

Long Meadow Matters

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Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been amazing to have everyone back this week; take out the staggered starts, breaks, lunches and finishes, and the school is as close to 'normal' as it can be. The only thing we really miss is singing (we are not allowed to inside school currently). I am so proud of all the children and staff who have thrown themselves back into school. It was great to be able to deliver a whole school assembly via Google Meets – even though I couldn't see all of the children, I loved every second of it. Next week we add our celebration assembly into the week with each phase getting their own Long Meadow Legends given out. We will still put them up in the foyer but due to current restrictions parents won't be able to come in and see them. However, we will put names/pictures into the newsletter each week.

Bike To School Week has been a huge success with so many bikes and scooters filling the sheds. Well done to all of those children who were lucky enough to receive the Golden Padlock, we hope you enjoy your prizes. The Bling Your Bike winners will be announced in assembly on Monday so there is still time to get those entries in! The big thing for LMS is how many parents will now change their habits and let their children cycle or scoot to school. It's been amazing seeing whole families cycling together. Our final week at school this half term (w/c 19th October) will be our **Walk to School Week** where we hope to see even fewer cars around our school.

Parent Consultations will take place between 19th and 22nd October. This time we will be holding them virtually using Google Meets. Teacher will be offering times across these days These can be accessed through laptops, PCs, iPads and smart phones. More details of how to book in coming next week.

This week I have met with our Catering Contractors regarding resuming a **hot school meal option** after half term. I am pleased to announce that we will be going ahead with this, but have to work out some internal logistics/timings before I can share further details with you. However one thing we are able to share is that EYFs and KSI will be eating in the dining hall (not at the same time and sitting on different tables for each year groups) whereas KS2 will be using a Bento Box to eat their meal from in classrooms. More details to follow when we have them. Whilst talking of food, please can I remind parents/carers that if your child brings in a **snack**, this must be of the healthy variety. We have seen numerous chocolate bars appearing. Thanks in advance.

Following on from the recent letter from our uniform suppliers, I would like to remind parents/carers about the swap/donate page on Facebook. It's a great way to upcycle old uniform, it's always full of things. Search Facebook for '**Long Meadow sell-swap-donate school uniform**'.

Finally, thank you all for adhering to our pick up and drop off times, however although we cannot let parents onto site early, we have a large number of children being picked up a long time after their slot. This is both distressing for the children and is unfair on staff who have to wait.

Have a great weekend and look after each other.

Mr Gray
Head Teacher



Congratulations to

Hawthorn

who achieved

99.7%

attendance this week!!

Well done everybody!

Please remember **DO NOT** send your children into school if they are displaying any of the following symptoms:

New continuous cough and / or high temperature and / or a loss of, change in, normal sense of taste or smell.

Please contact school reception on 01908 508678 for advice if unsure.

Please see the attached parent factsheet about TikTok



Week 5– ‘One day’

Charlie Mackesy, the author of our Recovery Curriculum core text, posted these on Instagram this week with the words... ***“I thought I’d post a hug. There will be a time when we can do this again”*** and ***“Another hug, I drew this in March. Hope you’re ok– we will get through this”***

I don’t think I need to say anything else this week. Please be kind to each other, please look out for each other, please realise how important family is every second of every day.

Harvest Festival for the MK Food Bank

Harvest Festival is coming up soon, and we are hoping that parents will want to donate to MK Food Bank this year. The COVID-19 crisis has caused demand for their emergency food parcels to increase significantly and the need for community donations is higher than ever before.

This year they are asking if we can focus on their most needed items which is a little different from how they usually run their harvest requests. The SIX ITEMS they would like us to focus on are as follows:

- Tinned pasta (spaghetti, spaghetti hoops, ravioli, macaroni cheese)
- Tinned custard and rice pudding
- Tinned meat (corned beef, spam, tins of bolognese, chilli con carne, hot dogs, etc.)
- Tinned fruit
- Biscuits
- Long life juice / squash

This year they have a high stock of dried pasta , dried rice & soup, therefore I would discourage you from bringing in these items if possible. Please could you also encourage children to check dates on items as we are unable to use food that is past its best before or use by date.

Finally, due to COVID-19, could we please ask that NO carrier bags are used.

All items can be placed in the Food Bank crates in the main entrance. Please also ensure that you wait outside and socially distance if someone is already using the crates.

Thank you in advance for your support.