

Leadgate Primary School – Friday Newsletter

Caring, Sharing, Learning Together

Friday, 30th April 2021

This day in history

1952 – Mr Potato Head is 1st toy advertised on television

1988 Celine Dion wins the Eurovision Song Contest for Switzerland singing "Ne partez pas sans moi" in Dublin



Online Safety Update April 21

One of the side effects of lockdown has been the increased use of technology. Most children have really benefited from this when in lockdown but unfortunately sometimes it can go wrong. The misuse of technology that some primary aged children have experienced includes bullying, fraud and child abuse. We now need parents to take an active role in keeping their children safe in the online world, just as they would in real life!

The best way of protecting your children is to talk with them about how they use technology, find out about the apps, websites and games they use and make sure they can share any worries they have with you. Both the net-aware and internetmatters.org websites are full of helpful advice.

As a school we take online safety very seriously and children are taught about keeping safe throughout their time in school, so they develop the skills and resilience needed to keep themselves safe on line. We should remember that they are still children, they will make mistakes and they will need your support not only to stay safe but to grow and flourish both online and offline.

Below we have listed five useful websites to help support your child staying safe. Please take some time to talk to your children and find out more on the websites below. Parents and carers are also welcome to discuss issues and get support from the school – we will help

Website	Comment
www.internetmatters.org	Really useful website covering parental controls, apps and all aspects of supporting parents with technology.
www.net-aware.org.uk	Great website for parents, written by the NSPCC that explains about individual apps and the safety measures they have in place for children
https://www.childline.org.uk	The website for children to get support themselves
https://www.ltai.info	Support with radicalisation
https://www.getsafeonline.org	More for parents – this site explains how to protect yourself against online fraud – which is an increasing problem.

Whole School Attendance

Year 1 = 97.6%

Year 2 = 95.9%

Year 3 = 97.6%

Year 4 = 95.0%

Year 5 = 94.2%

Year 6 = 93.1%

Congratulations

Well Done Year 1 for the best attendance in Lower School and Year 3 for the best attendance in Upper School.

Our school target is 97%.

Good Luck

We would like to wish Consett Football Club good luck in the Vase final against Hebburn at Wembley on Bank Holiday Monday. We hope it will an amazing experience for the team even though there will be no spectators.

PE Days

As the weather is improving could we please remind parents to ensure the children are wearing outdoor PE shoes on their PE days so the children can enjoy the good weather while we have it and have their PE lessons outside.

Outdoor Coats

Although it is nearly May, the weather is still wet and cold. Can we please remind parents to send your child in to school with an outdoor coat for playtimes and lunchtimes.

Bank Holiday

Just a reminder that Monday is a Bank holiday. School will reopen on Tuesday 4th of May.

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Moki Activity Bands

Year 5 are getting their chance with our new Moki Activity trackers. They sya within the Year 5/6 bubble.

It will be a competition now to see who will have the most steps. Last week Year 6 walked the equivalent of London to Edinburgh!

Feelings Workshop

Rebecca Wrightson from Durham's Mental Health Support Team visited Year 3 and Year 4 this week.

The aim is to help the children gain an understanding of feelings, emotions, friendship and looking after our own mental health and wellbeing. She will be back again next week for the second part of the workshop.

NHS Test and Trace Self-Isolation Payments

Information for parents

The Government recently announced that it has expanded the eligibility criteria for Test and Trace Support Payments to include a parent or guardian who is staying off work to look after a child who is self-isolating who meet the income eligibility threshold.

Durham County Council are in the process of updating their scheme to accept applications from parents and guardians. They aim to be able to accept parent and guardian applications no later than 12 April 2021. Parents and guardians will be able to make a claim if their child's first day of self-isolation is 8 March 2021 or later and will be able to make a backdated application, providing their child's self-isolation period did not begin before 8 March 2021.

Parents/carers can email TestandTracePayment@durham.gov.uk if they would like to be notified when we start accepting parent and guardian applications. A link to the website for applications will be circulated once the application form has gone live.

To process the payments, the local authority must verify the information provided by the parent/carer on the application form with the child's school.

This includes the following information:

- The child's name
- The child's age
- The child's main address
- The child's first day of self-isolation
- That the child didn't continue to attend the education or care setting when they should have been self-isolating.
- Whether the communication from the education or care setting is genuine (if this has been submitted by the applicant).

Your school will need It would be helpful if your school could be in a position to quickly verify details of children within your school community who are self-isolating because they are a contact.

Processing of payments will begin began on the 12th April 2021. Schools should expect contact from the local authority for confirmatory information from this time. Without verification, the local authority will be unable to make a payment to the parent/carer.

If parents/carers in our school community need support in completing the digital on-line form, they can contact Durham County Council on 03000 260000. If they require any other support to self-isolate then they can contact County Durham Together Community Hub on 03000 260 260 or email communityhub@durham.gov.uk

Leadgate Primary School – Friday Newsletter

Asymptomatic Covid-19 testing sites open across County Durham

Residents will be able to check if they have coronavirus without showing any symptoms as lateral flow test centres open across County Durham. Durham County Council has launched its Lateral Flow Device (LFD) Community Testing programme, where rapid Covid-19 tests are now available for people without symptoms of coronavirus. Residents who wish to take a test can book a slot at one of the 14 new LFD sites across the site. Walk-in slots are also available.

The tests can be taken at:

- Annfield Plain Library, DH9 8EZ
- Belmont Library, DH1 2AA
- Brandon Library, DH7 8NN
- Chilton Library, DL17 0EX
- Easington Colliery Library, SR8 3PN
- Lanchester Library, DH7 0NT
- Newton Aycliffe Youth Centre, DL5 4HT
- Pelton Library, DH2 1HS
- Spennymoor Leisure Centre, DL16 6DB
- Teesdale Hub, DL12 8TD
- Trimdon Library, TS29 6PY
- Willington Library, DL15 0PG
- Wolsingham Library, DL13 3AB
- Woodhouse Close Library, DL14 6JX

Home testing kits can also be ordered for residents who would prefer to take a test from home. These can be delivered to home or collected from the nearest Community Collect site.

All of the above LFD testing sites are registered as Community Collect sites for home testing kits. Local Pharmacies have also signed up to become a collection point.

Those who wish to take all their tests at home are encouraged to consider taking their first test at one of the LFD testing sites, as staff can give helpful guidance to feel more confident testing at home.

Residents are also advised to take a test even if they have already received their Covid-19 vaccination. It is important to still take part in the scheme as those who are vaccinated can still carry and transmit the disease to other people they come into contact with.

Amanda Healy, Durham County Council's director of public health, said: "One in three people with Covid-19 do not show symptoms. LFD testing can help us to identify the positive cases we would otherwise miss due to a person not showing symptoms. Identifying positive cases in people early, and those they have been in close contact with, can significantly reduce transmission of the virus through detection and self-isolation.

"These tests are accurate and sensitive enough to be used for asymptomatic testing in the community. However, no test is 100 per accurate and there's still a chance you can be infectious, even if you test negative. This is why, following a negative result, it is important that you still continue to follow all national guidelines regarding social distancing, wearing face coverings, washing your hands regularly and meeting people outdoors to reduce the spread of the virus."

Residents can book an LFD test online at www.bookwhen.com/dcc_testing or by contacting County Durham Together Community Hub on 03000 260 260.