



Lethbridge Primary School Newsletter

November 2020



Welcome to our latest newsletter

Dear All

Thank you to everyone who has been so supportive of us during the first term of the full reopening of the school. We have a lot planned this term in order to ensure the children have a great time and experience lots of lovely things despite the restrictions that have been put upon this.

This week is our first Lethbridge Literary Festival. Each year group is taking part in activities based around a wonderful book and enjoying interviews with the authors. This has been very much based on the Cheltenham Literature Festival and we plan to make it an annual event. We also have other events and dress up days planned for this term so please take note of the 'dates for your diary' section of the newsletter.

We are working hard to make sure that children can still take part in the sorts of activities that we usually run during term 2 so also keep your eye out for further information about how we will be ensuring our younger children still take part in Nativity and Christmas productions even if we need to broadcast these online to you. We also hope to begin running class assemblies after Christmas and these will also be accessed online.

Thank you very much for taking part in the Lethbridge half term 5K run. We hugely appreciate you supporting the Friends of Lethbridge despite usual events not taking place. And a big thank you from me to the Friends of Lethbridge team for continuing to find ways to raise money for the school.

Kind regards,

Lisa Mayes

Face coverings

From Thursday 5th November I would like to ask parents to please wear a face covering on the school playgrounds when dropping off and picking up their children. I know that wearing a face covering outside is not part of the current government guidance however, considering the details of the new guidance for lockdown beginning on 5th November, wearing a face covering on the playground where a large group of people are gathering and are unable to completely socially distance appears to me to be in the spirit of the new rules. I would very much appreciate your cooperation in this. My overriding aim to keep the school open and in order to do this we need to do our absolute best to reduce the risk of Covid-19 infection as far as we can. Can I also ask you to please refrain from using the side gate from the Key Stage One playground that leads to the main playground unless you have a child who you are taking to their line. If you are an adult on your own please walk round. I know it's inconvenient but we are just trying to keep our staff as safe as possible so they can be here for your child.

Remote learning

As you'll be aware, we have been working to improve our remote learning offer for those children unable to attend school due to periods of isolation. We have been using the Purple Mash platform for this and have found that it is working well in some aspects but it still isn't offering as good an experience as we would like. For this reason we are making a change to a different online learning platform called Seesaw. We have been working with a Department for Education initiative called EdTech and this has enabled us to partner up with a group of schools approved by the Department for Education to offer the best online remote learning experience and ensures that we meet all the new government expectations for this. We will be sending you detailed information on this platform and how it can be accessed and the login information for your child will be coming home with them in their reading record book.

Christmas presents for school staff

Every year at Christmas time many parents are kind enough to send in small gifts for teachers and TAs who work with their children. This is hugely appreciated but this year, as you know, we are trying really hard to not have children bringing things in from home to reduce infection risks. We are also in a position where a lot of our fundraising activities have had to stop so we would like to ask you to try something different this year. We are setting up an Amazon wish list for each class which means that parents who would usually choose to buy a teacher or TA a present might instead consider buying a book for the children in the class to use in their book corner. We will happily add a nameplate to the book to say who it was donated by. If a few of you are clubbing together to buy a book please let us know via email and we will ensure all family names are added to the nameplate.

Ventilation in school

You'll probably be aware that there are a lot of windows in school open at the moment as part of the advice we've been given says that we should open windows to keep classrooms well ventilated. The down side of this of course is that it can be quite cold sometimes in school. We are being sensible and trying to balance the ventilation with a comfortable temperature but you might want to make sure that your child always has a jumper in school and maybe wears an extra layer if they are feeling cold.



Dates for your diary:

Friday 13th November

Children in Need & Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal – dress in red or spots for a donation – money raised will be split between the 2 charities

Wednesday 18th November

Flu vaccines administered in school for pupils

Friday 4th December

Non Uniform day for Hamper donations – Friends of Lethbridge

Friday 11th December

Wear your Christmas Jumper day - donations for Save the Children & Mini Christmas games/stalls event for the children run by Friends of Lethbridge

Thursday 17th December

Christmas lunch for children – Christmas jumpers can be worn again instead of a sweatshirt/ cardigan – *(order lunch on school lunch system)*

Friday 18th December

Year 5 & 6 only - Antarctica dress up day

School finishes at 1.30pm for Christmas holidays.

Tuesday 5th January 2021

Term 3 starts for pupils

VALUE OF THE TERM:

