

Leadgate Primary School – Friday Newsletter

Caring, Sharing, Learning Together

Friday, 16th October 2020

This day in history

1950 The first edition of C.S. Lewis' "The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe" is released in London



Face Masks

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

Friday 23rd October

The last day of this half term is Friday 23rd October. Unfortunately, due to the current circumstance our usual Halloween discos will not be taking place this year. However, we know how much fun children have dressing up so next Friday we are planning a non-uniform day where children can come to school in their Halloween costumes should they wish to.



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

Author Visits

We are very excited to welcome Adam Bushnell into school next week who will be working with the Year 1 & 2 bubble on Wednesday creating spooky stories. Adam will only be working with one bubble on each site on separate days. He will be working at upper site with the Year 5 & 6 bubble on Thursday.

The workshops will look a little different to usual due to the current guidelines but we are very excited that children will get the opportunity to meet a real author and storyteller.



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*Thank
you*

Next week will be Mrs Nesom's last week teaching this academic year. On behalf of the Governors and Staff, we would like to take this opportunity to thank Mrs Nesom for the commitment and dedication she continues to show to the whole school community in her role as both teacher and SENCO. I am sure you will also join me in thanking Mrs Nesom for all her hard work but most of all for creating a nurturing, welcoming environment that fosters a love of learning where all children have the opportunity to thrive academically, socially and emotionally. Our very best wishes to Mrs Nesom for her sabbatical and we look forward to her return next academic year.

I am delighted to welcome Miss Bedingfield to the Key Stage 1 team who will be teaching Year 1 for the remainder of this term alongside Miss Carey and Miss Bobbi. Miss Bedingfield has been working within school so may already be a familiar face to some of you. It has been wonderful to see how resilient, eager and enthusiastic all the children have been since their return to school and transition to KS1. Miss Bedingfield is looking forward to getting to know all the children and their families. She will spend time discussing individual academic, social and emotional needs with Mrs Nesom in an extended handover period. Miss Bedingfield is now working alongside Mrs Nesom in Year 1 in order to ensure a smooth, successful transition.

Mrs Nesom is available for telephone consultations next week on Thursday 22nd or Friday 23rd October should you wish to make an appointment. This is an opportunity to discuss how your child has settled into Year 1. If you wish to make an appointment please telephone the school office, before Tuesday 20th October to book a 10 minute time slot.

Finally, Mrs Nesom is our very experienced, knowledgeable and supportive SENCO and I know she will be a huge miss having supported many families through sometimes challenging times. I would also like to thank Mrs Nesom for her continued dedication in her SENCO role, as I know our families appreciate the support and advice. Sometimes just being a good listener is enough to lighten the load.

Miss Weaver will be taking over the role of SENCO and although already knows most of the families is looking forward to getting to know Individual families much better in order to continue to support pupils and families. Miss Weaver has been working alongside Mrs Nesom since September ensuring a comprehensive handover period.

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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 31st 2020. This is done through Durham County Council. Please visit 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 1st 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 1st of September 2021 and 31st 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 for further information. Applications are now open.

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

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>

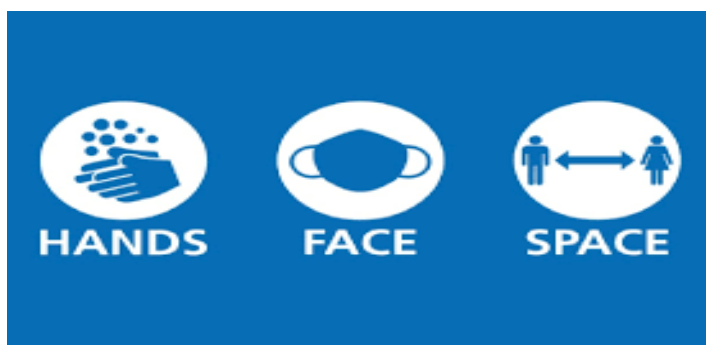
download and complete School Benevolent Fund Application Form and return to:

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

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 clasdojo.com. Contact the school if you require any further assistance.

Please contact the school office if you are experiencing any difficulties.



Well done to everyone for a fantastic week of attendance!



Year 1	99.3%
Year 2	95.0%
Year 3	99.0%
Year 4	96.9%
Year 5	92.8%
Year 6	94.6%



Our School Target is at least 97% attendance.

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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](https://www.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](https://www.nhs.uk) for the most up-to-date advice.

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Receive a Christmas Hamper

Are you in need of help to feed your family at Christmas?

Feeding Families aims to help those most in need of help and support at what can be a difficult and expensive time of year, with the help of volunteers willing to use their own money to provide some Christmas cheer to those less fortunate than themselves. They can't guarantee to supply everyone who applies, as they are reliant on the generosity of their donors, so please do think carefully before applying - please don't just apply because you can, but because you really need help.

Feeding Families is a small charity and they do their best to help as many families as possible enjoy the Christmas season without worrying about food. Due to the Covid pandemic this year we expect applications to increase and we may not be able to guarantee that every applicant will receive a matched hamper. In order to increase your chance of receiving, please remember these points and help us to help you.

Apply early - The application process is open between 6th October and 30th November 2020.

Submit the documents you are asked for correctly first time

Inform them of any changes

Communicate with your donor

Please visit the website www.feedingfamilies.org for more information.

Donate a Christmas Hamper

Christmas raises expectations in all of us of happy times, good food and gifts. For many families, however, it is just another stress on top of the daily challenges of living. The added expense of providing special things for their family can be overwhelmingly difficult and none of us would want to see our children without a decent meal and a present under the tree. For others, especially those who are alone, it might not seem that anyone cares and it's not worth making the effort.

This is where Feeding Families can help. Feeding Families is built around the generosity of people willing to help those less fortunate than themselves to enjoy Christmas.

They accept requests for hampers from anyone who is in genuine need (subject to meeting our criteria), and match them up with kind hearted people who donate a Christmas Hamper full of everything to make a special Christmas dinner. It's just one less thing for the recipient to have to worry about.

The matching process will open later in the year, and they will accept registrations from donors from 1 November 2020. If you would like to donate a hamper please register at the website below.

Their application process is open between 6th October and 30th November 2020.

Submit the documents you are asked for correctly first time

Inform them of any changes

Communicate with your donor

Please visit the website www.feedingfamilies.org for more information.