

# Leadgate Primary School – Friday Newsletter

*Caring, Sharing, Learning Together*

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

## **This day in history**

**1976** Queen Elizabeth II sent the first royal e-mail, from the Royal Signals and Radar Establishment in Worcestershire

**Coming Soon** :The clocks go forward 1 hour at 1am on the last Sunday in March, the 28th March



## **Whole School Attendance**

Year 1 = 94.6%  
Year 2 = 98.7%  
Year 3 = 91.7%  
Year 4 = 91.7%  
Year 5 = 93.1%  
Year 6 = 88.7%

## **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.

## **Congratulations**

Well Done Year 2 for the best attendance in Lower School and Year 5 for the best attendance in Upper School.

**Our school target is 97%.**

## **Contact Tracing over Easter Holiday**

Dear Parent / Carers,

Schools are required to track and trace for 48 hours after school finishes on Friday 26th March 2021.

Where pupils or staff attending school test positive, having developed symptoms within 48 hours of being in school, the school is required to identifying close contacts and advise self-isolation, as the individual may have been infectious whilst in school. So, similar to the last Half Term Holiday, pupils or staff who develop symptoms on Saturday 27th or Sunday 28th March will need to be contact traced by the school. If your child develops COVID symptoms on Saturday 27th or Sunday 28th March and tests positive you must inform the school via:

emailing [p2259.admin@durhamlearning.net](mailto:p2259.admin@durhamlearning.net)

or phone 01207 610355 (and leaving a voice mail)

The school will contact you to confirm close contacts and any self-isolation period if advised by Public Health. The school will then notify the close contacts via email and text. ONLY those impacted will be contacted. Please ensure you are regularly checking your emails and texts as this will be the only official means of communication during this period. If you are contacted, you will receive an email containing all the information you need to know. Many Thanks.

## **Update from Durham County Council**

Whether it's finding fun things for the kids to do, paying for extra childcare, or even just all that extra food they seem to eat, the school holidays can be a struggle for many families. Covid-19 has meant that many people's incomes have been reduced and children and young people are keen to get out and spend time with their friends.

We want to make sure no young people go hungry during the holidays. That's why we launched our Fun and Food programme, providing fun activities with healthy snacks and meals for children and young people. Activities are provided by range of partners including schools, voluntary and community sector groups, sport and leisure services and our Family Centres.

For information on Fun and Food activities during the Easter holidays check out [www.durham.gov.uk/FunAndFood](http://www.durham.gov.uk/FunAndFood)

**HAPPY EASTER**

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## Nursery Places for September 2021

If your child turns 3 before September 2021 you are entitled to 15 hours of free childcare. We still have places available for September in our Nursery. We also offer 30 hours childcare for those who are eligible.

If you would like to apply for a Nursery place or would like some more information please contact the school office.

Tel: 01207 610355



## Nessy

Over the coming week we have now set up children in Years 4 / 5 and 6 up with new accounts for a program called Nessy. Nessy is designed to help students of all abilities learn to read, write, spell and type. This is something that many of the children need as part of their ongoing catch up in school and also to support previous learning skills. In order to do this we will need your consent and you should look out for an email which means you consent to us adding your child to Nessy in order to track their achievements and target in on any skills needing to be revisited, retaught or reintroduced.

If you wish to find out more visit :

<https://www.nessy.com/uk/>



## Parking at the rear of Upper School

Dear Parent / Carer

The increasing number of cars using the small parking area behind the schools back gate, adjacent to the Bowling green has caused an increase risk to pupils and parents collecting at the end of the day. Therefore the matter has been passed to DCC wardens and the local PCSO's who have attended this week. Can I remind all parents collecting that the path way from the back gate does extend all the way onto Valley View and children can be collected and walked back to the car if you park there.

## Easter Free School Meal Vouchers

Parents/ Carers with children entitled to Free School Meals (not Universal Free School Meals) will shortly be receiving a voucher from Durham County Council to cover the Easter Holiday (£40). Exactly the same as at Christmas and Half Term Vouchers these will come direct to your email from our school email address. As of today, all vouchers have now been processed so please check all your mail boxes.

## Easter Egg Competition

This week we celebrated Easter with our Traditional Easter Egg competition. Thanks for all of your fabulous entries. You have certainly used your imagination and have obviously worked very hard. A huge thank you to all the teachers how have helped to judge, I know it was very difficult to decide.

<b>Nursery</b> The winners were: 1st Olivia T - Spider 2nd Archie H - Chick 3rd MaryJoan - Ladybird	<b>Reception</b> The winners were: 1st Lacey Jo T - Chick 2nd Jaxon W - Spiderman 3rd Myla Y - Bunny	<b>Year 1</b> The winners were: 1st Sienna R - Pikachu 2nd George R - Puppy 3rd Jake R – Sully	<b>Year 2</b> The winners were: 1st Olivia B -Dragon 2nd Charlie W -Spider 3rd Aoife -Bunny
<b>Year 3</b> The winners were: 1st - Amelia-Mae 2nd - Lola 3rd - Eboni	<b>Year 4</b> The winners were: 1st - Finley 2nd - Lillie 3rd - John	<b>Year 5</b> The winners were: 1st - Nell 2nd - Lincoln 3rd - Isla	<b>Year 6</b> Our winners are: 1 <sup>st</sup> - Abigail 2 <sup>nd</sup> - Emily E 3 <sup>rd</sup> - Emily W

Well done to everyone who participated!

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## Update to Track and Trace Support Payment

Dear Parent / Carer,

Please read below an important update on Track and Trace payments should you be required to take time off work to care for your child whilst they are isolating. Please note this is managed by Durham County Council and the link to follow is: <https://www.durham.gov.uk/testandtracepayment>

Can I also remind all families, with only 2 more days until the Easter holiday to maintain social distancing at all times. The mixing of households, indoors, outdoors or in cars continues to pose a serious risk to closing multiple classes within the school as we have seen happen already in schools locally.

**Financial support if you have to take time off work to care for your child while they are self-isolating**

If you are on a low income and you need to take time off work to care for your child while they are self-isolating, you may be eligible for financial support from your local authority through the Test and Trace Support Payment scheme.

The Test and Trace Support Payment scheme is open to people who live in England and who meet the following criteria:

- They are the parent or guardian of a child or young person in the same household and need to take time off work to care for them while they self-isolate; this is limited to one parent or guardian per household for the child or young person's self-isolation period
- Are employed or self-employed
- Are unable to work from home while undertaking caring responsibilities and will lose income as a result
- They are currently receiving or are the partner of someone in the same household who is receiving at least one of the following benefits:
  - o Universal Credit
  - o Working Tax Credit
  - o income-based Employment and Support Allowance
  - o income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
  - o Income Support
  - o Housing Benefit
  - o Pension Credit

**Their child or young person:**

- o is aged 15 or under (or 25 or under with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHC) and normally attends an education or childcare setting
- o has been told to self-isolate by NHS Test and Trace or by their education or childcare setting because they have been identified as a close contact of someone who has tested positive for COVID-19

Discretionary payments are also available for people on low incomes who are not on means-tested benefits but who may still face hardship as a result of the requirement to self-isolate. Your local authority may have additional eligibility criteria in place for discretionary payments.

If you are eligible, you will receive a £500 payment from your local authority in addition to any benefits and Statutory Sick Pay you receive currently. If you are unsure which local authority you should claim from, you can check on Find your Local Council on GOV.UK: <https://www.gov.uk/find-local-council>