

Loddon Primary Federation

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FEDERATION NEWS Friday 14th September 2018

I hope you all had a lovely summer. It seems a distant memory now! Welcome to the new parents across the school as well. We have had several children starting across the school, as well as our new Reception and Nursery children. I must say how smart everyone is looking, thank you for ensuring that your children have got the correct uniform.

I hope you find the year calendar useful; please be aware that some dates may change.

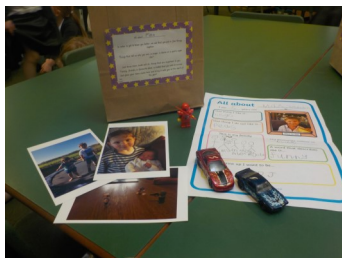
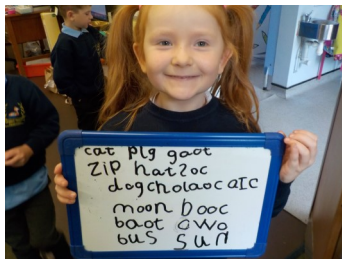
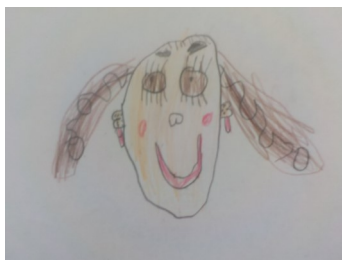
I do apologise for such a barrage of information in my first newsletter! My aim is to keep you as informed as possible about the school. I believe that the school needs to work closely with parents to ensure that we give your children the best possible education at Loddon Primary Federation, and also the very best possible start.

Another very busy year ahead!

Mr R Burbage

1S NEWS

A huge welcome back from 1S! We have had a lovely first week back at school learning about our new class and our new friends. We have been reading 'You Choose' and have been choosing places and homes that we would like to live in, we also picked characters who we would want as our 'family and friends'. In topic we are learning about 'Ourselves', we enjoyed looking at each other's baby photos and trying to guess who they were, we noticed how much we have changed! We also had a go at drawing self-portraits.



MRS YOUNG

Mrs Young's cancer treatment is going well. She would like to thank parents and children for the gifts and best wishes that she has received, they have meant a lot. Mr Burbage, Mrs Robinson and Mr Harvey are leading SEND across the school so if you have any queries please direct you questions to one of them.

PARENT PAY

We will be starting a new online payment system. Initially at the Infant School for ordering lunches and at the Junior school for trip payments. By October half term we hope to be using the system fully in both schools. Please find attached an information letter about the new payment system giving you a username and password to log on and to access the system.

Regarding school dinners at the Infants, if you have previously selected a three week menu choice this will automatically carry on. Dinners will need to be ordered by mid-night on Thursday for the following week.

In relation to trips at the Juniors, we will start this with our first Theatre Trip to Norwich Theatre Royal for a Ministry of Science Event on Wednesday 10th October at 6.30pm

If you have any queries regarding this please do not hesitate to speak to either office.

MSA STAFF

If you are interested in being a Midday Supervisor on an ad hoc basis to cover illness, please enquire at the office.

FRIENDS

There is a friends meeting being held on 18th September. If anyone is interesting in joining the friends or attending the meeting please speak to the office staff.

The friends raise a significant amount of money for the school each year to provide 'extras' for the children. They will be holding a coffee morning, (this date will be confirmed shortly) if you would like to find out more about what they do.

UNIFORM

Please can you ensure that all uniform is named, this makes it much easier to return any lost items. Thank you

HIGH SCHOOL TRANSFERS

Year 6 have brought home a letter this week from Norfolk County Council regarding transfer to High School for September 2019. Preference forms can be returned by post direct to County or an application can be processed on line. All applications need to be made by 31st October 2018.

LETTERS

If you have not yet handed in your student update form and consent forms please do so as soon as possible. This information is vital in order to make sure we have your correct details.

JEWELLERY

Jewellery should NOT be worn in school. For pierced ears, simple studs only may be worn, which will need to be removed by the child for PE (or plasters / tape provided by parents if they cannot be removed). It would be advisable for the younger children, in particular, to have their earrings removed before school on PE days.

PE KIT

White T-shirt and black shorts, or plain coloured T-shirt appropriate to their House Team. Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 require plimsolls in a shoe bag, and Years 3 - 6 require trainers for outside use. The same footwear should not be used inside and out. Children who are keen on playing football on the field will need to change into trainers. If ear-rings can not be removed for PE, please could you send in plasters or tape.

CONSIDERATE PARKING

The school welcomes considerate parkers! Please use spaces on the side of the road as much as possible, and also allow residents access in and out of their driveways. Please do not use the staff car parks. My priority is the children's safety, and encouraging safe and considerate parking to allow children safe access to school. I would appreciate your support in this matter so that the school can have good relationships with the community. **No parent parking in the school grounds please, except for disabled access, for the safety of your children.**

JUNIOR LETTERS

Lots of letters have come home over the last week:
Choir - starts again Wednesday 19th September
Music Lessons - some have re-started already.
Duxford Trip - optional trip
Kingswood Trip - Years 4 and 5
Cromer Trip - Year 3 and 4
After School sports Club - now full but there is a waiting list ready for after half-term.
After School Dance Club - a couple of spaces still available for this one.
If you have missed any letters they are available on the Recent Letters Section, in the Parents Tab on the School Website.

PARENTS EVENING

Parents Evenings are:
Tuesday 16th October Juniors 3.40 - 6.00pm
Infants 5.00-7.00pm
Wednesday 17th October Infants 3.30-6.00
Juniors 5.00-7.00pm

INFANT HOME SCHOOL DIARIES

All infant children are sent home with a home school diary. This is for you to communicate with your child's teacher. Please list in this diary any people who are able to collect your child from school. We will not allow children to go home with anyone other than a parent unless we have had permission from a parent. Thank you.

LOST PROPERTY

We have a large amount of lost property at both schools. Please take a look to see if anything belongs to you. We will be disposing of this on 21st September.

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE / LEAVE OF ABSENCE REQUESTS

The Department for Education expects schools and local authorities to promote good attendance and reduce absences, including persistent absence. This is because we know that missing out on lessons leaves children/young people vulnerable to falling behind and disrupts the learning of others. Children/young people with poor attendance tend to achieve less in both primary and secondary schools. As a school we work incredibly hard to support all children/young people and their families so as to ensure that all children/young people have good attendance.

The Government made amendments to the Education (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2006 which came into force on 1st September 2013.

These state that Headteachers may not grant any leave of absence for holidays during the term time unless there are exceptional circumstances; in these cases it is the Headteacher who determines the number of days a child can be away from school if the leave is granted.

In line with these regulations, I will not approve requests for leave of absence for reasons that are not considered to be special or exceptional such as, leave of absence for the following will not normally be granted:

- Availability of cheap holidays and cheap travel arrangements
- Days overlapping with beginning or end of term or inset days
- Parents leave of absence from work cannot be in school holidays

Parents wanting any leave of absence should complete a form from the school office before the anticipated start date. The reason for the request should be given in detail. Applications will not be granted retrospectively.

I would like to remind parents that this is Government policy for all schools and parents who take their children on holiday without permission will incur unauthorised holiday absence for their child. Please be aware that these remain on your child's record and are then monitored and further action by the Education Welfare Service if necessary. Parents could then be issued with a fixed penalty notice and/or court action.

MOBILE PHONES

If Junior children bring a mobile phone to school, please ask them to leave them with the office staff for safe keeping during the day.

OFFICE HOURS

Office hours for the Infants are 8:30am to 3:30pm and for the Junior at 8.30am to 4.00pm Monday - Friday.

