



Sledmere Primary School

Learning Link Multi Academy Trust
'Stronger Together'



Email: info@sledmere.dudley.sch.uk

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Newsletter Issue 9 : 20 November 2020

Learning Link Multi Academy Trust Update

As you should be aware from our newsletter of Friday 6 November, the West Midlands Regional Schools Commissioner (RSC) of the Department for Education has taken the decision to terminate the funding agreement to the Learning Link Multi Academy Trust. The proposal to transfer Learning Link Multi Academy Trust to Dudley Academies Trust was discussed at yesterday's meeting of the West Midlands headteacher board of the RSC. It was decided to defer the decision for re-brokerage until their next meeting on Thursday 17 December. This means that we will continue to carry on as normal. We shall continue to keep you informed of developments as soon as we know more. We are keen to be part of a well-established, high performing MAT with a proven track record. All our staff are fully committed to working hard to achieve excellent outcomes in life and learning for all our Sledmere children.

Sledmere Junior Police Community Support Officers

We are looking forward to being involved in the Junior PCSO scheme run by West Midlands Police, which started this week at Sledmere. All our children in Year 6 were offered the chance to take part and we are delighted to have received 25 really good applications. We are pleased to announce our successful candidates. They are Abdul Malik, Rowan Cooper, Sian Horton, Cameron Pearson, Hazbie Xhafo, Ruby Richards, Laila Batool, Rhys Whitehouse, Humaira Ali and Aiza Hussain. Well done to all of you for your super applications!

This beneficial project has been developed to support children at the upper end of Key Stage 2. It aims to increase the confidence and self-esteem of the children, while promoting positive police engagement in order to encourage the children to feel confident to approach their local policing teams with community information and concerns, or for help and support.

The programme is split into a number of modules and will take place once a week in school with our local PCSOs. The scheme will provide our pupils with the opportunity to learn about the emergency services and how to act in an emergency. As Junior PCSOs the children will develop their team working skills as well as their personal responsibility by exploring ways to become more active members of their community.

We shall be working with PCSO Hancox and PCSO Verity-Harris. "We are delighted to be implementing the Junior PCSO scheme at Sledmere. It will provide local children with the opportunity to gain an insight into the emergency services, their local environment and history of the area. By the end of the project we intend for all of the young people to have refreshed self-esteem and an understanding of what they can achieve as a productive part of a team."

The scheme will conclude with an awards ceremony which presents completion certificates to each junior PCSO to recognise their hard-work and provides an opportunity for the parents to see what their children have learned. A special trophy will be awarded to the junior PCSO who has shown the most improvement, team working skills and good citizenship throughout the project.

Odd Socks Day

Many thanks to all our children and staff for supporting our **Odd Socks Day** on Monday to mark the first day of Anti-Bullying Week. This was an opportunity to encourage our children to express themselves and celebrate their individuality and what makes us all unique.

Please Avoid Term Time Holiday

Even in the current times of Covid-19, we all still need to be aware of the rules for unauthorised absence in term time. If you do need to take your child(ren) out of school, please make sure that you complete an Absence Request Form, available from our office. We shall then be able to let you know if your child(ren)'s absence will be authorised or unauthorised.

Derek Fance
Head of School

Peter Bravo
Executive Headteacher

This Week's Attendance

Reception	82.49%		
Year 1	89.73%	Year 2	88.26%
Year 3	87.7%	Year 4	86.54%
Year 5	91.36%	Year 6	86.21%

Please do your best to get your children to school every day unless they are genuinely unwell. Our pupils have missed so much during the period of enforced school closure and our current attendance needs to improve. It is essential that we work together to help all our children catch up as soon as possible. Individual attendance of less than 90% or ten or more unauthorised sessions (equal to one school week) will result in a referral to the Education Investigation Service, which could result in a Penalty Notice being issued.

Free School Meals

Just a reminder that if you get any of the following support payments your child may be entitled to receive free school meals:

- ◆ Income Support
- ◆ Income-based Jobseekers Allowance
- ◆ Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- ◆ Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- ◆ The guaranteed element of State Pension Credit
- ◆ Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- ◆ Working Tax Credit Run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- ◆ Universal Credit

Children who receive a qualifying benefit in their own right are also allowed to receive free school meals. In order to receive free school meals, you must apply to the local authority. You can find the application form on this link: <https://www.dudley.gov.uk/residents/benefits/free-school-meals/>

If your child is in Reception, Years 1 or 2, you will automatically be entitled for free meals under the 'Universal Infant Free School Meals' criteria. However, if you do meet the criteria listed above then we can receive Pupil Premium funding to support your child's education - but only if you complete the application.

If you need further information, you can contact the Free School Meals Team by:

Telephone 01384 814988

Email freeschoolmeals.benefits@dudley.gov.uk

In person Dudley Council Plus, Castle Street, Dudley between 8.30am and 5pm Monday to Friday, 9am and 12 noon Saturday
During the lockdown, the government provided vouchers for pupils entitled to free school.

The Results Are In!

Our children have really enjoyed taking part in the Times Table Rockstars Maths Week England Competition. After a week of intense mental maths across the whole of Key Stage 2, we are pleased to see the final results.

Tokyo Aayan Hanif	Beijing Hareem Sajid	Singapore Jai Sohal
Doha Tawana Dune	Abu Dhabi Leah Rose	Dubai Rehan Iqbal
Chicago Jasmin Cresswell	Boston Ivan Adu-Boakye	Toronto Serena Naveen
Santiago Sonia Iqbal	Brasilia Laila Batool	Lima Leah Stevens

Our overall 3 Top scorers in Sledmere are:

1. **Sonia Iqbal in Santiago Year 6: 58,300 points**
2. **Serena Naveen in Toronto Year 5: 52,706 points**
3. **Abdullah Afzel in Santiago Year 6: 21,752 points**

The highest scoring class in Year 5 and Year 6 was Santiago - they were also overall winners for Key Stage 2. The highest scoring class in Year 3 and Year 4 was Dubai. Well done to all our pupils for taking part and to our teachers for encouraging them, especially the teachers of our winning classes, Miss Ware and Miss Oliver.

Prizes and certificates have been awarded to the children and we thank everyone for taking part.

Just because the Rockstars Maths Week England Competition is over, please don't stop using TTRockstars. Knowing our times tables is really important. We are aiming for our children to have instant recall of multiplication and division facts, so they can use and apply them in all their maths work both in school and at home.

Happy Birthday to all the children, who have celebrated their birthday this week! We wish you all the best for future health, success and happiness!

Aneela Begum Caleb Gilbert Bushra Muzzamil Fatima Waleed

happy

Rubina Cowlshaw-Hussain Lexi Stevens Syprus Wilkins

Zeshaan Mohammed Mayson Hilditch Ayana Adnan

birthday

Rand Karim Mehreen Jaan Ayaan Khan

COVID-19 Parent/Carer Information for Children Attending School

What to do if your child develops symptoms

A child that develops any of the following symptoms (no matter how mild) should immediately self-isolate and continue to do so until a test is taken and a negative result is received – even if symptoms subside:

- ⇒ a new, continuous cough - this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- ⇒ a high temperature - feel hot to touch on your chest or back (temperature of 37.8°C or higher if able to measure this)
- ⇒ a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

Children should not attend school and parent/carers should follow the steps below:

1. Stay at Home.

Your child must self-isolate for 10 days starting from the first day of their symptoms and the rest of the household must self-isolate for 14 days, following the Stay at Home Guidance.

www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance

2. Notify the School

If your school is unaware that your child has developed symptoms, notify them as soon as possible.

3. Arrange a Test

Anyone with Covid-19 symptoms, including children, should have a test as soon as possible. Do not wait. The test must be done within 8 days of symptoms starting.

A test can be arranged via NHS UK www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing-and-tracing/ or by calling 119 if you do not have internet access.

You must notify your school when you receive the test result. You may be contacted by the school nurse team if you have difficulty in accessing a test or fail to arrange testing.

A Negative Result

If your child tests negative for Covid-19, they can return to school and the rest of the household can end their isolation as long as:

- ⇒ everyone they live with who has symptoms tests negative
- ⇒ everyone in their support bubble who has symptoms tests negative
- ⇒ they were not told to self-isolate for 14 days by NHS Test and Trace
- ⇒ they feel well – if they feel unwell they should stay at home until they are feeling better

A Positive Result

If your child tests positive for Covid-19 they must continue to self-isolate for 10 days, from the first day of their symptoms and the rest of the household must continue to self-isolate for 14 days. If any other member of the household starts to show symptoms, they should arrange a test within 8 days of the symptoms starting.

You will be contacted by the NHS Test and Trace Service to discuss where your child has been recently and who they've been in close contact with. This will help the NHS contact anyone who may have caught the virus from them. You'll be contacted by email, text or phone. Text messages will come from 'NHStracing'. Calls will come from 0300 013 5000. In preparation for this, it is recommended you start making a list of places your child has visited recently and people they've had close contact with as soon as their symptoms appear.

For more information about the Test and Trace Service visit www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing-and-tracing/nhs-test-and-trace-if-youre-contacted-after-testing-positive-for-coronavirus/

After 10 days from the start of their symptoms your child can return to school if they have not had a fever (temperature of 37.8°C or higher) within the last 48 hours. The rest of the household must continue their isolation until the end of the 14 day period.

Covid-19 in Children

Children can get Covid-19 but they seem to get it less often than adults and it's usually less serious. Further advice about Covid-19 in children can be found at www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms/coronavirus-in-children/ or by calling 111.



COVID-19 Alert

Dudley borough has very high infection rates

▶ **STAY HOME**
▶ **SAVE LIVES**

Find out more at www.dudley.gov.uk/coronavirus
Play your part - protect Dudley borough

Dudley

COVID-19 cases are continuing to soar in Dudley and now the borough has the highest figures in the West Midlands. Unless the number of cases starts to fall, local restrictions could remain in place post lockdown and in the run up to Christmas. Dudley residents are being urged to follow the national lockdown rules.

See the latest figures on the Dudley data dashboard

www.dudleyhealthandwellbeing.org.uk/localoutbreakcontrolplan

For advice and information on coronavirus, including testing locally, please visit

www.dudley.gov.uk/coronavirus

All pupils in isolation due to being contacts of a positive case should not leave the home. Parents who are able to use the support of other responsible household members, friends or family members as part of a childcare bubble, should make use of this support to help take the siblings not isolating to school. Childcare bubbles can be used when parents have a child or children aged 13 or under. If this support is not available, the sibling(s) will also have to stay at home. We shall provide access to online materials so that learning can continue at home. Older siblings can travel to school alone if it is safe for them to do so.

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