

Leadgate Primary School – Friday Newsletter

Caring, Sharing, Learning Together

Friday, 23rd April 2021

This day in history

1985 – Coca-Cola changes its formula and releases New Coke. The response is overwhelmingly negative, and the original formula is back on the market in less than three months.



Arrival and Home Times

Can I please remind parents the children should only attend the school site at their designated times.

On Upper School site some children are arriving early and we do not currently have any morning supervision on the yard. By arriving at the correct time they will have access into the building, be supervised and not cross bubbles with other age groups. I know this can be difficult with older children walking to school themselves and appreciate you understanding in this matter.

At Lower School could we please remind parents waiting in the car park not to allow their children to run between the parked cars as they risk damaging vehicles and themselves in a confined space.

We would also like to remind parents that the rules and routines on social distancing continue to be in place. When you are waiting to collect your child please maintain social distance and follow the routines in place to continue to protect our whole community.



Whole School Attendance

Year 1 = 98.8%

Year 2 = 97.6%

Year 3 = 95.2%

Year 4 = 95.5%

Year 5 = 96.9%

Year 6 = 96.2%

Congratulations

Well Done Year 1 for the best attendance in Lower School and Year 5 for the best attendance in Upper School.

Our school target is 97%.

Mental Health & Wellbeing

As last week's visit to Year 5 and 6 from Rebecca Wrightson from Durham's Mental Health Support Team was such a success we have invited her back again on the 29th of April and the 6th of May to work with Year 3 and Year 4.

The aim is to help the children gain an understanding of feelings, emotions, friendship and looking after our own mental health and well being. We look forward to having her back again.

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.

Sun Protection

As children play regularly outside, it is important that they are protected from the sun. It is important that through the summer months all children have an application of sunscreen applied to them before playing out in the sun. Sun cream is provided in school. If you would like to provide sunscreen for your child please send the bottles in clearly labelled with your child's name.

Could you also please ensure your child has a sun hat in school during the summer term.

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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 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

Year 6 Moki Activity Bands

Well done to Year 6 who have been recording their steps and activity all week using their new MOKI bands and so far have totalled an amazing 635,000 steps in one week. This is the equivalent of walking to London!

They have now set their own challenge of reaching 700000 steps in one week.

Well done and keep it up!



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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.