

HAPPY NEW YEAR
2021

Thank you to all our parents/carers for your support and understanding at this difficult and unprecedented time. We will endeavour to keep our school community connected via the Friday Newsletter.



What an unexpected start to the New Year and our spring term, however we hope you all managed to have a relaxing Christmas break!

Following the Prime Minister's address on Monday 4 January 2021, all schools closed to most children on Tuesday 5 January 2021 until February half-term at the earliest.

Remote learning is now in place at Lothersdale Primary School. In line with the government's guidance, only a skeleton staff remain in school to provide childcare for the children of parents/carers who have been identified as key workers, or for children who are classed as vulnerable.

All social distancing measures remain in place. Please do not enter the school premises without prior arrangement.

**Deadlines & Reminders for
w/c 11 January 2021**

It would be really helpful if requested reply slips/payments etc. could be returned by the stated deadlines to enable us to process the paperwork effectively this week. Thank you.

- Mon** - Before School: Deadline for completing the 'Parent and Pupil Acceptable Use Policy for Zoom' online consent submission
- Fri** - Deadline for the online submission of application for a primary school place in September 2021

**Headteacher Updates
From Mr Grogan**

Please find detailed below Headteacher updates for your information. If you have any queries regarding any of the content below, please contact the school office.

Dear Parents / Carers

Enforced School Closure ~ Week 1

What a week it has been for all of us!

You are probably sick of communications from me this week, so I shall keep this message brief.

Essentially all I want to say is a big thank you to the people of our wonderful school community for the positivity that has shone through this week.

We are each affected in different ways by this lockdown, and we will each cope with the experience differently also. What we all have in common is a shared passion to ensure that the children of Lothersdale School are safe, happy and in receipt of quality educational provision; if that education has to be at home for most children for now, then so be it.

Please remember, we are here to support you so please do reach out if you are struggling with the learning activities or you require further resources or information.

I will be in touch to provide relevant updates as and when I receive them from YCAT or central government.

I will also send a weekly email to enable parents to book their children in for childcare provision in school, should you need to take advantage of this provision.

Take care everyone.



COLUM GROGAN



KEY WORKER AND VULNERABLE CHILDREN PROVISION

Following the Department for Education's current guidance, schools will only remain open for vulnerable children and the children of critical workers as required.



Please note that the overall message from the government regarding the current lockdown is that **'you must stay at home to protect the NHS and save lives. You must not leave, or be outside of your home except where necessary'**. If your work is **critical** to the Covid-19 response and you are unable to keep your child at home, please request a childcare place by completing the weekly online form – the link will be sent out to all parents/carers every Wednesday for the following week. (please only request a childcare place on days that you are working). Please ensure that this form is submitted by 9am on the Thursday morning to enable Mrs G to order the correct quantities of food for school lunches for the following week.

As you will be aware from communications this week, we have had an unprecedented number of requests for childcare places for Key Worker children compared to last year and we have to balance the need for childcare places with the national need to reduce contact between family groups. If you can care for your child at home, then that is really what you should do. An email will be sent to parents/carers confirming a place for your child(ren) by close of play on Thursday.

If your child receives a childcare place then please note the following:

- The school is still operating under Covid measures and it is even more important that parents/carers continue to adhere to the school's policies and procedures if your child is attending school during the national lockdown period.
- You must continue to check your child's temperature before coming to school and keep your child at home if they show any sign of Covid symptoms. If you or any of your household show any signs of symptoms or test positive, school must be informed immediately. Equally, if they have been in contact with someone who has a positive Covid result outside the household or support bubble, this must also be reported to school immediately in the normal way.
- The school's one-way system is in operation but we will only be using the main school entrance during the national lockdown period. Parents/carers must enter the school site via the main vehicle entrance and exit from the playground via the pedestrian access as per the current arrangement. Please note that **parents/carers must wear face masks whilst on the school site (including the playground)**.
- Your child will be looked after by a skeleton teaching staff throughout the day and not taught in classes. This means that your child may not be with their usual class teacher or teaching assistant. The children will be split into two 'bubble' groups (Class 1/Class 2 and Class 3/Class 4) and will work independently on their work packs. Teaching staff will be on hand to support them with their work packs if required, as you would be doing if they were at home.
- Your child should arrive at 8.45am and must be picked up at 3.15pm unless you have made a prior arrangement with school.
- If your child is scheduled to attend school but is ill (not Covid), please let us know via the school telephone number or school email as normal so we can complete the register accordingly.
- Your child should arrive in school uniform with clothing and footwear appropriate for the weather – please ensure they have hats and gloves in the cold weather.
- If you have indicated your child will be bringing a packed lunch, please ensure they remember to bring it on the day.
- All children must bring in their school water bottles and their work packs daily.
- All children must bring in their PE kit as we will be doing PE sessions during the week.
- If bad weather is forecast or prevents the school from opening, then the school's Winter Plan arrangements will continue as under normal circumstances. Please see the **School Office** section of this newsletter for more information.
- No visitors or parents/carers will be allowed in the school building unless by prior arrangement.



HOME LEARNING DURING SCHOOL CLOSURE

Following the Department for Education's current guidance, schools must close under the national lockdown and all pupils not in the Key Worker or Vulnerable categories 'should learn remotely until February half-term'.

Each week, your child's teacher will prepare a pack of work which will include English (Reading & Writing), Maths and topic learning (history, music etc.). They will also provide a weekly timetable of suggested times for each activity; these are intended to guide you and provide structure to the day if you wish to use them. Obviously different families will approach home learning in different ways, which is fine.

Each child has been provided with lockdown workbooks – one for maths and one for any written work (Class 1 will just have one book). Children should complete all home learning tasks in these books wherever possible. In addition to the workbooks, children have been given reading books and/or CGP practice books – different books in different classes. Thank you for collecting them from the parent shelter this week as requested.

For the remainder of lockdown, which will be this first half term at least, **teachers will email you the next week's work in advance**. In order to cut down on the number of people visiting site, including staff coming in to do photocopying and parents/carers coming to collect packs, we are asking that you print resources at home if possible. Often there will be no need to print as the children will be able to work directly in their workbooks.

If you are unable to print resources at home, please let us know by emailing the school office at lothersdale@ycatschools.co.uk and we can make arrangements for you. Please remember social distancing rules as you come to collect any work: wear a mask on the playground; use the hand sanitizer before retrieving your child's work pack from the collection box; and please leave as soon as you have collected your child's pack.

The feedback we received following home learning last year was overwhelmingly positive and I am sure your experience this time around will be at least as good. One area which parents/carers found difficult was in supporting their children's writing, particularly those in Key Stage 2. It is our intention to help tackle this through the daily Zoom call where teachers will be able to provide feedback to the class and offer tips for improvements.

Teachers are now using the home learning email accounts - if you have a specific question about teaching and learning, please feel free to email the teachers direct using these email addresses:

Mrs Bateman - lothclass1@ycatschools.co.uk
Mr Craven - lothclass2@ycatschools.co.uk
Miss Gallagher - lothclass3@ycatschools.co.uk
Mrs Fawcett - lothclass4@ycatschools.co.uk

Please do not use these email addresses for anything other than home learning – all other queries should be directed to the school via the main school office email (lothersdale@ycatschools.co.uk) as normal.

The teachers will be online during the school day and will be able to respond to any questions about the learning tasks from children or parents/carers as soon as possible. Please note that there may be a longer response time on the days the teachers are timetabled to be in school to support the children of key worker and vulnerable children.

Online Learning: Zoom Lessons

As mentioned in previous correspondence earlier this week, we will be introducing an element of 'live' teaching using Zoom. Please look out for the separate email with tips on how to join the Zoom lessons.



Parent and Pupil Acceptable Use Policy for Zoom

A Parent and Pupil Acceptable Use Policy for Zoom was emailed out to all parents/carers yesterday and we thank all those of you who have already followed the link and completed the online form. **We still have around 30 outstanding consent forms**, which must be completed and submitted before Monday prior to children accessing a Zoom call.

If you have not yet had chance to complete the consent, please ensure you read the policy – attached at the end of this newsletter – and then [follow this link](#) to complete the form, which should only take seconds to do. Please submit the form before Monday morning when Zoom calls begin. You do not need to sign the actual form and return it to school.

The Zoom call will be an opportunity for the class teacher to briefly introduce the day's learning and maybe show an example of the work being taught; it may be a chance for a sing-a-long and some daily phonics; it may be a chance for the teacher to provide feedback for work which children have completed; or it may be a chance for children to ask questions about the work that has been set.

The children can access the Zoom call from a laptop, Chromebook, smart phone, iPad, tablet, PS4, smart TV, Nintendo Switch - virtually any device with a browser - so there's no need to kick big sister off her laptop in the middle of her GCSE maths lesson.

If your child is unable to join the Zoom call, they will still be able to complete the daily work tasks as full information will be provided by class teachers each week.

We have had to timetable the calls carefully so that siblings in different classes are not on calls at the same time. The timetable for Zoom calls is:

Year 6 – 9.00 to 9.30	Year 2 – 10.30 to 11.00
Year 5 – 9.00 to 9.30	Year 1 – 11.00 to 11.30
Year 4 – 9.30 to 10.00	Reception – 11.30 to 12.00
Year 3 – 10.00 to 10.30	

Teachers will endeavour to start sessions promptly, and they will not always be the full 30 minutes long each time as teachers may need to end one call and start the next straight away.

Physical Activities for Home Learners

As we now find ourselves in another lockdown with the majority of children working from home, it is important for children to keep physically active in the hope that it will help with mental health and concentration levels to complete their home learning activities. Here are a couple of links below to help your children keep active over the next week:



[Disney Shake Up Games | 10 Minute Shake Up | Change4Life \(www.nhs.uk\)](#) These are for younger children and would be ideal to do between work sessions to reinvigorate them and get ready for the next lesson.

[The Daily Mile at Home | The Daily Mile UK](#) As many schools have taken on the daily mile, this link is for The Daily Mile (UK) and there are 15 weekly challenges that children can do with their other family members.

REMOTE LEARNING online

The school has subscribed to several online learning platforms and, if they are not currently using them in conjunction with class work packs, pupils in Class 2, Class 3 and Class 4 can continue to utilise these platforms at home. Passwords and login details were provided to you and your children during the last lockdown to enable you to access these platforms.

Mrs Bateman may also be providing logins soon for appropriate online learning platforms for all children in Class 1 as part of their ongoing home learning.



All subjects for
Class 2, Class 3 & Class 4

Log in:

<https://www.purplemash.com/sch/lothersdale>



Spelling for
Class 2, Class 3 & Class 4

Log in:

<https://www.spellzone.com>



Maths for
Class 2, Class 3 & Class 4

Log in:

play.numbots.com/#/account/school-login/87514
<https://play.ttrockstars.com/auth/school/student/87514>



Reading for
Class 2 and Class 3

Log in:

<https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk>



Reading for
Class 4

Log in:

<https://student.readingplus.com>

There are also a couple of further online learning platforms, recommended by North Yorkshire County Council, to help supplement your child's home learning and these are listed below.



<https://classroom.thenational.academy/>



<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/this-terms-topics>

Keep your child safe online

Remember that it is important to have regular conversations about staying safe online and to encourage children to speak to you if they come across something worrying online.



These resources provide guidance for parents and carers to keep children safe online. They will, amongst other things, support you to talk to your child about a range of online safety issues, set up home filtering in a child-friendly way and set up age-appropriate parental controls on digital devices:

- [Thinkuknow](#) by National Crime Agency-CEOP (Child Exploitation and Online Protection) provides resources for parents and carers and children of all ages to help keep children safe online
- [Childnet](#) has developed [guidance for parents and carers](#) to begin a conversation about online safety, as well as [guidance on keeping under-fives safe online](#)
- [Parent Info](#) is a collaboration between Parent Zone and NCA-CEOP, providing support and guidance for parents and carers related to the digital world from leading experts and organisations
- NSPCC has [guidance for parents and carers](#) to help keep children safe online
- [UK Safer Internet Centre](#) provides tips and advice for parents and carers to keep children safe online - you can also [report any harmful content found online through the UK Safer Internet Centre](#)

General School Updates

Please find detailed below general updates for your information. If you have any queries regarding any of the content below, please contact the school office.



Christmas Jumper Days ~ December 2020

Thank you to everyone for supporting last year's Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day, which has raised **£175.00** in total.

Lothersdale Primary School Nominated Charity ~ Manorlands Hospice

Thank you for also supporting the school's chosen charity which has, to date, raised **£275.00** towards Manorlands Hospice. Please remember this charity payment will remain open on your ParentPay account for the rest of the academic year to enable you to continue to make donations throughout the year, if you wish, and hopefully allow us to exceed last year's target of £750.00. Thank you for all your support.





Flu Immunisation Programme

The childhood immunisation team will be concluding this year's flu immunisation programme this month by holding a final catch-up clinic in Skipton as detailed below. This will be your **last chance** to catch your child up if they were missed when the team visited school. The flu vaccine is being offered to all children from Reception up to and including Year 6.

VENUE : Skipton Hospital (Outpatients Dept.)
DATE : Thursday 14th January
TIME : 14:00 – 16:30
ADDRESS : Keighley Road, Skipton, BD23 2RJ

This is an **appointment-only** clinic. To book an appointment please email the team on hdft.childhood.immunisations@nhs.net with the following information:

- Clinic venue and date
- Your child's name and date of birth
- Child's allergies/health conditions
- Your postcode
- Contact number
- Appointment time preference (if any)

North Yorkshire County Council ~ Library Service

Parents/Carers and children are still able to use the Library Service during the national lockdown. Although South Craven Community Library is currently closed, Skipton Library is able to offer 'Select and Collect'. Please phone 01609 534548 or e-mail: skipton.library@northyorks.gov.uk with your requests (Select and Collect is either a morning collection 10-12, or an afternoon collection 2-4), where pupils can pick up bundles of books, and they also have online services to help with your home-schooling needs. A list of library services is detailed below.

Join the library

If you are not already a library member you can join online here:

<https://capitadiscovery.co.uk/northyorkshire/join>

Alternatively, simply download our free 'North Yorkshire Libraries' app from the App Store or Google Play where you can join the library, reserve books, and access our vast e-book catalogue.

Select and Collect

Contact your library by email or phone with details of the types of books you or your child enjoys/requires for school work and the library team will put together a collection of books. You will be contacted when your books are ready to collect.

Online reservations

Search the library catalogue here: <https://capitadiscovery.co.uk/northyorkshire/> and place your reservations (you will need a library card and PIN for this). You will be notified when your items are ready to collect.

Printing

If you need to print worksheets or schoolwork and don't have a printer, you can email the relevant documents to Skipton Library and a time will be arranged for you to collect them (black and white prints are charged at 10p per sheet, payable on collection of the printing).

Digital Library

With a library card and PIN you and your children can access thousands of free e-books and e-audiobooks here: <https://www.northyorks.gov.uk/digital-library>

Online Resources

With a library card and PIN your child can access the online version of Encyclopaedia Britannica offering up-to-date, reliable information for home learning topics: <https://www.northyorks.gov.uk/libraries-online-information-resources>

If you need help or advice with using any of our services, then please contact your nearest library either by email or telephone and we will be happy to help. You can find details of your local library here: <https://www.northyorks.gov.uk/library-and-record-office-services-during-coronavirus-covid-19>

School Office Information

If you have any queries regarding any of content below, please contact the school office (lothersdale@ycatschools.co.uk).

The school office will remain open as normal term-time during the period of enforced school closure. However, please note that this will also be dependent on any staff illness/period of self-isolation.

School contact during enforced closure

If you wish to contact the school please follow normal procedures and email via the office email address (lothersdale@ycatschools.co.uk) or telephone 01535 632510.

Primary School Admissions ~ September 2021

Online applications are currently being made via the Local Authority for reception places at Lothersdale Primary School for September 2021. The online common application form must be submitted by no later than **15 January 2021**. If you are the parent/carer of a child, or know of a child, who is eligible to start primary school next September and whose name is not on the school's register of interest, please contact the school as soon as possible.

Winter Plan ~ Bad Weather Procedures

Please see detailed below a letter setting out the school's Winter Plan procedures in the event of bad weather. Although school is currently closed to the majority of pupils, parents/carers of children continuing to attend school should ensure they make themselves aware of these procedures in the event of delayed school opening or full school closure.

School Meals

School meals will continue to be served to those children who are in school as part of the Key Worker or Vulnerable Children provision. The cost of school meals for children in Class 3 and Class 4 is £2.44 per meal (£12.20 per week) for all children.

Please note that school meals must be paid for in advance and we would also ask parents/carers to refer to the school's School Meals' Arrears Procedure (available to view on the school website) to ensure that you are familiar with the school's course of action should you find yourselves falling behind with payments.

Please check your ParentPay accounts for credits/outstanding payments (eg illness, educational visits etc) and adjust your child's account accordingly when paying the above.

Eligibility for Free School Meals

Free school meals are available for children whose parents meet the relevant criteria. If you are in receipt of one or more of the following benefits and think you may qualify, please either ask Mrs Ellison for an application form or use the application form available via www.northyorks.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals

The relevant criteria is based on receipt of:

- income support
- income-based job seeker's allowance
- income-related employment and support allowance
- child tax credit with an income of less than £16,190 and **not** in receipt of working tax credit
- support under part VI of the immigration and asylum act 1999
- guarantee element of state pension credit.

Where parents are entitled to working tax credit during a four week "run on" period immediately after their employment has ceased, or after they have started to work less than 16 hours per week, their children are entitled to free school meals.

Children who receive income support or income based jobseeker's allowance in their own right are also entitled to free school meals.

Applications are usually processed the same day. If your child is entitled to free school meals you will receive a letter confirming the date when the meals will start. The school is also notified that your child is entitled to free school meals. In the meantime, you should continue to pay for free school meals until confirmation comes through. School may be able to arrange a reimbursement of any monies paid whilst your entitlement is being confirmed. If you are not entitled to free school meals you will be notified in writing.

School Website Updates

Remember to look on our School Website for further information on what is happening around school! New postings on our website this week are listed below:

Friday News

Diary of Events

If you wish to promote a community event in our diary below, please contact the school office. Please note there may be circumstances in which these dates are subject to change:

School Events:

- Fri 15 Jan 2021** - Deadline for online submission of application for a primary school place for September 2021
- Tue 20 Apr 2021** - Bag2School collection in the Parent Shelter ~ by 9.00am

Food Allergy Warning

Please remember Lothersdale Primary School is a Nut Free Zone



WINTER PLAN

4 January 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

Re: Winter Plan ~ School Procedures

As the winter weather has now started to deteriorate, we list below our Winter Plan school procedures for your information. These procedures have been modified in light of the national lockdown caused by the coronavirus pandemic.

Every attempt will be made to keep the school open in bad weather, however, if the conditions are so bad that staff cannot make it to, or home from, school, or there is a potential health and safety risk in travel, the decision will be made to close the school.

If school is unable to open in the morning due to bad weather, we will endeavour to let parents/carers know by **7.30am** by the following methods:

- Send a text to parents/carers
- Post a message on the front page of the school website.

If school is open but pupils are struggling to get in due to the weather, then parents/carers **must contact the school office** to let staff know if/when they will be able to get in to school.

On some occasions, if access to the village is poor but does not necessitate school to close, we may make the decision to extend our registration to 9.30am/10.00am to enable families to travel safely to school when the road may be clearer. If this is the case, we will notify parents in the morning.

In the event that school is unable to remain open during normal school hours, we will use the text/email/website and telephone to alert parents/carers of any imminent closure during the school day.

The fact that we are operating in a pandemic situation will influence our decision making in the event of bad weather. We will not take any risks which may result in parents or staff becoming stuck on the roads as this may result in emergency services personnel having to be called out.

We thank you for your co-operation.

Yours sincerely

Mr C Grogan
Headteacher

Parent and Pupil Acceptable Use Policy for Zoom

By accepting the Zoom meeting ID and joining the meeting, with parental responsibility, you agree to the terms set out in this document.

1. Children do not need to, and should not, create a Zoom account. An account is not needed to join a meeting - simply go to the Zoom website and click 'join a meeting'. It is not essential to download any additional software, but parents are obviously free to do so.
2. Zoom is only to be accessed by a device in a *communal family space*.
3. It should *ideally* be supervised by an adult to deal with any technical difficulties – clearly this is essential with the very youngest children.
4. Attendees should be dressed appropriately before joining a meeting.
5. The meeting ID is to remain confidential and not to be shared to anyone that it was not designated for.
6. Recording, taking photos or screenshots of the Zoom meeting is strictly forbidden.
7. The Zoom meeting will be recorded by the hosting teacher and stored in line with the school GDPR and ICT policy.
8. For participants, some Zoom facilities will be disabled by the host teacher. This is not limited to the screen record function, chat and screen share.
9. The same behaviour expectations that are set within a classroom apply to the Zoom meeting and the teacher retains the right to terminate a pupil's participation.
10. I will support my child as best I can to concentrate, listen and focus on the session being delivered.

I confirm that I agree to the terms in this document.

Parent of _____ (child)

Signed _____ (type in your name)



Lothersdale Primary School
*ensuring all pupils
achieve their
full potential*



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