



# Leckhamptonbulletin

C of E Primary School

Week ending  
12<sup>th</sup> February  
2021

Dear Parents

Items in this week's bulletin: -

- **Contact tracing during February Half Term Holiday Period**
- **Update on Inside Out Day**
- **Curriculum Update**
- **Parents Evening**

***"Nothing beats kindness," said the horse. "It sits quietly beyond all things." The Boy, The Fox and The Horse – Charlie Mackesy.***

Although this is a book for anytime, it feels as though this is the book of the moment. At every junction of the past 12 months, a quote or an image from this book has been sent to me from friends, family or colleagues and each time, the message has provided hope and reassurance. In many ways the book reflects our school values, especially the value of compassion. The kindness and compassion from parents shown to the team over the past weeks and months has been overwhelming, especially when we know that so many families are facing challenges of their own. The support and encouragement really does make a huge difference to the well-being of our staff who, like many in other sectors, have had to adapt to new ways of working.

We know that a remote learning experience can never replicate the holistic school experience. We are more than a learning environment; we are a school family. At this moment in time, the senior team are once again formulating plans for a return to school, with clear guidance for staff on how to best support the children academically, socially and emotionally. We are hopeful that we will be able to welcome all children back to school in March and that the Government provide clear guidance in the roadmap announcement on 22<sup>nd</sup> February. As soon as we hear anything, we will be in touch.

Wishing you all a relaxing and restful half term.  
Sam Porter

## Contact Tracing during the February Half Term Holiday Period

The DfE have shared information and advice to schools on half term planning arrangements.

Part of this guidance states that schools should remain contactable within 48 hours of children being in school so that they can assist with contact tracing. In order to ensure we are able to fulfil this requirement, I would ask that parents carefully read the information below and respond accordingly. Parents must use the contact details outlined below. Please do not use other school email addresses as these may not be checked.

Scenario	Dates	What should parents do?
My child's test result is positive and received within 48 hours of being in school.	Saturday 13 <sup>th</sup> February & Sunday 14 <sup>th</sup> February	Contact Miss Porter via email; <a href="mailto:notification@leckhampton.gloucs.sch.uk">notification@leckhampton.gloucs.sch.uk</a> with the following information;  Child's name Child's date of birth Child's class Date of test Last day child was in school Contact Telephone number  On advice from Public Health England, a track and trace email will be issued to the affected pupils and staff to inform them to self-isolate for 10 days.
My child's test result is positive and received outside of 48 hours of school closing for the February Half Term Holiday period?	Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> February – Sunday 21 <sup>st</sup> February	<b>The school should not be notified and parents should then follow contact tracing instructions provided by NHS Test and Trace.</b>

## Inside Out Day

Last week, we were really pleased to be part of the first Mental Health and Wellbeing Festival for Schools in the UK. Staff and children wore items of clothing inside out – some choosing their socks and others (including some teachers) all of their clothes!

We were lucky to be able to organise a workshop for every year group, and these included guided mindfulness sessions, creative ways to think about emotions and feelings and strategies to use to feel calm. It has been lovely that the organisers of the workshops have already been in touch to say how impressed they were by our children and how much they enjoyed working with us.

Children made gratitude boxes and gift boxes and thought about their strengths and emotions. Teachers were particularly moved by the open conversations they were able to have with children about their feelings. We all felt that the day was very successful, providing a welcome break in this very difficult time and we will continue to build on this learning over the coming months.

I hope you were able to see some of the activities that were going on, or have found some of the resources we have sent for adults and children of interest.

Above all, I hope you are able to find some time to be kind to yourself.

Rachel Curtis – Assistant Headteacher

## **Curriculum update**

At the end of last term, two groups of pupils volunteered to take part in a curriculum review, led by two of our School Governors. The focus of the visit was for the Governors to see the impact of our Leckhampton curriculum on the children's learning.

Year 6 pupils from the Curriculum and Learning Ministry and a group of Year 5 pupils were invited to talk about different aspects of teaching and learning and to share specific aspects of the curriculum that they enjoyed. The meetings took place over Zoom and the children described their learning and shared examples of what they enjoyed about the curriculum. The children explained how they were introduced to new knowledge by their teachers and described some of the strategies they used to help them to remember key information. They reflected on how they were helped to improve, particularly when they found the learning tricky.

The children spoke very positively about the Leckhampton curriculum and were able to clearly articulate their knowledge and demonstrate their retention of key facts across a wide variety curriculum subjects. They shared their ideas as to how we can improve the curriculum further, as well as clearly highlighting how much they value activities such as school visits to enrich their learning – the return of which we all agree can't come soon enough!

We are grateful to Ms Jane Allison and Mr Paul Harris for giving up their time to evaluate the curriculum from the children's perspective and our thanks go to the pupils who spoke so enthusiastically about our Leckhampton curriculum.

Sue Taylor - Assistant Headteacher

## **Parents Evening Change of Date – New dates are 27<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> April 2021**

The school has taken the decision to delay the early March virtual parents evening until after the Easter break – 27th and 29th April. Given that the Government have suggested a return to school date from 8<sup>th</sup> March, (exact dates to be confirmed by Government) the delay will enable teaching staff to complete assessments in order to gain a clear picture of children's current attainment levels and to develop catch up action plans.