

LODDON PRIMARY SCHOOL

Headteacher: Mrs S Phillips, MA ED (Open)

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Loddon Primary School

Working together to realise the potential in everyone.

NEWSLETTER NO 11

5th March 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,



House Gems

Congratulations to the following children who have been nominated to receive a Values 'House Gem'.

Zakary B	Hawks	Earth	Understanding and quality
Ben C	Octopuses	Fire	Thoughtfulness, caring and quality
Kumud V	Stingrays	Earth	Quality and creativity
Layla W	Longwings	Water	Quality and positivity
Alex F	Firebirds	Earth	Quality, independence and determination
Melinda R	Bennu	Fire	Quality
Chloe B	Phoenix	Fire	Quality
Elliott W	Stingrays	Earth	Determination
Vaishno M	Stingrays	Water	Determination
Morgan B	Greylings	Earth	Quality



This week as we look forward to welcoming all our children back to site an article from Dr Dan O'Hare, co-chair of the British Psychological Society's Division of Educational and Child Psychology gave me pause for thought.

Dr O'Hare comments *"It's absolutely understandable that parents and caregivers are concerned that children have been missing out on many aspects of their formal education over the past year. It's also important to celebrate the progress, learning and development children have made in the last year and ensure that they feel proud of what they've achieved so that they can build upon their strengths and continue their key learning moving forward. Together, parents, caregivers and teachers have done an amazing job of continuing children's education outside the school environment, and it's vital that this work isn't diminished."*



Before we all return I invite you to take a moment to reflect on the amazing work that we have collectively achieved for our children this year and I thank you for your tenacity and commitment. The article certainly speaks to my own experience as headteacher and its message can unfortunately sometimes be forgotten amongst anxious social media posts and doom and gloom news headlines.

Ofsted defines progress as 'knowing more, remembering more and being able to do more.' Let's recognise that everyone of our children will have made progress during Lockdown whether in school or learning at home. On our return to school we look forward to hearing of those many achievements from our children first-hand. Whilst I in no way wish to underestimate the challenges that we have all faced this year I also know that many of our children have done very well in their remote learning and all Loddon families have tried their best in unique times. Please feel proud of the great achievements that you as a family have accomplished and tell your child to share their successes on their return. Trust school staff remain ready and willing to continue to 'work together to realise the potential in everyone' and are prepared and committed to face whatever challenges now lay ahead with a calm and considered approach.

Our initial focus on return, during March, will be supporting the children to reform much needed social connections and especially for our younger children to offer opportunities to play again with other children their age. Play is so crucial to child development in the early years. We will begin to assess children's progress and identify what they need next at school to recover from the last year's disruptions. Each child's learning journey will be individual and our response for individual children may therefore be different depending on specific learning needs. At Loddon we continue to believe absolutely that all our children can achieve their ambitions and goals, despite the setback caused this year by the pandemic, and we can't wait to get back on that aspirational learning journey together.

Mrs Phillips



Dropping off or picking up your child remember

- **Social distance (2m apart)** from other families and staff. Use the playground areas around school to spread out as much as you can.
- Adults must **wear a face covering** for school drop off and collection unless medically exempt.

We need to **reduce numbers** of people on our school site to the lowest number necessary at all times.

- Arrive at the **staggered times** for your child's year group to reduce numbers on site.
- **Y5 and Y6 children** should be left at the school gate to enter class independently.
- Only **one responsible person** is to enter site to collect/drop off children (this means one person per family of siblings unless there is a specific additional reason for this not to be possible).
- If older secondary siblings are meeting you/walking with you they should be asked to use the wait area beside the car park to do so or to meet you off site.
- **Leave site immediately** - do not linger/use play spaces or stop to chat with other families on our site.

We need to ensure a **good flow** around site at all times.

- Follow **one-way systems**, staff instructions and signs on site.
- Be aware of where you are and avoid standing in gateways, waiting on footpaths or blocking routes chatting to other people.
- Pass through gateways and narrow pathways promptly and/or stand back in a wider space if someone else is currently using that route.

Have a lovely weekend everyone and we look forward to seeing you all on Monday.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs S Phillips - Headteacher

Diary Events List: Spring 2021

Date	Time	Event
2-18 Apr 21	Throughout	Easter holidays
19-Apr-21	All day	Start of Pupil Summer term
3-May-21	All day	Early May Bank Holiday - school closed