



PARENT NEWSLETTER

We hope you have managed to stay safe and well, and dry, during half term. On the eve of the Christmas half term we thought this was a good time to share with you some important messages and updates including some reminders about the steps the school is taking to keep children and staff safe from the coronavirus.

It is now almost a year since we secured a good rating from Ofsted and who would have thought that the rest of the year would have unfolded in the way it has?

We begin by saying a very fond farewell to Mrs Wadmore, our first aider. Mrs Wadmore retired during the October half term after many years caring for children at The Lakes School and taking on a number of roles including reprographics. We wish Mrs Wadmore every happiness in her retirement and success on the golf course in the years ahead.

We extend a very warm welcome to Miss North who has been appointed to take up the role left by Mrs Wadmore. Miss North joins the school on 2nd November 2020 as our first aider, reprographics technician and the lead for managing lettings. You can see further on in this newsletter that we have made a slight alteration to our 'Who can I going to for help?' poster which will appear around school during the coming days. Miss North will play a key role in our safeguarding team as we continue our work to keep all of our children safe. Miss North is the best person for you to contact as a parent if your child has a current or newly diagnosed medical issue. You should also contact Miss North if your child needs to bring medicine into school so that we can ensure this is managed safely for your child.

We would like to say a huge thank you once again to all of the families connected to The Lakes School for your vigilance out in the community which has so far helped to keep The Lakes School free of coronavirus. The steps we take in school only serve to minimise the spread of the virus should there be a case that arrives in school so you will understand that we rely hugely on the steps that you are able to take as families out in the community.

A reminder and a polite request

Parents are rightly exercising a high degree of caution with regard to their child being poorly and we are thankful for the regular communications from parents which helps us manage your child's absence. You may remember that a number of students were unwell during late November 2019 and in to December 2019. During this period, students typically presented with the symptoms that we would normally associate with a common cold or seasonal flu. Symptoms included an upset tummy, headaches, a cough, a temperature and generally feeling sick or rundown.

Normally, we would encourage students to come to school if they are able to, even with what might seem like a common cold. As we move through November and December, we would like to ask all parents to be particularly vigilant to their child being poorly and to keep your child at home if they are unwell. Coronavirus tests should be organised in line with Government advice and guidance should you have concerns about your child's symptoms.

Attendance updates can be sent to the following email address: attendance@lakes.cumbria.sch.uk. Later on in this newsletter, you can read about the steps the school has taken to minimise the spread of the virus and we will of course keep this under review as guidance changes. Thank you for taking a moment to remind your child of our expectations.



Covid-19: A few reminders for students



We would like to ask you to remind your child about some of the steps we have taken at The Lakes School to keep children, families and staff safe. You can read a more detailed list of the steps we have taken as a school by reading our newsletter from 28th August which you can access by [clicking here](#). Here's a quick reminder of some of the key steps we have taken along with a table below which sets out year group arrangements for this half term.



Face Mask	Remember to pack it the night before school; you'll need it on the bus or in the lunch queue
Sanitise Hands	When you arrive at school, between lessons, before you eat and when you leave school
Face	Avoid touching your face
Space	Stay at least 1 metre away from others - even your closest friends
Bubble	Stay in your year group bubble and avoid mixing with students from other year groups
Catch Bin Kill	Catch it, bin it, kill it when you cough or sneeze and carry tissues with you
Classroom	Help your teachers by following instructions and wiping down desks at end of lessons
Stationery	Bring your own equipment and avoid lending it to others
One Way	Be sure to follow our one-way system as it helps to ease congestion around school
Coat	Winter is coming so stay warm; you may need it in class when windows are open
Aerosols	Leave them at home; they create respiratory problems for staff and students
Stay Safe	Especially out in the community; no-one wants to bring the virus in to school

Year Group Arrangements from 2nd November 2020

Upon arrival at school on a normal day for registration	<p align="center">Sanitise your hands as you come through the pedestrian gate Make your way in to school; do not gather by the pedestrian entrance Breakfast service open 8.00-8.35am: follow the one-way system up the ramp and turn left Please ensure that you are at your Lesson 1 classroom by 8.45am</p> <p>Lesson 1 class teacher will complete your morning registration and provide any daily messages before starting your first lesson of the day at 9.00am. Sixth Form students who do not have a class Lesson 1 should remain in the Sixth Form area for registration.</p>					
	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	Sixth Form
Indoor Spaces Before School Break and Lunchtime We may rotate these areas as term progresses	Hall Front Left Seating	Maths Area	Dining Area	Hall Front Right Seating	Hall Tiered Seating	Sixth Form Area
Early Lunch Teacher brings class to lunch at 1.10pm and supervises until 1.20pm if needed. (Weeks beginning)	2nd Nov 9th Nov	16th Nov 23rd Nov	30th Nov 7th Dec 14th Dec			

The New Lockdown: 5th November to 2nd December

Following the Prime Minister's new lockdown announcement, which was made on Saturday night, you'll be pleased to know that schools will remain open and we will be doing everything we can to ensure that The Lakes School continues to provide a high quality education for all of our students in line with our curriculum vision which can be found on our website [here](#).

Whilst the impact of this new lockdown is a little unclear at this stage, you can be assured that staff at The Lakes School are well placed to support children with their learning and with their pastoral needs.

Back in March 2020, many schools, including The Lakes, struggled to stay open to students as schools began to close due to illness, shielding and a number of other factors. We are hopeful of keeping The Lakes School open during this new lockdown. However, with such uncertainty about the weeks ahead, it would be prudent for all parents to ensure that you have child care arrangements in place should The Lakes School have to close completely or close to certain year groups. Naturally, we will be working hard to avoid the need to close the school to any of our students but it is important to keep you fully informed and well prepared for all possible eventualities.

You will be pleased to know that we are now even better prepared to support students should we need to return to digital learning. Just like schools across the country, we have spent a lot of time developing our own skills and confidence with digital learning and we have enjoyed blending this with classroom based learning during September and October. In fact, staff and students have embraced new ways of working since March 2020 and we will continue to reflect on how we can make the best use of new technologies to support our students with their learning and preparation for life as an adult.

You can read more about the digital learning resources available to our students by reading our [Self Study Guide](#) which can be viewed on our website by clicking [here](#).

Sixth Form Leaders

Taking on leadership roles is an important part of student life at The Lakes School. Students know that they come to a school where they can make things happen and rarely a week goes by without a group of students talking to a member of staff about a great idea or project. Our Sixth Form students recently applied for a number of key leadership roles in the school and, after a day of rigorous interviews with Mr Cunningham and Ms Rainey, we are pleased to announce that the following students have taken up key roles as leaders in the school.

We are always heartened and often humbled by the conversations we have with our students during these interviews. Lisa Morton encourages younger students to: *'Value your time in school and take what you do in the classroom and use it in everything you do.'* Samuel Hodgson wants to: *'Increase the community feel in the school and make connections with younger students.'* Noah Stone wants to help Year 9 students choose their options by volunteering for Microsoft Teams sessions with Year 9 classes. Zach Shirra shared an important message for all students: *'Just because you're not in school, it doesn't mean you're not learning. You can do a lot of things to help yourself.'* Adele Bayman wants to give more students a voice in school. Isobel Kelly wants to improve the school's links with Holehird and Josie Sanderson wants to support the mental health of students through a tutoring and mentorship scheme. Wow! It's going to be a great year!

Lisa Morton	Head Girl
Samuel Hodgson	Head Boy
Isobel Kelly	Deputy Head Girl
Noah Stone	Deputy Head Boy
Josie Sanderson	Senior Prefect
Ruby Hird	Senior Prefect

Adele Bayman	Senior Prefect
Bennjamin Jones	Senior Prefect
Ellie Cianchi	Senior Prefect
Isaac Whitney	Senior Prefect
Maisie Prescott	Senior Prefect
Zach Shirra	Senior Prefect

Who can I go to for help?

Parents

You should always try to speak to your parents about any issues you may have

Form Tutor

Your Form Tutor knows you well and is well placed to help you with any issues or worries you may have

Friends

Trusted friends are always there for you and will advise you to talk to a suitable adult



Miss K Evans
Pastoral Manager



Mr M Taylor
Pastoral Manager



Miss J North
First Aider



Mrs G Fayers
Receptionist

Ms S Rainey

Deputy Headteacher
Designated Safeguarding Lead 1



Mr A Cunningham

Headteacher
Deputy Safeguarding Lead 2



Mr C Jeremy

Assistant Headteacher
Safeguarding Lead 3



**Excellence in a caring, learning
community**



Keeping children safe