



The Loxdale Local



Autumn half-term 1 2023



Welcome back:

It is so lovely to have all our pupils back in school, including our new pupils and families. We look forward to another great year together. We have lots planned and cannot wait to welcome parents and carers into school for a range of events. Please see the list of planned events overleaf.

We would also like to welcome all of our new staff- it seems like they have always been part of our Loxdale family.

Mr and Mrs Dullat have welcomed their son and all the family are doing really well. Mrs Humphries is excitedly planning for her new arrival too and will be beginning her maternity leave next half term.

Harvest celebrations are fast approaching and it is a wonderful time of year to give thanks to those who provide us with food all year round. To celebrate this year, each class will be performing a harvest song for you to enjoy, this will be available for viewing on Friday 27th October on our school's Facebook page. Harvest is an important time of year, where we remember to give thanks for the food that is grown. Whilst we know these continue to be challenging times for many families, we would really appreciate any donations of non-perishable food items.

***All donations are welcome from Monday 23rd October to Friday 27th October. ***



Wellbeing Award As you are aware, we are working towards the Wellbeing Award for Schools. We have had our initial surveys back from staff, pupils and parents/carers and now Miss Hanley & Miss Cowley are busy analysing the results and looking at what they can introduce or expand on to ensure wellbeing is a key focus throughout the Loxdale community. They have created a 'Change Team' comprising of staff, governors and parents/carers who will meet to review the Action Plan and play a key role in promoting wellbeing for all. You will hear more about these exciting developments over the year.



Monday 16th Oct @ 2:30pm

NHS SEND Coffee Morning

Parents are invited in to speak to the designated SEND School Nurses with anything related to their children: including toileting, bed wetting or simply seeking advice on any SEND needs.

RWI lesson links: Please keep a look out in your emails for video links to phonics lessons that you can watch with your child. Every two weeks a total of 10 different lesson links each will go out to Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 parents/carers. These video links will be available during the current term and will then expire. This is a great way for you to know which sounds your child has been learning at school and help you to better support them with their reading at home.

Parents NEEDED!

As a school, we are really looking forward to working more closely with parents and carers this year to support our children when engaging with the online world. This collaborative approach will hopefully ensure that our children have the knowledge and understanding they need in order to make positive, well-informed choices whilst they are online, therefore improving their digital footprint.

To develop this collaboration, we will be hosting computing sessions for Year 6 Poplar (Wednesday 25th October), Year 5 Pine (Wednesday 22nd November) and Year 5 Cedar (Wednesday 29th November), where parents will be invited to come into school to work on computing projects with their children between 9:15-10:30am. We look forward to seeing as many parents/ carers there as possible.



Mental Health Champions- In January we will work with One Goal on a wonderful initiative to transform our pupil's mental health and wellbeing. Years 5 and 6 have been enrolled on the Mental Health Champions training and have undertaken learning to:



- * Better understand and value their own mental health
- * Empower them to really care for their mental health
- * Encourage them to promote and support the mental health and wellbeing of others around school.
- * Inspire them to be the best Mental Health Champions they can be.

We are delighted to announce that this year our Year 5 pupils will begin their training as Mental Health Champions and our Year 6 pupils will have the opportunity to experience a refresher session enabling them to continue their role.





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School Dinners Update As reported in the last issue of Loxdale News, School Dinner prices have now increased to £2.40 per meal. This is still below the average for the city which the Local Authority assure us is approximately £2.60 per meal. You can see our [School Menu here](#).

Arbor Update

Our school has now completed the first phase of its transfer to our new Management Information system. We will now be embarking on phase 2 which will see the role out of a new email and text system as well as a new Parent Portal App for your smart phones. This will enable you as a parent/carer to receive information from the school via the app and will also enable you as a parent/carer to update information yourself such as consents (photos, trips, walk home etc...) and changes to addresses or phone numbers as well as paying for school trips and school dinners. Our aim is to bring all of our current systems in to one, single, easy to use app. Watch this space and we will communicate more information as and when the time comes.

 **Raise FREE funds**
for us every time you shop online
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Currys PCWorld eBay Booking.com JUST EAT
Uswitch sky M&S Groupon asos

Easyfundraising As Christmas approaches, and you are planning your festive shopping online, maybe do your shopping via <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/loxdalepaws/> to help raise money for your children and school.

Over the last couple of years you have all helped to raise hundreds of pounds by just doing your normal online shopping via easyfundraising. It may not sound like a lot, but it all adds up. Thank you so much. All this money has been raised without anyone having to do anything other than do their normal online purchases through easyfundraising. Now think what that could be when you all do your Christmas shopping online.

Our new School Council are busy planning a special meal to celebrate our Black History Week in school. They have spoken to Ana our cook and she is going to be making Jerk Chicken with rice and peas, apple crumble or slices of tropical fruit for dessert. Please look out for the letter from our Year 6 School Councillors.



PE News Update

During the first half term children are learning about gymnastics, multi-skills, leadership, tag rugby, swimming and first PE for EYFS. Whilst we've hit the ground running in terms of PE lessons we are working hard in the background to organise sporting competitions for the upcoming months.

Please can we remind parents that for indoor PE lessons PE pumps are required, jewellery is also required to be taken out and if we could ask parents to assist your child on PE days on removing jewellery that would be much appreciated.

On WC 9th October we will be celebrating Black History Week and within PE lessons we will be learning about the cultural music and traditional dances within Black History.



Parental Concerns:

Could any parent wishing to discuss any concerns regarding their child, please see their class teacher in the first instance. If any concerns cannot be resolved with the class teacher then please feel free to make an appointment to see one of our Assistant Headteachers: Mrs Mould (Key Stage 2), or Miss Cowley (Key Stage 1 and EYFS.) If the problem is still unresolved then please see our Deputy Headteacher, Mrs Wright-Jones, or if the problem is still unresolved, Mrs Scott (Headteacher).





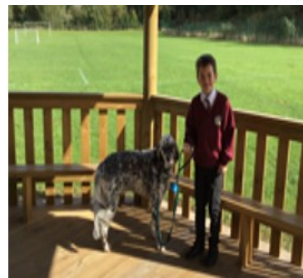
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Monty Pupdate- Monty is so happy to be back in school after the summer break. He missed the children lots and has been enjoying all the fuss from pupils, staff and visitors. This year, Monty will need to expand on his social interactions and get used to being handled by a range of adults, so we are encouraging more staff take Monty around the school and field and he will be working with more pupils too. So far this half term he has enjoyed working with pupils who are helping him to be calm and gentle. He has demonstrated a good understanding of patience and is particularly good at mastering such skills when there is a slice of toast in our hands!

Monty has also been a comfort to some pupils who have found transition a little challenging and has spent time having a fuss while pupils talk to him about how they are feeling which has help both pupils and Monty to feel happier.



Please can we remind you that smoking cigarettes or vaporizers is not acceptable on, or near the gates of, school premises.



Reflexions

Last term we hosted a Reflexions Introduction Coffee Morning for parents/ carers to give an insight into the support that is available to our pupils and their families. We are thrilled to share that a number of our pupils have benefitted from having support from Reflexions in the form of Cognitive Behaviour Therapy (CBT) for support with a range of issues/ needs. This year we are continuing to work with Reflexions and will be hosting further workshops including:

- * Talking about Mental health with your child
- * What is anxiety and things that can help when my child feels anxious
- * The importance of getting a good night's sleep
- * Social media and Mental health
- * Supporting your child with Transitions

Our Reflexions Link Worker Kristine will also be in attendance at Parents Evening to introduce their service and offer any advice.

A polite reminder - due to health and safety rules, the EYFS or any play equipment is not to be used before or after school by children. Please may we ask that parents/ carers supervise children carefully and do not allow them to run around and play on the equipment. PLEASE can children also be supervised when in the cycle shed too as too many cycles are being damaged. Thank you for your support with this matter.





Loxdale Diary Dates



☺ Friday 13th October	Year 5 Black History Assembly
☺ Thursday 26th October	Parents Evening (further info to follow)
☺ 30th October - 3rd November	**** HALF TERM ****
☺ Monday 6th November	INSET DAY—school closed to pupils
☺ Tuesday 7th November	Return to school 8.45am
☺ Friday 10th November	Diwali Day (further info to follow)
☺ 13th—17th November	Nursery Rhyme Week (Nursery)
☺ Friday 17th November	Children In Need (further info to follow)
☺ Friday 24th November	Non Uniform Day (further info to follow)
☺ Friday 24th November	Flu Vaccinations (whole school) if the children missed the first date
☺ Friday 1st December	Non Uniform Day (further info to follow)
☺ Tuesday 5th December	KS2 Carol Concert
☺ Thursday 7th December	Christmas Jumper & Dinner Day
☺ Thursday 7th December	Christmas Fayre
☺ Wednesday 13th December	KS1 Nativity (9.30am & 1.45pm)
☺ Monday 18th December	Reception Sing A Long (9.30am & 145pm)
☺ Tuesday 19th December	KS1 Christmas Party
☺ Wednesday 20th December	KS2 Disco
☺ Thursday 21st December	Nursery Party (Nursery Break Up)
☺ Thursday 21st December	Reception Party
☺ Friday 22nd December	Break Up For Christmas Holidays at 2.30pm
	INSET DAYS 2023-2024
☺ Monday 4th September 2023	INSET DAY—school closed to ALL pupils
☺ Tuesday 5th September 2023	INSET DAY—school closed to ALL pupils
☺ Monday 18th September 2023	INSET DAY—school closed to ALL pupils
☺ Monday 6th November 2023	INSET DAY—school closed to ALL pupils
☺ Friday 8th December 2023	INSET DAY—school closed to ALL pupils
☺	INSET DAY—school closed to ALL pupils
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Children being collected at the end of the school day: If a responsible adult, who is known to your child, comes to collect them from school, then your child will be handed over to them, regardless of whether they are on the contact card. This is due to the number of issues with continued changes to contact details. If parents do not want a certain individual to collect their child then please could you inform school in writing. **Brothers or sisters sent to collect children must be of at least secondary school age and judged to be competent by school.** We reserve the right not to allow children to be taken home by other minors if there are any concerns around safety of the children at Loxdale.

Late collections: May we also please remind parents that children must be collected on time at the end of the day. If, for any reason you are going to be late, please inform the school in advance. As you will appreciate, persistent lateness will have an impact on the running of school.

If you are later than 3.45pm, your child will be put into teatime club and a charge will be applied.

PLEASE MAY WE RESPECTFULLY ASK PARENTS/CARERS TO PROPERLY SUPERVISE THEIR CHILDREN UPON COLLECTION FROM SCHOOL AT THE END OF THE DAY. We have had a number of incidents where children have run away from parents/carers down the path, where pedestrians have been knocked over by children running down the path and also where bikes and scooters have been damaged in the bike sheds where children have been unsupervised and have been 'messaging around' with other children's bikes and scooters. At the end of the school day, we have over 1000 people on site and we ask that everyone is respectful of each other and adheres to our request for an orderly dismissal from the school premises.

MANY THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT IN THIS MATTER

Find us at:



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Loxdale Primary



loxdaleprimaryschool.co.uk

