Lane End Primary School Newsletter

10th September 2018

(0113) 8313449

laneendparents@gmail.com

A Super Start



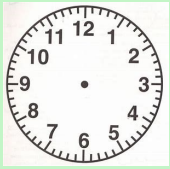
Welcome back everyone, and a very warm welcome too—to our new families that have joined us in either Reception or Nursery.

All the children have made a super start to the school year, and have come into school smart and ready to get stuck into learning.

You will see lots of new staff faces around school too—as we continue to grow, the staff team numbers increase too, with10 people joining Team Lane End this week! I will try to update the school website as soon as I can—so you can put names to faces.

We have officially moved upstairs also—Year 4 are in classes on the 2nd floor of school. A big thank you to our Year 4 parents who have been very patient at dropping and picking up times this week while we worked out the best system for collections etc.

Please can I make an appeal that all children, especially Y4, are at their lining up point at 8:55 at the VERY latest. If the children arrive after this—they need to go back to the main office, a member of staff is needed to escort them through the building and upstairs, and they are missing the first part of their lesson as a result. I know drop off times are very busy and parking can be tricky, but please can you allow for this and get the children where they need to be for 8:50— 8:55.



Achievement Assembly will begin again next Friday and I look forward to seeing many of you their, to share in the successes of the week.

If your child is to get a special mention in the assembly , a text will be sent on Thursday letting you know. I appreciate that not all parents will be able to make it, but if you can, or another relative/friend wants to come—it makes it very special for everyone.

Thanks again for a super start—it is going to be a great term!



Important dates coming up….

Friday 14th September:
Achievement Assemblies start 9:00– 9:40

Thursday 13th September
Y4 Cherry Class start weekly swimming sessions

New Class Information 'Beginning of the Year' (BOY) meetings:
A letter will follow separately with more details.
Y2 Thursday 20th Sept 9:15 and repeated at 3:30
Y4 Monday 24th Sept 9:15 and repeated at 3:30
Y3 Tuesday 25th Sept 9:15 and repeated at 3:30
Y1 Thursday 27th Sept 9:15 and repeated at 3:30

Friday 28th September: MacMillan Coffee Morning 2:00pm

Thursday 4th October:
Parent Information Maths Workshop event 3:30—4:30
A letter will follow with more details nearer the time

Wednesday 10th October—School photographer in school for individual and sibling shots

Monday 15th October - School Book Fair in school (for a week)

Wednesday 24th and Thursday 25th October—individual Parent Evening Consultation appointments after school

Friday 16th November—Children in Need day

Christmas event dates will follow in next months newsletter



Keeping Safe

Please could we ask that if someone other than a parent is picking up a child, that you let the class teacher know yourselves– even if it was an arrangement that was in place last year. New teachers are still getting to know families and people collecting the children –and will be overly safe when checking who it is collecting if they are not 100% sure yet who is who.

I know you will support us in this as it is better to be safe than sorry—we may stop a child from being collected until we have rung you and check if you haven't told us that information directly yourself.

Attendance, Absence and Punctuality

Following discussions with a number of families in the Summer term, we thought it would be useful to clarify a few things in terms of attendance systems, punctuality and absences from school.

The information below *in italics* is taken from the school attendance statement, which can be found in full on the school website. http://www.laneendprimary.org.uk/policies/

Absence due to appointments -Medical, Dental or Hospital Appointments

We would expect that these appointments will take place out of school time in order not to disrupt the pupil's education. Full day absences for medical appointments will not be authorised unless discussion takes place between a senior member of staff and home. For any medical appointments to be authorised, pupils or parents should produce the medical appointment card/letter, and these will be authorised at the discretion of the Headteacher/School Attendance Leader. Pupils will be expected to attend school before or after the appointment (or both) depending on the time of the appointment. Should this be an issue with individual medical practices parents are entitled by law to request a copy of all medical appointments for their child.

If your child has seen a doctor for illness, and then had time off following this while getting better—if the school has seen written evidence of the medical appointment, this information can be noted on your child's absence record, and considered in relation to any overall dip in your child's overall attendance %. So please have remember to show the main office appointment records/letters/cards on your child's return, so that they can make a note of this.

Exceptional Circumstances Absence

Each school within Leeds expects that parents will take their holidays during the approved school break. It should be noted that there are 175 days each year when pupils are on holiday from school. The cost, convenience or availability of a particular holiday will not be taken into consideration. Parents must accept that additional absence will be unauthorised and will be coded so upon their pupil's attendance record. The Government has changed the Education (Pupil Registration) Regulations in relation to term time holidays and this came into force on 1 September 2013.

As a result, Head Teachers can no longer allow any leave of absence during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances. This means that holidays in term time ***will not*** *be authorised and will be marked as an unauthorised absence in the school register. Any request for Exceptional Circumstances Absence must be put in writing to the Headteacher.* **A form must be collected, completed and returned to school for any absence requests.**

In the event of a parent taking a pupil out of school for an unauthorised holiday, following the change in Government Regulations in September 2013 the school ***will always inform the local authority who can issue a fixed penalty.***

Please be aware, we will follow the guidance in every case as we are obliged to do—no matter how good your child's attendance usually is— and it is the local authority who decide if a fine is issued. They do not inform school of their decisions, and the money is kept by the council, not the school. If other schools are not following this process, they are not complying with this statutory guidance.

We do understand and appreciate the circumstances and decisions some families make, but please be reassured that we can only follow the guidance we are expected to abide by—issued by the Local Authority, National Government and checked up and monitored on by other agencies such as OFSTED.