



Number 15
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LPPS Newsletter

Web: www.ladygrove-park.oxon.sch.uk

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Phone App: Search "School Jotter"

It's been an absolute pleasure to see everyone back and reconnecting this week, especially since the children have displayed so much excitement and eagerness to get back to school and its routines. Things remain a bit different due to the minimisation of mixing for adults and classes but the classes themselves are quickly getting back to normality. Please refer to the comprehensive guide about returning to school that is on our website:- Communications tab, Covid Updates.

<https://ladygrove.sites.schooljotter2.com/calendar-1/covid-updates>

You will also find "A guide to entering school" on that page of the website and a letter that the Local Authority have asked all schools to share.

Classes across school participated in British Science Week this week. The theme this year was, "Innovating for the Future", and the children excelled themselves with their creativity, investigation and prediction skills. Projects were wide and varied, including Year 1 designing a flowering plant of the future, and Year 5 investigating natural colours in Forest School, with the theme of 'How do you make blue?'

Year 4 have been experimenting with water colours in Art, we used salt, tissue paper and cling film to create different effects. Take a look at our work on our school blog. We are really proud of the children for trying something new. *Year 4 Team*



Year 1 has had a great first week back, with so much positivity in all their activities. We have dissected and designed flowering plants and considered living places of the future in science; thought about friendships and happiness in PHSE; built, designed and written in exploring time; and done 100 steps in memory and respect of Captain Sir Tom Moore, one of the real life superheroes we are learning about this term. Year 1, you are amazing! *Year 1 Team*

Year 3 have had a wonderful week! It has been so fantastic to see the children and to all be together again. We have taken part in science activities for British Science week, and enjoyed live lessons all about the future! We have also enjoyed learning more about our topic on The Romans, and made a little surprise for Sunday! *Year 3 Team*

How to deal with a LFD positive or a child with symptoms:

By now some of you might be using the Lateral Flow Device quick tests at home. These are offered by the government as a way to discover any asymptomatic cases. Please be aware that everyone still has to follow the normal guidance for isolation and symptoms. For example: if your household or child is told to isolate, an LFD negative does not mean you ignore this guidance. Also refer to our updated flow chart which explains what currently happens in cases which involve school:

<https://ladygrove.sites.schooljotter2.com/calendar-1/covid-updates>

Reminders

At the start of a term we usually give you the standard 'start of term' reminders. As you can imagine these are somewhat different at the moment. We will always keep you up to date and hope to return to the original school procedures when possible: Unfortunately, we can't invite Parent Helpers in at the moment.

Safety:

- **Gates:** School gates are being locked and unlocked based on our temporary staggered start and end times. There will be staff on the gates to help you. During the day we **close** the main reception gates, path gate (by the kitchen) and the car park gates. **These gates are not locked** but we ask that you close the gates behind you when you leave.
- **Social Media:** Any inappropriate or disproportionate comments regarding the school or any of the pupils, parents or staff, on social media sites such as Facebook, are not in the best interests of the whole school community. Parents should be aware that even flippant comments can be vastly misinterpreted when in print and are often shared beyond your online friendship groups, negatively affecting others. Any concerns you may have should always be made through the appropriate channels by speaking to the classteacher, headteacher or office staff, so they can be dealt with fairly, appropriately and effectively for all concerned.
- **Home Time** – Children in Foundation Stage and KS1 are always handed over to their parents by a member of staff at the end of the school day. Children in KS2 exit through their class doors and are instructed to find their parents. They are told that if they cannot find their parent/childminder they are to come back into their classroom and tell their teacher. Please can you reiterate this to your child. If you happen to be late picking up, please ring to let us know so we can get a message to your child. They will then either be with their teacher in class or sat at the school reception area.

NOTICE

For the safety of your children, please park considerately.

Thanks for your co-operation

- **Parking:** As always, parking outside school at drop off and pick up times is extremely busy and gets very congested. As you know, we encourage parents to use the football club car park (*not Oaktree Medical Centre car park*) rather than park on the roads near school. Why should you do this? It is safer. You and your child/ren can safely cross Tyne Avenue using the zebra crossing. Since re-opening on Monday we have already received negative comments from residents (and parents) about dangerous and inconsiderate parking and your assistance in this matter is much appreciated.

• **Reminder of staggered drop off and pick up times:**

Year Groups	Mondays-Fridays Drop Off Times	Mondays-Thursdays Pick up Times	Fridays Pick Up Times
Foundation Stage	9am	2.50pm	1pm
Years 1, 3 and 5	8.40am	3.00pm	1.10pm
Years 6, 4, and 2	8.50am	3.10pm	1.20pm

- **Safety Drills-** Fire drills take place and the congregation area has been altered slightly to allow more space for the class lines. Lockdown practice would also usually take place but this is currently unsafe due to distancing needs. Staff are aware of the expectations for lockdown and escort all children. These practices are highly beneficial. Please assume that there will be a fire drill practice (at any time during the year).
- **DISABLED PARKING BAYS:** We have parents and children in school for whom it is essential to use these spaces - please do not park in these bays unless you are eligible. Thank you.
- **Safeguarding:** You will know that we are committed to safeguarding and promoting welfare of the children at the school. If you have any safeguarding concerns myself, Elaine Li-Koo and Carrie Barringer are the designated safeguarding officers at school. Queries or concerns can be directed to any of us and will be shared confidentially with the appropriate, relevant staff. The safeguarding leads for extended schools are Anne Addison and Alex Meyer (Co-Managers). Furthermore, Gill Ollenbuttel (Extended Schools Deputy Manager, kitchen staff and lead cleaner) is also trained at DSL level. All DSLs are supervised by the Deputies and Headteacher. All staff at Ladygrove Park are trained in safeguarding and/or specialised safeguarding.
- **Cycle safety** – please ensure your child wears a helmet at all times, evidence shows that these can save lives and previous local incidents have shown that injuries from falls while cycling around Ladygrove estate have been minimised by the use of helmets.
- **Online safety** – the potential dangers of social networking sites are often highlighted in the news. <http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk> has sections for parents and children. We talk to children about online safety in assemblies and during computing lessons but you should follow this up at home. At home, the important aspect is ensuring children have the skills and understanding to deal with an issue if it arises, since it is becoming harder to monitor what they are doing on personal devices. Some aspects of this activity are helpful especially socialising when in isolation but some media practices have been linked to mental health issues, especially for adults. Please take care of yourself as well as being a role model for all our children.

Reminders:

- **Holidays/Absences:** **As you can imagine, we are monitoring absence meticulously.** If your child is not in school, whatever the reason, you must notify us by leaving a message on our answerphone before 9am each day. **We need very clear details from you if your child is absent. This includes distinguishing between whether your child is absent due to the main covid symptoms, if they are absent because someone in the household has symptoms or if they are ill with any other illness.** Any absences during term time for a holiday will be recorded as unauthorised absence in line with government legislation. If you think you may need to take your child out of school, you must request this in writing beforehand. Please note that we continue to monitor non covid absence and we may contact parents to discuss attendance expectations- depending on specific circumstances (not including Covid illness/isolation). If attendance dips further we may need to involve external services- depending on specific circumstances (not including Covid illness/isolation).
- **Food Allergies:** We have children in school who have various complex food allergies or needs and special lunchtime procedures to help keep them safe. If your child has a packed lunch please ensure they know they are not to 'share' food or eat food from another child's packed lunch.
- **Photographs:** We take photographs or videos of the children at our school mainly for educational but sometimes for promotional reasons. For example- promotional images may be used on our school website, in publications that we produce or on displays in school. Educational images may be used to allow teachers to reflect on their teaching. In normal (non covid times) our school may be visited by the media who will take photographs or film footage. Parents can take photographs at school events but strictly for their personal use, these cannot be made public unless you have gained permission from everyone in the image.
- **School Photographer:** In normal times, twice a year we commission a company called Tempest to take individual photographs and class photographs for parents to purchase. It is currently under review whether this happens next term due to covid restrictions.
- **Trips:** **We are carefully assessing the viability of each potential school trip through risk assessment and trying to anticipate future covid guidelines. If a trip is planned** any payments are required via ParentPay. A letter will be sent home detailing information about ParentPay for new children starting school this term. The letter will have an activation code on it for you to use. Please note that Years 4 and 6 have residential trips during the summer and we are hoping these will go ahead, possibly in a modified form, with advice from the residential setting. We allow ample time to pay for these trips but often make a loss due to one or two parents failing to pay the balance.

- **Local Area Trips:** The government has confirmed that schools do not need to ask for parental consent for school trips during the school day. We won't, therefore, ask your permission for local trips (e.g. to the park or local library) but you will always be made aware in advance that they are taking place. Children are always accompanied by an appropriate number of school staff members and risk assessments undertaken.
- **ParentPay:** Please check your parentpay account to see if you have any outstanding monies due to be paid.
- **PE Kits:** We have a sharp and smart look for PE and children currently wear their kit to school on PE days. Pupils wear their house colour t-shirts as standard PE kit. When we return to normal, children will be expected to wear a house coloured t-shirt with logo, blue shorts, trainers for outdoors, warm top and jogging bottoms when it is cold. Kits should also be labelled.
- **Medicine:** Whilst we appreciate the difficulty parents may face, I'm sure you understand that we have over 400 children in school and staff cannot be responsible for administering prescribed medicines to individual children at individual times unless there are special circumstances. Thank you for your understanding.
- **Inhalers:** Children must have their 'named' and '**in-date' inhaler at school at all times** (this is a parental responsibility). If, over the holidays your child has been given an inhaler for the first time please speak to Sarah in the office as you will need to complete relevant paperwork.
- **Medical Conditions:** Whatever medical conditions your child has please ensure we have this information in writing. If your child requires antihistamine or an auto-injector pen please remember it is your responsibility to ensure medication is replaced when it expires.
- **Dogs:** Dogs are **NOT ALLOWED** on school premises. Please leave your dogs tied up outside by the school gates.
- **Mobile phones:** If it is necessary for your child to bring a mobile phone to school then please speak to your child's class teacher. All mobile phones must be switched off upon entering the school gates and remain switched off all day, onsite. Your child is expected to hand their mobile phone to their teacher upon entering the building so that they can be kept in a safe place. If your child does not hand their phone in the school cannot take responsibility for any loss or damage.
- **Uniform and Hair:** Please see our website for uniform guidelines but, in current times we will make allowances for those who can't source regular uniform after they have grown out of it previous items. We ask that any substitutions are appropriate. I am sure that many will be excited to get back to a hairdresser. During term time children are expected to have appropriate hair styles- this does not include shaved lines in hair or the more cutting edge styles- again, the style needs to be appropriate to school.

Breakfast and After School Clubs:

- Breakfast Club runs from 8am till school start time; children are provided with a breakfast and social time. We have a varied menu that will meet the needs of even the most selective of children! Breakfast Club costs £4.70 per session and is open to all children.
- After School Club runs from school end to 5.15pm Mondays-Thursdays, and 4.15pm on Fridays (under normal circumstances this finishes at 6pm). It ensures a smooth transition from school to child-care. The children are offered a snack on arrival and a light meal halfway through the session. It costs £10.20 per session and is open to all children in school.
- Fees are reflected via ParentPay on a weekly basis. Payment must be made via ParentPay or childcare vouchers only. Please ensure you pay any outstanding money in a timely manner, no later than at the end of each calendar month. It will be necessary to chase non-payment. Any queries please see Heather in the office.
- Parents are respectfully asked NOT to use the school car park or entrance to car park to drop off their child to Breakfast Club. If you need to book places in our Breakfast Club or After School Club please email Anne or Alex at extendedschools@lpps.org.uk or call 07926 002 189
- Please can bicycles belonging to After School Club children be left in the cycle racks outside the main reception area. Thank you.

Cake Crumbly Dates for this academic year: For parents new to our school *Cake Crumbly* is a way year groups fund raise money by selling cakes. This normally happens on a Thursday on a year group rota basis. On the date your child's year group has their cake crumbly we ask parents to donate cakes to sell in the courtyard after school for 30p per cake. [This is temporarily suspended due to Covid restrictions.](#)

COMING UP.....

Charity and School Charity Events:



Red Nose Day next Friday 19th March

What's red and smells like green paint?

Red paint.

On Friday 19th March children should wear normal uniform for their day at school but can also add any item of red. We will be running a joke competition in the classes with the best joke from each class going in to the Friday assembly. If your child wants to take part they just need to write their favourite joke and send it to their teacher. The class will then vote for their favourite one from the teacher's selection.

The ability to pay a donation to Red Nose Day has been set up on ParentPay and we are encouraging you to use this method rather than hand in £1 at registration as this goes direct to the charity. Please click on this link to pay any donations to Red Nose Day <https://app.parentpay.com/ParentPayShop/Foc/Default.aspx?shopid=2842>

Break The Rules Day 7th May 2021

Want to be known by a different name or have juice in your water bottle for the day?

We are looking to raise more money to help continue funding our own school resources following the inevitable funding gap left by less PALS events and more cleaning products! Nearer the time you will get information about which rules can be broken and how much it will cost you!



Please remember that each Friday for the rest of this term we finish early at:-

Reception 1pm	Years 1, 3 & 5 1.10pm	Year 2, 4 & 6 1.20pm
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Andrew Markham and the school team

PALS:

YOUR SCHOOL LOTTERY

WE'VE LAUNCHED A LOTTERY

Buy your tickets now to help our fundraising

- Tickets cost just £1
- All profits go to our school
- Local cash prize every week
- Chance to win the £25,000 jackpot!
- Drawn every Saturday at 8pm

To start supporting, visit:
yourschoollottery.co.uk
and search for: Ladygrove Park

Supporters must be 16 years of age or older