for children aged 5- to 11-years-old. We will update when dates are confirmed. If you wish to know more check out : <https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/services/speak-out-stay-safe>

## Grants for School Shoes and Coats

With Winter fast approaching we would like parents to be mindful of the available grant for shoes and coats. Thornhill Primary now administers the School Benevolent Fund on behalf of all schools across County Durham. This is a registered charity which offers a grant towards shoes and coats for school pupils.

A grant of up to £35.00 can be awarded towards a winter coat and up to £35.00 for a pair of shoes depending on parents/guardians meeting a number of criteria.

To apply for the school benevolent fund, go to <http://www.durham.gov.uk/schoolbenevolentfund> download and complete School Benevolent Fund Application Form and return to:

School Benevolent Fund  
Thornhill Primary School  
Thornhill Gardens  
Shildon, County Durham, DL4 1ES  
Telephone: 01388 772 906

## Packed Lunches

If your child has a packed lunch can you please try to use a plastic one as these are easier to wipe down and sanitise. Please ensure lunchboxes are thoroughly washed every day.

## Class Dojo

We would like to remind all families to sign up for a parent account on ClassDojo. It is a quick and easy way to communicate with your child's teacher and will be the primary method we will share work and information with you if we have to close your child's bubble or whole school.

It's a simple, free mobile app for iOS and Android, and can also be accessed from your computer at [classdojo.com](http://classdojo.com). Contact the school if you require any further assistance.

## Contact Details

If you have a new telephone number or email address please contact the office as soon as possible to update our records. Can we remind Nursery and Reception parents to return their contact packs as soon as possible.

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## Letter from Director of Public Health Durham

Dear Parents/Carers

Re: Gatherings at School Gates

As children and young people have been returning to schools over the past few weeks, I would like to take the opportunity to remind parents, grandparents and carers to be mindful of the importance of social distance when dropping off and collecting their children from the school gates.

We know that many children have started school for this first time, and parents and children are gathering at the school gates. However, I would like to remind everyone on the school run that Covid19 is now circulating in the community and we all need to continue to work together to reduce the transmission of the virus.

I would urge parents to be mindful of the coronavirus guidance and work with us and the school to keep everyone safe by keeping more than 2 metres apart wherever possible from people outside your household, to prevent the spread of Covid19.

School leaders are working hard to make sure that children are safe in school and that the risk of the virus spreading is minimised. We all have a responsibility to keep our communities safe and we need the support of parents, grandparents and carers when they are at the school gates.

The most recent guidance is set out in the links below:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/north-east-of-england-local-restrictions>

[www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-meeting-with-others-safely-social-distancing/coronavirus-covid-19-meeting-with-others-safely-social-distancing](http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-meeting-with-others-safely-social-distancing/coronavirus-covid-19-meeting-with-others-safely-social-distancing)

Please keep your distance, please do not gather in groups and remember:

**HANDS** Wash your hands regularly and for 20 seconds.

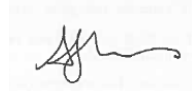
**FACE** Wear a face covering in indoor settings where social distancing may be difficult, and where you will come into contact with people you do not normally meet.

**SPACE** Stay 2 metres apart from people you do not live with where possible, or 1 metre with extra precautions in place (such as wearing face coverings or increasing ventilation indoors)

Together we can make a difference if we all play our part to keep each other safe.

We appreciate your ongoing support which is helping to keep our schools open and your children in education.

Yours faithfully



**Amanda Healy, FFPH**  
Director of Public Health  
Chair of North East DPH Network

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## Can my child go to school today?

### Do they have any COVID Symptoms?

- a **high temperature** – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- a **new, continuous cough** – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- a **loss or change to your sense of smell or taste** – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

**Yes**

They have a COVID symptom

### Self Isolate and Book a COVID Test

Book the test online or call 119

All members of the household should stay at home until the test result is known.\*

\* Visit gov.uk for advice on when to stop isolating and return to school after a positive or negative test.

**No**

They do not have a COVID symptom

### Do they have diarrhoea or vomiting?

**No**

They do not have diarrhoea or vomiting

**Yes**

They have diarrhoea or vomiting

### Do they feel unwell?

It is important that parents keep children at home when they are unwell

**No**

They do not feel unwell

**Yes**

They feel unwell

### Send to School

So long as your child feels well, has not been told to self-isolate and there are no other household members with COVID symptoms, it is OK for them to attend school.

### Keep at Home

- Remain off school until they feel well enough to return. Seek medical help from a GP if needed (or 111 if your surgery is closed).
- Remain off school until at least 48 hours after the last episode of diarrhoea or vomiting. A COVID test is not required for diarrhoea and vomiting without the other symptoms above.

Produced: 16 Sept 2020.

Guidance changes regularly, visit nhs.uk for the most up-to-date advice.

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## European Day of Languages

Celebrated on 26 September, the European Day of Languages is a means of promoting awareness among the general public, both children and adults alike, of the importance of language learning. Thanks to Lingotots we have been able to participate in a day long celebration of languages beamed directly into the classroom. This online festival has allowed children at school to take part in free classes, quizzes, storytelling sessions, challenges and karaoke by tuning in to the day-long livestream online. Children have been able to access a range of fun activities in French, Spanish, German, Italian, Mandarin, Arabic, Welsh and Dutch, all languages which are vital for future success in the global economy. I hope everyone had a great time and if you wish to find out more visit :

<https://edl.ecml.at/>

## Covid Test Kits / RESULTS

The government has provided schools with a very limited number of kits to be provided in exceptional circumstances. Please contact school if you require further information.

**IF YOU OR A MEMBER OF YOUR FAMILY TEST POSITIVE OUTSIDE OF NORMAL SCHOOL HOURS PLEASE CONTACT US VIA EMAIL OR TELEPHONE SO THAT WE CAN FOLLOW THE NECESSARY PROCEDURES BEFORE CHILDREN RETURN TO SCHOOL**

**TELEPHONE 01207 610351**

**EMAIL [P2259.admin@durhamlearning.net](mailto:P2259.admin@durhamlearning.net)**

## Annual Term Dates

Holiday	Closing date	Date re-opens
Summer 2020	Monday 20 July 2020	Tuesday 1 September 2020
Autumn half-term 2020	Friday 23 October 2020	Monday 2 November 2020
Christmas 2020	Friday 18 December 2020	Monday 4 January 2021
Spring half-term 2021	Friday 12 February 2021	Monday 22 February 2021
Easter 2021	Friday 26 March 2021	Monday 12 April 2021
May Day 2021	Friday 30 April 2021	Tuesday 4 May 2021
Summer half-term 2021	Friday 28 May 2021	Monday 7 June 2021
Summer 2021	Tuesday 20 July 2021	Wednesday 1 September 2021

### Training Days

**Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2020**

**Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2020**

**Friday 26<sup>th</sup> March 2021**

**Monday 19<sup>th</sup> July 2021**

**Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2021**