



Lynch Hill School Primary Academy Newsletter



Issue: 01

Aim High, Work Hard, Care Deeply

04th September 2020

A message from Mrs Tomlinson...

It has been wonderful to welcome back the pupils this week and I have been extremely impressed with just how well they have adapted to the new routines, and to being back in a classroom after such a long period of time. They have all been smart in their appearance, positive in their attitude, displaying wonderful manners and a strong work ethic. I have visited all of the classes and been able to chat with children about their first day, and many are telling me great things about their class and their activities. For those feeling unsure or anxious, support is on hand in every year group.

Starting a new school year is always somewhat daunting but, of course, this academic year begins like no other and children are having to understand and follow a greater list of rules and guidelines, in order to keep their class and year group bubbles safe. That said, children always seem to rise to a challenge and staff are incredibly proud of the pupils so far.

I appreciate that I may sound like a stuck record but it is imperative that all the parents and carers of Lynch Hill also rise to the challenges that COVID-19 is presenting. Whilst so many of you are responding positively to every ask, and following all the documentation that has been sent out via text, email or the school website, others are not. The safety and wellbeing of all members of the Lynch Hill community is of utmost importance, and yet people are being put at risk because some members choose to follow their own rules. We are asking parents and carers to be patient, to queue up at safe distance and to follow set timings and our one-way systems. The children are able to do this within the building so it is frustrating and unacceptable when some adults cannot.

As the staggered day and the routines become more established and everyone becomes more familiar with where they should be and when, I hope that drop-offs and collections will be quicker. I will say, this morning was definitely better than Thursday and, at time of printing this newsletter, I can but hope that the Friday afternoon pick-up will run as

smoothly. As a school staff group, we will review each day and make changes that we hope will aid the process (we have made some changes already to our end of day routine for Y4 and Y5) and we are always open to feedback.

I have listened to parents expressing their irritation at the staggered timings and I do understand; I do agree. However, we are doing this in order to limit year groups from mixing and to avoid having too many people on site at any one time. Life during a global pandemic is irritating, it is frustrating and it is far from normal. We are all having to get used to a new normal and we will need to work in partnership to succeed in these challenging times.

Next week, many of our youngest pupils will begin their educational journey at Lynch Hill and I know that the staff in Nursery and Reception cannot wait to welcome them.

Have an enjoyable weekend.

Lindsey Tomlinson

Thought for the Week

Our IPC learning goal this week is: Resilience.

Resilience is not about overcoming, but becoming.

Sharri Mandell

Breakfast Club

To support our working parents, our Breakfast Club provision will resume from Monday 7th September. Parents and carers were sent an online form to complete in order to book their child's place. It is important that we know the numbers that we are catering for and the names of pupils we are supervising from 8:00am, so please ensure that you have completed the form and registered your child for this service. Payment for Breakfast club must be made via SchoolMoney as we are not accepting cash payments at this time.

In order to avoid mixing bubbles, each year group are running their own breakfast club provision within their year group units. At 8:00am, pupils in Y4, 5 or 6 will enter school through the KS2 pedestrian gate. No parents are allowed to accompany them. Pupils in Y1, 2 or 3 will

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come down the main drive. There will be signs detailing where to go.

Thank you for your co-operation.

The following items will be available in Breakfast Club from next week:

Monday	Toast	Crumpets	Fruit	Drink
Tuesday	Toast	Hot dog	Fruit	Drink
Wednesday	Toast	Cheese on toast	Fruit	Drink
Thursday	Toast	Bacon roll	Fruit	Drink
Friday	Toast	Bagel	Fruit	Drink

We are a Nut and Seed Free School

A reminder to parents that no nut products of any kind should be brought in to school. We have a number of children and staff with life threatening allergies to the point where even the odour of nuts can induce a reaction. Thank you for your co-operation.



Updated government guidance for parents and carers

The government have updated their guidance for parents and carers on [what they need to know about early years providers, schools and colleges during the coronavirus \(COVID-19\) outbreak](#). This update provides information on school admission appeals, entry tests for selective schools, and exams and assessments in the autumn term. We have also provided further information on the use of face coverings in schools and links to online resources that are available to help parents, carers and children with their mental health and wellbeing.

We Are Now Cashless – are you signed up to SchoolMoney?

If you need help logging on, our friendly and approachable office staff will be pleased to help you. The ONLY cash we will be taking in the near future is:

- Non-uniform donations
- cake sales
- fairs

Everything else should be paid for on SchoolMoney.

Active Swaps

As an Active Movement school, we use the 'Active Swaps' in our lunches to move towards a healthier way of eating. The Active Swap for the week beginning 7 September will be swapping out white bread, rice or pasta products and include brown bread, rice or pasta instead.

To help you plan, here are the next few week's swaps:

W/B 14 September swapping chocolate or biscuits for a piece of fruit.

W/B 21 September swapping squash (fruit shoots etc.) for water

W/B 28 September swapping crisps for raw vegetables, such a carrots, cucumber, tomatoes etc.

More information about the Active Movement scheme is in our General Handbook and on the web:

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

New Classes – New Friends

We know that children thrive in school when there is a good relationship between home and school. However, we do ask that you don't try and 'friend' staff members on Facebook. Friend requests from parents, carers and ex-pupils will not be accepted by staff – it is part of the school code of conduct which staff are required to adhere to. Thank you for your understanding. However, we do encourage parents to 'like' and follow the school Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/LynchHillSchool/>

Handwashing advice from the Government

It is essential that everyone washes their hands more often, using soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Hand washing with soap employs mechanical action that loosens bacteria and viruses from the skin, rinsing them into the drain. Drying hands afterwards makes the skin less hospitable to the virus. Hand sanitiser can be

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effective if soap is not available or the situation makes using soap less feasible (i.e. when outside) but using hand sanitiser provides none of the virus-destroying friction that rubbing your hands together and rinsing with water provides.

The latest guidance and video on hand washing can be found at:

<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/healthy-body/best-way-to-wash-your-hands/>

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CONNECT

A FREE Course for Parents/carers of children on the ASD spectrum, or with social/ communication difficulties (with diagnosis or waiting diagnosis)

6 steps to becoming a more grounded and connected parent

.....

This is a six-week programme can be accessed through Home Start Slough. Parents/carers can refer themselves by contacting office@hsslough.co.uk or susanharvey@hsslough.co.uk ref: CONNECT.

CONNECT Courses in 2020 will run in September and November.

Over six weeks (in two hourly sessions) you will learn about:

- Connecting with self and others
- Connecting with child/children
- Rules that glue and connect your family
- Connecting in panic times (routines)
- 'Connect before Correct' (positive disciplining)
- Connections for next steps (what support is out there and where)?



This course is for adults only and will take place locally, during the day. Numbers are limited and we will be vigorously following the government COVID 19 safety and social distancing guidelines.

Home Start can assist with any childcare costs (please note that they must be OFSTED registered) and with any costs for private travel to and from the course venue. Please contact susanharvey@hsslough.co.uk for more information.

Home-Start Slough is a registered charity no.1162003, a company limited by guarantee and registered in England no. 9563378

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