Long Whatton C of E Primary School

Newsletter 28.10.20



Welcome back! I hope you all managed to have some break or even took a holiday over half term. I just wanted to thank you all for your support over the last half term. Thank you for keeping to staggered times, wearing your masks on pick up and drop offs and making the right choices over whether to keep your child at home when they are ill. Our attendance for the whole school has been around 93.5% for the last half term which is down on our usual 97% for this time last year but a figure to still be proud of under the current pandemic.

We want to keep as many children in school as possible this half term so that we continue to close those gaps. This is always a difficult half term for illness as we approach the winter months and children pick up those coughs, colds and flu like symptoms. This has been made even more difficult with Covid 19 to contend with too. I ask for your further support as we move through winter to continue to keep your child off school when they display any of the covid syptoms:

- A high temperature this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- A new, continuous cough this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- A loss or change to your sense of smell or taste this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal



Thank you all for your donations for Loughborough Foodbank. I know they were overwhelmed by your generous response especially during these difficult times.

Our children had a class service led by Reverand Lauretta where they shared their poems and songs with her.

They then went over to the church to take their donations. The children loved going into the church and it was clear from the many questions that they asked Reverend Lauretta that they relished the opportunity to look around the church again.



Exciting news! Over the summer the PTA agreed to match fund with the school a replacement wooden Trim Trail for the children. The last one had unfortunately reached the end of its time and was no longer safe for the children to use. Over the half term this was fitted and the Busy Bees have been on it this week! As the children move between the 4 bubbled zones over the 4 week rotation all classes/ bubbles will be able to try it out. Thank you all again for the donations that you have made over this time to allow us to purchase this for our children. I know all of the children will be so excited to be able to use this.





Thank you again for attending our parents evening last half term. It was so lovely to see so many of you again. I know the staff really enjoyed having the opportunity to talk to you in person and sharing their books with you. It was clear from the turn out that many parents valued being able to come into school to talk to the teachers. We know what a difference the link between school and home means for your child and their development.

Thank you all again for understanding and following all of the safety procedures that we put into place.



Thank you for purchasing some new books for your children at the book fair. As you know the librarian from Leicestershire County Council sorted through our library and wrote off books that were damaged or were more than 20 years old. This left us with very few books for our library. We managed to raise £30



Miss Hellawell set up a sponsored read over the half term. So far we have raised \pounds 90. Well done to all of the children who took part. The closing date for anymore entries is the 30th October 2020.

A message form Mrs Chantrill

If your child is interested in piano and recorder lessons then please contact Mrs Chantrill on 07572993010 or

email <u>jillchantrill@chantrill.com</u> for further details.

We also offer guitar (contact Mark on 07929 912 540) or ukulele and drumming lessons (contact George on 07888 668450).





Each class has already begun to make their wreath for the village war memorial.

This year we will hold our minutes silence in our class bubbles on the 11th hour.

Throughout the day we will then go in our class bubbles to lay our class wreath.

We will be holding a special assembly in our class bubbles on the day.

Unfortunately we will not be all able to stand together and invite the community to stand with us to pay our respects.

Our poppies are now in school and we will send out further details of how to purchase these next week.

Thank you again for all of your support so far this half term.

Our Christmas pantomime booking at Loughborough Town Hall was cancelled this year due to Covid.

We are currently working on how we can produce Christmas performances for this year in our class bubbles and how we can share them with you.

We are also thinking of the logistics of Christmas parties and Christmas dinner.

As soon as I have further details on these I



Children in need is on the 13th of November this year. On this day children are invited to wear their pyjamas to school for the day in exchange for a ± 1.00 donation for the charity.

We will set everyone up with a $\pounds 1.00$ donation on school money on the day so that money comes into school but please only donate if you would like to.

We will be doing lots of activities in school on the day!

Anti-Bullying Week 2020

This year Anti-Bullying week is from Monday 16th November - Friday 20th November 2020!

The theme for Anti-Bullying Week 2020 is United Against Bullying.

We will start the week with Odd Socks Day on Monday 16th November to mark the first day of Anti-Bullying Week. Please make your socks as colourful as possible!



We are really looking forward to the busy half term ahead! Mrs Gray and the Long Whatton Team