



West Lodge Primary School Weekly Bulletin

Respecting each other, learning creatively, challenging all.

11th September 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you are all well. Firstly, thank you for all your support this week – it has been wonderful to have a full school once again and to hear the buzz of learning echoing through the corridors of West Lodge. Logistically, it is a challenge to implement all the protective measures that we have planned – and we are very grateful for your support and understanding with this. As we progress through the term – we will keep an open mind, a flexible approach and everything under continual review, there may be systems and procedures that we need to tweak or change. We will keep you updated and informed regularly with regards to any changes.

Return and Recovery

The children have adapted really well to all the new routines – they have been fabulous all week and enjoyed being back in school with all their friends and teachers. We thought very carefully about how we planned activities for children during the first few weeks of term with a successful return to school for all pupils being our key priority. The staff have focused on re-building relationships, re-establishing familiarity with the routines and assessing the pupils to enable accurate planning for lessons. One aspect of our recovery curriculum is the Take One Picture project. Each year group has chosen an evocative, powerful image from the period we were in lockdown and have created a series of lessons linked to this image. This has provided a stimulus for pupil discussion about their experiences; an opportunity for everyone to reflect together and a chance to think about the learning from this period. Some of the work created from the project will form the corridor displays for this term. You can see the images used by each year group below.



Left to Right:

Reception, Y1,
Y2, Y3

Left to Right:

Y4, Y5, Y6

Uniform

Thank you for all the support with uniform donations – it has been very helpful. Also, a thank you to the FOWLS team of Vigya and Mita who have organised two very successful second-hand uniform sales. A reminder that children should wear their PE kit on their PE days and this should include the school tracksuit.

Some Thoughts on Face Coverings

We continue to encourage parents to wear face coverings at pick-up and drop-off – thank you for your support with this throughout the week. We also require all visitors coming into the school building to wear a face covering. It has become more evident that wearing face coverings helps to reduce the risk of transmission. There is now a much greater understanding that **both pre-symptomatic and asymptomatic transmission are possible** (click link for more information) – even common, in fact some studies have estimated that the overall rate of asymptomatic infection to be between 40-45%. Some studies have found that viral load peaks in the days before symptoms begin and that speaking can be enough to expel virus-carrying droplets. There is approximately a 70% reduction in the possibility of transmission when wearing a face covering – this is such a powerful statistic and helped prompt our decision to introduce this measure.

Subtle Mindset Shift

I know from my own personal experience that I initially felt awkward and self-conscious wearing a face covering – I am now used to it and building up my collection of LFC masks!! When you are wearing a face covering you are helping to protect others and others are wearing a face covering to protect you – when we make this subtle shift in our own mindset it all makes so much more sense – it is a team effort to protect each other and beat the virus. Let's keep working together to keep each other safe!

You may have heard that across Harrow there have been some schools that have had to send home classes because of small outbreaks of positive cases. It is important that we remain vigilant - we will keep you updated regularly and with any relevant guidance from the government. I have included the key dates for this half-term on page 2 of this document.

A final quote illustrating the power of school and families working together: 'Let's root for each other and watch each other grow!'

Have a lovely weekend!

Jim Dees



Autumn 1 Date Grid					
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
14 th – 18 th Sept	Head Boy & Girl Speeches			Governors SIP Review 9:30am HT Nower Hill talk to Y6 2:30pm	Head Boy & Girl Assembly Rosh Hashanah
21 st – 25 th Sept		EYFS/KS1 Curriculum Evening (on Zoom) 6:30pm	Sports Captains' Speeches KS2 Curriculum Evening (on Zoom) 6:30pm All Reception children in full days		Parents' Forum (Thinking about Secondary School) 2:00pm
28 th Sept – 2 nd Oct	Yom Kippur Sewa Week Assembly	Parents' Virtual Tour	House Captains' Speeches Full Board of Governors 7:00pm	Census Day Digital Leader Assembly	Aquamarine Class Assembly Parents' Forum (School Improvement Plan) 2:00pm
5 th – 9 th Oct		Parents' Virtual Tour Early Reading Session for Rec & Y1 - parents –9:00am & 2:00pm	Digital Leader Interviews Quality and Standards Committee 7pm		Emerald Class Assembly
12 th – 16 th Oct			Parents' Virtual Tour	SIP Visit	RM Pay Committee 9:30am Amber Class Assembly
19 th – 23 rd		Parents Consultations (on Zoom) 4:00 – 6:00pm	No CPD – Parents' Consultations Parents Consultations (on Zoom) 4:00 – 6:00pm	RMC Committee Parents Consultations (on Zoom) 4:00 – 6:00pm	Staff Inset Day
26 th – 30 th Oct	Half-term				