

SEPTEMBER

NEWS



WELCOME BACK

We hope you all had a good summer break even though for some of you it was a lot longer than that, with all sorts of complications I am sure. Anyway, welcome back for a new school year and a particularly warm welcome to all of our new children and their families. We hope that, despite things still not being completely back to normal, all the children settle in quickly and without any problems – don't forget to email us if there is something you are worried about.

Thank you all so much for 'following the rules' for drop off and pick up so that it runs smoothly. From next week there will be a lot more children around as our Reception children will be starting their part-time sessions. They have a different gate but please stick to your time slots so that we don't have too many at once on the pavement directly outside school.

WEBSITE, APP, FACEBOOK AND BLOG

Don't forget that all of the information you need about our school is on our website <https://www.wensumtrust.org.uk/lodgelane>

The calendar and newsletter sections are there for any information you may have forgotten or that you need to know in advance. The calendar for the whole year will be completed as soon as possible and any extra dates will be added as they are set.

If you click on an item on the calendar, it will give you more details of the event. The newsletter will also be posted on our Facebook page (Lodge Lane Home Learning Support), together with reminders of different things going on.

Newsletters will now be emailed to you each month rather than sending out paper copies.



BIKES AND SCOOTERS

We always encourage our children to walk, bike or scoot to school but please remember that the bikes and scooters cannot be kept at school during the day at the moment.

SNACKTIME

Our free fruit deliveries have now resumed so all children are provided with a snack at school every day. If you want to provide your own piece of fruit that it is fine.

SAFEGUARDING AND CHILD PROTECTION

Because of our day-to-day contact with the children we are particularly well placed to observe outward signs of abuse, changes in behaviour or failure to develop. We have a duty to protect children from abuse; however, our role is in recognition and referral, not investigation or intervention. We are required by law to follow procedures laid down by the Norfolk

Safeguarding Children Board if we see signs which suggest that one of our pupils may have been the victim of abuse. Use of the procedures in this way is an obligation placed on the school by legislation and in no way infers that any parent/carer is being accused of wrongdoing.

Lodge Lane is registered with Operation Encompass. This means that Norfolk Police will contact the school concerning any domestic incidents which involve the families of our children the day after the incident occurred.

ATTENDANCE



As you will be aware by now, we are not allowed to authorise any holidays during term time unless the circumstances are exceptional. All planned absence during term time should be applied for in writing at least a week before the absence and you will receive a written response.

You will receive an email about attendance in the next couple of weeks and our policy is on our website.

We are constantly trying to keep our school attendance in line with the national average but we need your support to do this. We are aiming for 97% attendance - last year, up until lockdown we achieved 96% attendance.

We know that many of you will be anxious about sending your children to school under the current circumstances, but I hope that you are confident that as a school we are doing everything we can to keep everyone safe. If your child has any of the Covid-19 symptoms than of course they should not come to school and government guidelines should be followed. If your child has a 'normal' cold then you need to decide if they are well enough to come to school or not. In any case, please ring the school office to notify us.

PE for Y1 and Y2

As you will know from your August email, each class will have a set day for PE and on that day the children need to come to school in their PE kit and will remain in it all day. PE will be done outside so they need to be warm enough and have appropriate footwear. Long hair needs to be tied back and earrings need to be removed or covered with micropore tape or a wide elasticated hair band which you should provide. Reception children will not be doing PE lessons.

Rockhopper Penguins – Monday
Orangutans – Tuesday
Turtles – Wednesday
Squirrels – Thursday
Hedgehogs - Friday

All classes will also be having some additional exercise sessions through the week but these will not require a PE kit.

This will all start week beginning 14th September

READING BOOKS AND LIBRARY BOOKS

As you know, our new library is just about ready to use, but we will not be using it in the 'normal' way. Each week a different class will have access to the library.

Children should bring book bags every day but they will only change their books once a week. If they get through reading books quickly, then they should take more than one for the week. Books that are returned to school will not be put out again for 72 hours.

It is essential for children to practise their reading skills at home, if they are to make good progress. Please hear them read and read to them as often as you can.

Book changing days are as follows:

Hedgehogs, Pandas, Tigers – Monday
Squirrels – Tuesday
Rockhopper Penguins – Wednesday
Turtles – Thursday
Orangutans – Friday

DRINK BOTTLES

All children need a named water bottle every day – please stick to water and not juice. Children in Panda and Tiger classes will also have access to milk if they would like it.



WELLIES

All children need to have a pair of named wellies left at school please.

INFORMATION SESSIONS FOR PARENTS

As you know, we cannot have parents coming into school for meetings and workshops at the moment so we have had to rethink how we tell you about the curriculum.

Instead of the 'New To Y1' and 'New To Y2' sessions that would take place early on in the term, you will have a letter emailed out with the relevant information on it.

Information about Maths and English and how we teach it in Y1 and Y2 will be put on our website.

For parents and carers of reception children, we will leave things until they have settled and then arrange to 'talk' to you about the curriculum.

CHILDREN STARTING SCHOOL IN SEPTEMBER 2021

If you know anyone whose child is due to start school next September, please encourage them to come and have a look round. They can email or phone to make an appointment. Even if they don't live in the local area, they still have a chance of a getting a place. Thank you!



FAMILY SUPPORT WORKER

We were delighted to have received another years' funding from the Alderman Norman Foundation to enable Rachael Aitken to stay on as our Family Support Worker. Rachael will be at Lodge Lane on Wednesdays and Thursdays most weeks and her role is to work with children and parents with the support that they need. Last year, across Lodge Lane and Garrick Green, she helped with issues such as behaviour, bed time routines, attendance, friendships, attachment...the list is endless.

If you would like to contact her, please email raitken6bra@nsix.org.uk and she will get back to you.

SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS

Some of our children in school need extra help to learn and different resources and / or learning experiences to meet their potential. This is different from those children who may need support to catch up because they have missed some aspects of schooling due to Covid. We will be spending time getting to know the needs of both groups in the coming weeks and planning appropriately. If your child is already on the SEN register you may not get a Learning Support Plan until October half term this year. This is to allow time, firstly, for the children to settle and feel secure and ready to learn, and secondly for us to assess what barriers to learning they may face. We will start our support and interventions before October and provisions will all be documented within school, it's just the targets and paperwork that will be formalised once we feel each child has properly settled. All Learning Support Plans will be shared through Edukey so you will get an invite to view their records on a secure, web-based platform called Provision Mapping. You can message the teacher through Edukey too. Email, messaging over Edukey and virtual meetings will need to take the place of face to face meetings this term.

If you are interested in finding out more about the future of SEN in Norfolk, the Virtual School for SEND support are holding a virtual SEND roadshow, please see the attachment in this email for details. Remember that you can email your child's teacher with your concerns and we will still be inviting professional specialists into school to support children where possible.

DRAMA CLUB

As you know, normally in Y1 and Y2 we offer a range of after school clubs each week and one of these is Drama with Mr Carl Bradley. Whilst we cannot facilitate any clubs at school for the time being, Mr Bradley is going to do his drama club online. He trialed this with some of our children in the summer term and it was so successful he is going to continue. Everything you need to know about this club is attached in this email – booking and payment is done with him directly, and not through the school. Your child would do the club from home, not at school.

OUTDOOR LEARNING

I am sorry to inform you that, due to a staffing restructure, Forest School that has run at Lodge Lane for a few years, will not be able to run in the same way this year. We all know that being outside is really good for our children, particularly at the moment, so we are still going to do timetabled outdoor learning within each class, but we have not finalised the details yet. In the meantime, children are all getting lots of time outdoors each day with structured and unstructured activities.

SCHOOL VALUES

With everything that has been happening, it is hard to believe that we launched our new school values last September! In the autumn term we focused on 'kindness', in the spring it was 'teamwork' and then very appropriately in the summer it was 'challenge.'

This term we will be focusing on 'respect' through stories, discussions and our Inquiries.

HALF TERM

School closes for Half Term on Wednesday 21st October and the children come back on Monday 2nd November.