

# **Linchfield Community Primary School**

# Newsletter 20<sup>th</sup> November 2020



## **Dear Families**

In Science this week we have been discovering all sorts of fun and exciting facts at Linchfield. Year 4 have been using musical instruments to explore high and low pitched sounds, year 6 have been learning about how light travels, year 3 have been conducting experiments to see which surfaces reflect light and year 1 have been out and about building bug hotels in our wonderful woodland area. It's great to see how enthusiastic the children are to learn.

Don't forget if you have young children due to start school in September 2021, admissions are now open. We also have a fantastic virtual tour of Linchfield available to watch on You Tube. Please do take a look and share with friends and family who may be interested.

We are delighted to inform you that the school raised £591.78 for Children in Need. Thank you.

Have a restful weekend and stay safe.

Mrs S Ratchford and the Staff at Linchfield

#### **School Information**

<u>email</u>	<u>Website</u>	Social Media	
enquiries@linchfield.lincs.sch.uk	http://www.linchfield.lincs.sch.uk	twitter	facebook.
		@linchfield_cit	https://www.facebook.com/ Linchfield-Community-Primary- School- 103768004798801
If you have any enquiries about school contact us by emailing and add 'For the attention of' The office or staff will endeavour to email back a reply and answer any questions as soon as they can.	The school website will keep you up to date with all relevant school information	exciting your children have been de	a pages to update you on anything oing in school over the week. Please e have been up to at school.

#### **Year 2 Phonics Checks**

Year 2 have been very busy doing their Phonics screening checks this week. They have all worked very hard on their phonics since being in school and should be very proud of their efforts and achievements this week.

Year 1 children usually take the phonics screening check in early June. However, due to school closures the check did not take place and instead schools are now required to use a past version of the check with Year 2 pupils in November or December 2020.

The phonics screening check is not a formal test, but a way for teachers to ensure that children are making sufficient progress with their phonics skills to read words and that they are on track to become fluent readers who can enjoy reading for pleasure and for learning.

The data for these results is submitted to the local authority and this data is used by the DfE to look at which pupils have or have not met the expected standard. Any children who do not meet the expected standard will be supported in school over the year and are expected to take the statutory check again in June 2021 (alongside Year 1 pupils).

We will report the children's results to parents in early February but if you wish to discuss this before then please email or speak to your child's class teacher.

Further information about the Phonics Screening check can be found at: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/key-stage-1-administering-the-phonics-screening-check-to-year-2-pupils



On Friday 11th December millions of people in the UK will be putting on a Christmas jumper to raise money for a great cause.

This year we will be holding a fun filled Christmas party day on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December. Please send your child in their best party jumper and a suggested donation of £1 which will go to save the children charity (no school uniform required).

Alongside Christmas jumper day we will also hold our Christmas parties and Christmas lunch day. Remember to pack some nice treats in your children's lunchboxes. No food will be shared amongst the children in order to keep us COVID safe. If you usually have a packed school lunch these will still be provided but you can add some party treats to this if you wish.

#### **Christmas Cards**

As we move towards the Christmas period children enjoy writing Christmas cards for their friends and staff, however, due to the restrictions of COVID we do not feel this is an option for us this year. Also, the option to purchase cards may be limited due to the current restrictions.

As an alternative to Christmas cards this year staff are going to be donating to the local food bank as we feel they will be in significant demand this year. Christmas is going to be difficult and also very hard for those who are not working or struggling. We want to come together as a community and help support families. If you wish to join in with the staff and donate please send your items to your local food bank.

# Applying for a place in Reception next year.

Children born between 1st September 2016 and 31st August 2017 are due to start Reception in September 2021. Don't forget that the window for applying for a place in Reception opens on Monday 16th November. If your child is 4 this school year (September 1st - August 31st) then you need to apply for a place through Lincolnshire County Council. You still need to apply even if you already have another child at the school. Further information can be found on our school website

https://www.linchfield.lincs.sch.uk/admission-arrangements/

# Virtual tour of Linchfield

For any of you who have not yet seen it, we do now have a virtual tour of Linchfield available to watch via our website, twitter or facebook page. Or click on the below link.

https://youtu.be/bF02Y8cUADs





#### **Message from Mrs Roberts (school Inclusion Assistant)**

Well, 2020 has definitely been a strange year of lockdowns, isolation, bubbles, masks, sanitising and changes of routines!

I don't know about you, but as an adult this has been sometimes challenging, confusing, frustrating, upsetting, the list could go on but I'm pretty sure at some point we've felt like we've been on a roller coaster of emotions!

This isn't just impacting how we feel but the children too, but children being children have a different way of showing it sometimes! Let's face it we are much older and I'd like to say wiser than they are and they just don't have the words we know to communicate how they feel. This might be why some of us are experiencing changes in our children's behaviour?

I am having more conversations with parents lately about children misbehaving at home, being angry, being emotional and guess what? They are being little angels in school! How frustrating is that! So, we know they can behave at school why are they not doing it at home?? Well, there could be a catalogue of reasons to be honest! They've had to stop clubs such as football, ballet etc.. They can't play out with their friends, they can't even see some family as much! The use of technology has become a distraction which isn't always a good influencer on behaviour... I just thought I would share some information that may help!

#### Do what feels right

What you do has to be right for your child, yourself and the family. If you do something you do not believe in or that you do not feel is right, it probably will not work. Children notice when you do not mean what you're saying.

#### Do not give up

Once you've decided to do something, continue to do it. Solutions take time to work. Get support from your partner, a friend, another parent or your health visitor. It's good to have someone to talk to about what you're doing.

# Be consistent

Children need consistency. If you react to your child's behaviour in one way one day and a different way the next, it's confusing for them. It's also important that everyone close to your child deals with their behaviour in the same way.

#### Try not to overreact

This can be difficult. When your child does something annoying time after time, your anger and frustration can build up. It's impossible not to show your irritation sometimes, but try to stay calm. Move on to other things you can both enjoy or feel good about as soon as possible. Find other ways to cope with your frustration, like talking to other parents.

#### Talk to your child

Children do not have to be able to talk to understand. It can help if they understand why you want them to do something. For example, explain why you want them to hold your hand while crossing the road. Encourage them to explain why they're angry or upset. This will help them feel less frustrated.

# Be positive about the good things

When a child's behaviour is difficult, the things they do well can be overlooked. Tell your child when you're pleased about something they've done. You can let your child know when you're pleased by giving them attention, a hug or a smile.

#### Offer rewards

You can help your child by rewarding them for good behaviour. For example, praise them or give them their favourite food for tea. If your child behaves well, tell them how pleased you are. Be specific. Say something like, "Well done for getting dressed when I asked you to first time" Do not give your child a reward before they've done what they were asked to do. That's a bribe, not a reward.

## Avoid smacking

Smacking may stop a child doing what they're doing at that moment, but it does not have a lasting positive effect. Children learn by example so, if you hit your child, you're telling them that hitting is OK. Children who are treated aggressively by their parents are more likely to be aggressive themselves. It's better to set a good example instead.

#### Sleep

You can ensure your child starts the day right by making sure they are getting enough sleep it is recommend for a child of primary school age to get between 9 and 12 hours depending upon their age. Having a calm, healthy (No screens at least 1 hour before bed) bedtime routine will help ensure a good nights sleep and start their day right!

# Get out and get some fresh air

We are really lucky where we live, go out for a walk, find a field let them burn off some energy, find a field, kick a ball about, get on your bikes or scooters, go to the wood, exercise releases those feel good endorphins in both you and the children!

As a school we want to ensure your child is happy and we are happy to support you if things get a bit wobbly, but there are some really useful websites too:

www.lpftnhs.uk/young-people/lincolnshire/home

<u>www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/emotionalwellbeing</u> is the first step for families of children and young people to follow the new emotional wellbeing/behaviour pathway.

01522 309120 Mon - Fri, 9:30-16:30 HERE4YOU Advice Line (CAMHS and Healthy Minds)