



Lower Park

Lower Park Beacon

Issue
544
6th Nov
2020

Dear Parents,

Return to Usual School Meals



As you may recall, we intended to reintroduce our usual style of school meals, including the popular Chicken Korma, as the weather turned colder and we were more confident in delivering the service to a high standard. The request for the hot 'knife and fork' meals in classrooms was also requested in the parents' questionnaire responses and so we are going to change to these meals from Monday 16th November.

The changed menu will come with next week's Beacon, so please look out for it next week.

There is still a menu for next week's lunches attached to this Beacon.

Monday's Review Day



On Monday, staff and governors spent quality time evaluating the work of the school over the last 12 months and setting priorities for school improvement in 2020 - 2021. The progress on all four of the main priorities we set last year, were evaluated by way of a presentation from those staff members who led them.

We fed back the responses that the children made regarding how they felt about school and, of course, all

the views from the parents' questionnaire were presented to all those present. The chair of governors also presented the year's work of the Governing Body. After a great deal of thought and discussion, three main priorities were agreed. The final format will be presented to the Governing Body later this month for approval, but the three main priorities focus areas are: 1) managing the School effectively through the COVID Pandemic, 2) to deliver an ambitious curriculum experience to the children (including addressing any gaps) despite the restrictions of COVID-19 and 3) improve communication on a number of levels.

Parents who returned their questionnaire will recognise that the views of many have been reflected in the new priorities.

When the final summary is approved, I will send it to parents.

Maths Doodle Dissolved

After a period of time using Doodle Maths, we have upgraded to using School Jam in Key Stage 1 (but we are continuing with Mathletics in Key Stage 2). When bought for the whole school, these programs have been expensive. However, we know that some parents still use Doodle maths at home. We would like to make you aware that individual licenses can still be bought to use it and cost around £5.00

COVID-19

Our last bubble of children and staff who have been isolating, returned to school today and it was good to see them in class. There are some individual children and staff within the school who are having to continue isolating for longer. Unfortunately, and I wish I were wrong, it is likely

that periods of isolation will be necessary in the future.

The guidance on this has not changed and I have updated the risk assessment on our website.

However, it is important that you inform school if someone in your household has tested positive and you should do this by emailing me on head@lowerpark.cheshire.sch.uk When this happens, the whole family must isolate.



If it is a Lower Park child in the family who has tested positive, it is doubly important to contact me so that close contacts or bubbles can be traced and asked to isolate in order to stop it spreading in school. In all our cases so far, this has happened correctly.

If you are keeping your child off school because you have been informed that they have been in contact with a person who has tested positive, you can contact the office by phoning 01625 872560 or email admin@lowerpark.cheshire.sch.uk to inform us.

For your convenience, I have attached the quick guidance to this Beacon email again.

COVID Masks

It is now mandatory in secondary schools to wear masks in communal areas. Whilst not compulsory in primary schools, it is advised by Cheshire East and Public Health that primary staff wear masks in

communal areas such as corridors, the hall, the school gates and staffrooms. The children will see staff wearing either face masks or face visors at Lower Park in these areas or when there is a need to, at close quarters. To date, this has not seemed to trouble the children.



Thank you for wearing face coverings at the school gates whilst waiting for the children and for distancing from each other. The response of our parents is much appreciated.

Diary Dates

We are still devising ways we can make this term special for the children and doing as much as we can to have the Christmas term activities. We will be having Christmas dinner, parties etc and we are having a virtual pantomime for the children in school and it will be Jack and the Beanstalk. Albeit in a slightly different way this year, our aim is to get as close as we can to our usual events by modifying them where we can or finding an alternative, so they are safe to happen. The staff have been devising some very interesting ideas and alternatives that will create excitement and Christmas spirit for the children.

For this reason, there is little in the diary dates until we have sorted out the logistics.

Children in Need – Next Friday



I am sure you will agree that we should continue to support this worthy cause – especially at the moment. We are keeping it less flamboyant this year and are asking children to come in non-uniform with crazy socks. To do this, children are asked to bring in a donation (you decide how much) which they should give to their class teacher.

Individual Photographs



Your child will have brought home a photograph proof this week. Please see the top of the pack for 'New ways to order.' You will see there is now the option to order online direct with the company. The deadline for ordering photographs is Monday 16th November.

Nut Free School

Just a reminder that we are a nut free school. We do have children in school for whom nuts can be dangerous.



Please ensure nuts, or anything containing nuts, are not sent in to school.

Poppy Appeal

We are now selling poppies for the Remembrance Day appeal. Please send a donation in with your child if you wish them to buy a poppy.



Reminders

Applications for places in Reception 2021

I am pleased to announce that parents are able to make an application for a place at Lower Park for the reception class in September 2021.

Applications are made on line via the Cheshire East website, the following link will take you to the relevant page for September admissions <https://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/schools/admissions/start-school-september.aspx>

I would like to remind parents who already have older children in the school, that they must also apply for a place for a younger sibling – it is not automatically allocated.

The closing date for applications is 15th January 2021.



Lower Park's PTA is now set up on Amazon Smile. When you buy through the Smile portal, you get access to the same products, at the same prices, but on qualifying products, Lower Park will earn a 0.5% commission. Just follow these 3 simple steps:

1. Go to smile.amazon.co.uk
2. Select charity - Lower Park Parent Teachers Association (Poynton)
3. Always use smile.amazon.co.uk to start your Amazon shopping.

Just by buying birthday gifts, household items, etc, you can help us grow the size of our funding pot, so we can do more to enrich the lives of the children who attend Lower Park School.

Lower Park Hoodies, Joggers and Fleeces



We have asked Ann at PSU to make up some Lower Park hoodies in blue. The children will be permitted to wear them over their normal sweatshirts in class so we would recommend buying them in a slightly larger size than you might normally order. We have also added Lower Park joggers to the items available, which may be useful for PE days. The school fleece, which has always been available, can also be worn in school if you prefer. We are advised that new stocks of these will be available mid-December. There is, however a shower proof fleece as an alternative. Please note the joggers and hoodies will be available from Wednesday next week.

Costs:

Joggers: £11

Hoody: £12.50

All of the items are optional and any parents wishing to order one, will need order as usual via the PSU website. **Update – PSU have advised us that there is still a supply issue with the hoodies and these are not currently available to order. We will text when they become available to order.**

www.lowerpark.uniform4you.co.uk

Letters this Week

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This Week in School

- On Monday, the staff and governors held our Review Day via Zoom. I will be writing about the outcome soon.

- We had an assembly this week about keeping safe on bonfire night.
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Next Week in School

- On Wednesday at 11.00am, the school will observe two minutes silence

- There will be a school council meeting at 2.00pm on Thursday.
- On Friday we having a non-uniform, crazy sock day in exchange for a £1.00 donation for this year's appeal

After-school activities taking place – Autumn Term 2020

	<i>On or Off?</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Yr Group</i>	<i>Venue</i>	<i>Organiser</i>
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After-school activities will not commence for a short while

Diary Dates for the first half of the Autumn Term 2020

Date	Event
Mon 2 November	Review Day – staff and governors
Tues 3	School reopens after half-term
Tues 10	Personnel governors' meeting
Weds 11	Two minutes silence at 11.00
Friday 13	Children in Need – non uniform with Silly Socks
Mon 16 week	Anti-bullying week
Mon 23	Full governors' meeting at 7.00pm
Fri 27	Flu Immunisations take place for all children.
7 – 19 Dec	Christmas events, activities and celebrations

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 2020 – 2021

SCHOOL CLOSES

Christmas 2020/21
Spring Half Term 2021
Easter 2021
May Day 2021
Summer Half Term 2021
Summer 2021

Friday 18th December
Friday 12th February
Thursday 1st April
Monday 3rd May
Friday 28th May
Friday 23rd July

SCHOOL OPENS

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 9th November 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

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Name	Name	Name	Name	Name
Fish Fillet & Jacket Wedges	Southern Style Chicken Bap & Sauté Potatoes	Vegetable Sausage Roll & Jacket Wedges	Gammon Baguette & Sauté Potatoes	Hot Dog Sausage & Chips
Wrap Ham Tuna Cheese	Quorn Bap & Sauté Potatoes	Sandwiches Ham Tuna Cheese	Quorn Baguette & Sauté Potatoes	Quorn Dog & Chips
Cucumber & Carrot Sticks	Sandwiches Ham Tuna Cheese	Cucumber & Carrot Sticks	Sandwiches Ham Tuna Cheese	Sandwiches Ham Tuna Cheese
Shortbread	Cucumber & Carrot Sticks	Melting Moment	Cucumber & Carrot Sticks	Cucumber & Carrot Sticks
Fruit	Vanilla Sponge	Fruit	Lemon Bite	Doughnut
	Fruit		Fruit	Fruit