



Lower Park

Lower Park Beacon

Issue
535
Fri 13th
March
2020

Dear Parents,

Coronavirus / Covid-19 Update

This afternoon, I received the latest advice for schools. There are three new additional actions to take that are specific to schools:

- Anyone with a "new, continuous" cough or high temperature is now advised to self-isolate for seven days.
- People with symptoms are no longer required to call NHS 111, as the system is under strain, but are instead urged to look for information on [the NHS website](#) and [111 online](#).
- Schools have been advised to cancel trips abroad – i.e. international visits.

Obviously, we will follow this advice and inform you to collect children if your child has a temperature or has a new, continuous cough. **Please keep your child at home if they have either of these two symptoms.**

The link below takes you to advice about 'Stay at home guidance.'

It provides clear headings showing the critical symptoms, testing, what to do when self-isolating, impact on other home users and ending self-isolation:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-people-with-confirmed-or-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>

On arrival at school and whilst our stocks last, we are asking all visitors to use the sanitiser, located in the entrance hall,

Other than the requirement to self-isolate if symptoms occur, the best

protection is good hygiene and the children have responded well.

We have taken the decision to cancel the PTA meeting on Monday evening as an extra precaution.

The indications are that schools may well have to close, possibly before Easter. We will endeavour to stay open as long as possible, but should the school be instructed to close, it is expected that children will continue to work at home. Teachers will also be expected to do schoolwork and this will be designated to them. The staff has been meeting this week to draw up contingency plans and we have been preparing work that the children can do at home. This will vary between year groups and will be sent home in the event of a closure.

I appreciate that this is a worrying time and I would ask you to follow the advice, knowing we are doing all we can.

We will keep parents updated if and when there is new advice or the situation changes.

Bingo (and Curry) Night Postponement



It was a regrettable action to postpone the bingo night as it has been a very popular event in the past. However, the subsequent news about COVID-19 would endorse it was the correct decision. We are trying to maintain normality for the children in the school day for as long as we can and this will be our aim over the next few weeks.

Thank you for your understanding.

They Are Here.....



There was great excitement on Monday when our 'live' eggs arrived. At first, there was not much to notice but gradually the eggs began to move....and the excitement grew.

At 7.50am on Tuesday, the first beak punctured a tiny hole in the shell of one of the eggs and the hole gradually enlarged, then cracked, then burst open with a chick lying exhausted upon the broken shell.

One by one, the other shells began to crack – as the children began arriving so we ushered them to the library to see the chicks being born. Fortunately, the vast majority of the children witnessed a chick being born as we had scheduled class visits to see them. All but one had hatched by the end of the school day on Wednesday.

Above where the chicks are located, are visual aids that the children have been reading about the life-cycle and it is pleasing to know how much the children have learned. For example, they can all tell which are 'boy and girl' chicks in the container.

All around the school, teachers have used the chicks as a stimulus in many subjects – reading, writing, spelling, science, maths, ICT (research), PSHE....

It was fortunate that many parents were able to view the chicks on Wednesday evening during parents' evenings.

The chicks are here for the next week before they return to the farm. It has been an excellent first-hand learning experience for the children

Animals in Tuition



The arrival of the chicks was quickly followed yesterday by the arrival of more strange and unusual animals that included chameleons, snakes, a Red Foot Tortoise, a Blue Tree Frog and even tarantulas. Most of the animals were held by the children so that they could see and feel them at close quarters and definitely, 'at first hand' as they were passed around. The presenter continually chatted to the children about the facts about each animal and he did so in a fascinating and often amusing way. Over the last two weeks, there has been an 'explosion' of animals at Lower Park, which really has enhanced the topics of 'All Creatures Great and Small.'

Parents' Evenings

We have had two successful parents' evenings this week and I trust you have been informed well about your child's progress. Just a word of thanks for adhering to the limits of the appointment times. It really meant that you had your appointment at the arranged time. Just a reminder that you do not have to wait between parents' evenings if you need to speak to your child's teachers. Teachers can and do meet with parents by arrangement for either a meeting or a phone call.

Football Report



An improvement in weather this week, finally allowed a football fixture to be played. Mr Stewart and Mr Cunha took two teams to Nevill Road last night and despite losing both matches 4-0 and 3-1, they were very pleased with some of the football played. Special mentions for George F and Charlie K and Sam C.

'Invacuation Success'

On Monday, we carried out an 'invacuation' exercise to return the children to classrooms. We feel it is

important that the procedure is known by the children, should there be a threat whilst outside playing or if they are away from the classroom. The children were safely back into classrooms with doors locked within a very short time (under two minutes) and under the supervision of the staff, who know the policy if it is ever needed.

Today we had our termly 'evacuation' practice that was also very successful and timed to coincide with the end of lunchtime.

Lower Park Lotto



The March winners are:-

1st George Steele
2nd Zoe Buckley
3rd Dee Glasgow

Commendation Awards

Commendation Awards are presented to children on Mondays in assembly. The staff, including midday assistants, nominate children (one from each class and one from the midday assistants) each week and they receive a commendation badge. They also receive a certificate which is displayed on the internal noticeboard outside my room. After a week, the certificates are given to the children to bring home to keep. They are used to promote exceptional attitude, approach to work, exceptional kindness, behaviour, helpfulness, consideration and attitude.



This week's winners were:

Seb P, Leah P, Jess G, Molly L, William G, Florence W, Darcie C, Isabel S, Harry I, Zelma H, Archie S and Gaurav B.

Well done to all those children.

Poynton Eco Fair - Cancelled

Please note, we have been advised by Poynton High School that the ECO fair, due to be held tomorrow at the Civic Centre, has been cancelled.

Reminders

Calling On All Your Skills

As part of one of the school's main development priorities, we are

focusing on 'aspirations.' We would like to invite any willing parents in to deliver a 15- minute talk in assembly. This would be during Mr Coulson's whole school assembly when we ask that you talk to the children about your career, what skills and education you needed to be successful and what you love about your job. We hope this will inspire the children, introduce them to future prospects they may not have heard of and break down any gender stereotypes. Please contact the school office if you are available on Monday mornings from 10:30 to 10:45 and let them know the job you have and the date you would be available.

We have had several volunteers! Can you do this too?

We hope that many of you will be willing to come in from a wide variety of career paths; the only requirement is that you are passionate about what you do.

Letters this Week

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This Week in School

- On Monday, there was a successful invacuation practice.
- On Monday, the 'live eggs' arrived and children saw the chicks being born on Wednesday.
- There was a meeting of the personnel and finance governors on Monday evening. The topics under discussion included the growing threat of COVID-19 and the current staffing situation, whilst the finance governors monitored the budget spending for this financial year, which should produce a small carry forward into 2020 – 2021.
- Parents' evenings took place on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings and were well-attended on each night.
- On Thursday and Friday, Animals in Tuition inhabited our school hall for a series of workshops.
- Today, we had a fire drill which was successful.

Next School Week

- Unfortunately, due to the Coronavirus situation, the bingo night planned for tomorrow has been postponed.
- The chicks will be with us for the whole of next week.

After-school activities taking place – week beginning Monday 16th March 2020						
	<i>On or Off?</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Yr Group</i>	<i>Venue</i>	<i>Organiser</i>
Mon	ON	Tennis	8.00 – 8.45	KS2	Outside or Hall	Mr Stewart / Mr Atherfold
Tues	ON	Swing Band	8.15 – 8.50	KS2	Hall	Mr Coulson
	ON	Football Squad	3.15-4.15	Y5&6	Outside	Mr Stewart
	OFF	Craft	3.15-4.15	KS2	Miss Cork's room	Miss Cork
	OFF	Netball	3.15 – 4.15	Y1 & 2	Outside	Miss Booth
	ON	Netball	3.15 – 4.00	Y5 & 6	Outside	Mrs Chadwick
Weds	OFF	KS2 Choir	8.15 – 8.50	Y3 – Y6	Hall	Mrs Mellor
	OFF	KS1 Choir	8.15 – 8.50	F & KS1	Mrs Cunha's class	Mrs Cunha
	ON	Computing Club	3.15 – 4.15	KS2	Mr Cunha's room	Mr Cunha
	ON	Football	3.30 – 4.30	KS1 & 2	Hall / outside	Mr Mather / Mr Stewart
Thurs	ON	Tennis	8.00 – 8.45	F&KS1	Outside or Hall	Mrs Stewart / Mr Atherfold
	ON	Swing Band	3.15 – 4.20	KS2	Hall	Mr Coulson
Fri	ON	Dodgeball	8.00 – 8.40	Ys 1, 2 & 3	Hall	Mr Stewart / Miss Jones
	ON	Multi Sports	3.30 – 4.30	KS2	Hall	Mr Stewart
	ON	Brass Band	3.15-4.00	KS2	Hall	Mr Longson

Diary Dates for the Spring Term 2020

Date	Event
Mon 23	Easter story visits this week
Mon 30	Chairs of Gobs meeting at 6.30pm
Mon 30	Full Gobs' Meeting at 7.00pm
Weds 1 -3 April	Year 5 to Ilam Residential
Fri 3	School closes for Easter Holiday
Mon 20	School reopens for summer term.

*Further activities are being planned for this term and will be added to the list above
Every effort will be made not to change dates however, if necessary, any changes/ additions are highlighted.
TBC means To be confirmed. TBF means To be Finalised.*

School Calendar Dates 2019 – 2020

SCHOOL CLOSES

Easter 2020 Friday 3rd April
May Day 2020 Friday 8th May
Summer Half Term 2020 Friday 22nd May
Summer 2020 Wednesday 22nd July

SCHOOL OPENS

Monday 20th April
Monday 8th June

INSET DAYS: Monday Thursday 23rd, Friday 24th and Monday 27th July 2020.

School Calendar Dates 2020 – 2021

SCHOOL CLOSES

Summer 2020 Wednesday 22nd July
Autumn Half Term 2020 Friday 23rd October
Christmas 2020/21 Friday 18th December
Spring Half Term 2021 Friday 12th February
Easter 2021 Thursday 1st April
May Day 2021 Monday 3rd May
Summer Half Term 2021 Friday 28th May
Summer 2021 Friday 23rd July

SCHOOL OPENS

Wednesday 2nd September
Tuesday 3rd November
Monday 4th January 2021
Tuesday 23rd February
Monday 19th April
Monday 14th June

INSET DAYS: Tuesday 1st September 2020, Monday 2nd November 2020, Monday 22nd February 2021,
Monday 26th July 2021, Tuesday 27th July 2021

If you would like to join our email distribution list and receive the Lower Park Beacon by email, you need to inform me of your email address. Your email address will not appear when the Beacon is delivered and it is protected by the data protection policy here in school. So why not join our growing number of parents receiving email Beacons? Just write to me via email. My email address is: head@lowerpark.cheshire.sch.uk
The Lower Park Beacon is also available to read on our School Website at: www.lowerpark.cheshire.sch.uk

Kind regards Ian Coulson and the Staff at Lower Park

My School Lunch Menu

Week commencing 16th March 2020

School Meals are free for Reception & KS1 and £2.35 for a larger portion in KS2

Please pay online at www.schoolmoney.co.uk

Please choose one item from each section and remember to indicate which filling you would like for your sandwich/potato

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Name	Name	Name	Name	Name
Margarita Pizza & Sauté Potatoes	Chicken Fillet, Mash or Roast Potatoes & Gravy	Sausage Casserole & Sauté Potatoes	Beef Stew & Mash	Chicken Korma Chunks in a Soft Tortilla Boat & Chips
Quorn Bolognaise	Quorn Fillet, Mash or Roast Potatoes & Gravy	Pasta Italienne	Vegetarian Sausage Roll & Jacket Wedges	Fish Fingers & Chips
Jacket Potato with Tuna <input type="checkbox"/> (v)Beans <input type="checkbox"/> (v)Cheese <input type="checkbox"/>	Chicken Baguette	Jacket Potato with Tuna <input type="checkbox"/> (v)Beans <input type="checkbox"/> (v)Cheese <input type="checkbox"/>	Jacket Potato with Tuna <input type="checkbox"/> (v)Beans <input type="checkbox"/> (v)Cheese <input type="checkbox"/>	Jacket Potato with Tuna <input type="checkbox"/> (v)Beans <input type="checkbox"/> (v)Cheese <input type="checkbox"/>
Sandwich filled with Tuna <input type="checkbox"/> Ham <input type="checkbox"/> (v)Cheese <input type="checkbox"/>	Jacket Potato with Tuna <input type="checkbox"/> (v)Beans <input type="checkbox"/> (v)Cheese <input type="checkbox"/>	Wrap filled with Tuna <input type="checkbox"/> Ham <input type="checkbox"/> (v)Cheese <input type="checkbox"/>	Baguette filled with Tuna <input type="checkbox"/> Ham <input type="checkbox"/> (v)Cheese <input type="checkbox"/>	Sandwich filled with Tuna <input type="checkbox"/> Ham <input type="checkbox"/> (v)Cheese <input type="checkbox"/>
Sweetcorn, Broccoli Salad Bar	Sandwich filled with Tuna <input type="checkbox"/> Ham <input type="checkbox"/> (v)Cheese <input type="checkbox"/>	Green Beans, Sweetcorn Salad Bar	Carrots, Broccoli Salad Bar	Baked Beans, Peas, Salad Bar
Chocolate Crunch Finger with Fruit Chunk	Mixed Vegetables, Salad Bar	Chocolate Brownie	Apple Crumble & Custard	Dinky Doughnut with Fruit Coulis
Seasonal Fruit Platter	Toffee Apple Sponge & Custard	Seasonal Fruit Platter	Seasonal Fruit Platter	Seasonal Fruit Platter
	Seasonal Fruit Platter			
	Yogurt			

Available daily - Milk, Fruit Juice, Bread Basket. Accompaniments will be available.

All fish products are sourced from sustainable fisheries. Fresh meat supplied by local butchers.

Potatoes, vegetables and milk are sourced locally when in season.