



**Dartmoor**  
MULTI ACADEMY TRUST



# Nurture, Inspire, Achieve

A small school, learning together in the local community

11<sup>th</sup> September 2020

Dear parents/ carers

## Start of term

Welcome to the Autumn term 2020! The new academic year has got off to a flying start this week. Staff at Lydford have been hugely impressed with how new and existing pupils have returned with huge smiles, bags of enthusiasm, ready to play and learn. There is huge importance on having a clean and safe environment for pupils to return to, and equally for the staff, who help make that return possible, to feel protected from the dangers of Covid-19. This week, the extra hand hygiene and control measures in place in school have been really successful and wholeheartedly accepted by the children as they are all so aware of 'staying safe'. Please refer to our return to school risk assessment which is available on our website –

[https://www.lydford-primary.co.uk/uploads/6/1/4/4/61443371/lyd\\_covid-19\\_risk\\_assessment\\_primary\\_full\\_return\\_1.pdf](https://www.lydford-primary.co.uk/uploads/6/1/4/4/61443371/lyd_covid-19_risk_assessment_primary_full_return_1.pdf)

## Breakfast club



Our Breakfast Club begins at 7.50 and costs £3.50 per child. It is important that your child arrives on time as Mr Meacock will be collecting them from you at the gate at 7.50am. Our breakfast is healthy and nutritious, with lots of choices. We are set up in the hall but with 2 separate, adequately spaced groups to maintain our safety measures. Hand hygiene and cleaning are integrated also so that we can provide a safe start to the day. We hope that uptake will improve as the term goes on as we provide this valuable service for working parents/ carers.



Forest School will recommence next week and we are looking forward to seeing the children getting hands-on again, with lots exploratory play and creativity in our natural outdoor environment.

To minimise the amount of items brought into school by the children, they will participate in forest school in their school uniform. It will be necessary to wear long school trousers, on forest school days, so that can be worn underneath waterproof trousers. Alternatively P.E joggers or leggings can be changed into on the day. Children in class 1 will only need to bring in Wellington boots and a waterproof coat on their forest school day, as waterproof trousers will be provided. Class 2 will need to bring in their own waterproof trousers, along with Wellington boots and a waterproof coat.

It is planned for the Autumn Term that Forest School will be on Wednesday afternoons for Class 1 and Thursday afternoons for Class 2. Updates and any further information will be posted on Dojo as necessary.

### **Flu immunisation EYFS to Year 6**

Your child is eligible for a Free Nasal Childhood Flu Vaccination. It is anticipated that this will be delivered in school in November 2020, this will be administered adhering to all up to date Infection Control, PPE and social distancing guidance at the time.

Flu vaccination is one of the most effective interventions we have to reduce pressure on the health and social care system which is going to be more important than ever this year. For this reason, it is essential we deliver the vaccine to as many children as possible to prevent the spread of infection to those most at risk in society.

In light of the above we are expecting demand to be high and therefore we urge you to follow the below link to consent to your child's vaccination now. Even if you do not want your child to receive this vaccination, please complete the consent form stating "no" consent. You will also find answers to your FAQ's on this link. Many thanks.

<https://schoolimms.virginicare.co.uk/flu/2020/devon>

## Supporting Reading at Home

As we begin this new academic year, I cannot emphasise enough how important practising reading at home is. At school, we can teach the skill of reading – phonics, expression, comprehension etc. but these skills need to be practised regularly at home in order for each child to reach their full potential across the curriculum.

From an early age, children can be encouraged to enjoy books by sharing them with adults. The adult at home can build upon work done in school by giving support and encouragement for reading. By demonstrating how books work, talking about the illustrations and indicating how they relate to text, by asking questions about the context/ story, the adult is showing the child the meaning and purposes for reading. It is still important to read with your child even when they have become a more confident reader. Continue to support and guide your child.

**Recording reading** Due to the current climate, we are not sending home Reading Records to travel to and from school. We will have designated 'lending days' on Tuesdays and Fridays when pupils have the opportunity to exchange books. In between the books will have to be placed in a 'quarantine box' for 72 hours. Our younger readers will be issued with a 'pack' of books as they read less text at a faster pace. KS2 pupils may have a book for a couple of weeks. This is fine, as long as reading is recorded and monitored.

At school, we have daily guided reading sessions where staff document and assess reading skills. It is often clear to us which children are accessing reading books at home as these children tend to be more confident, able to engage in 'book talk' and can deduct and infer from the text.



We are encouraging you to record your child's reading on Class Dojo this term. You can do this in a number of ways:

- Listen to your child read and record what they have read and any comments such as fluency, difficulties/ help given etc.
- Record your child read by using the video on Dojo
- Take a picture of the book your child is currently reading and note any comments their teacher may need to know eg. 'Tom needed help with the 'SH' sound' or 'Vicky was able to summarise the final paragraph well on page 8'

The staff of Lydford greatly appreciate your support with Reading and we know that working together on Reading at school and home will benefit your child enormously.

If you have any questions on reading then please ask your child's class teacher.

## Code of Conduct for Parents and Social Media Use

The Code of Conduct is an unsigned agreement between the Parent, Carer, Visitor and Lydford Primary School and the Dartmoor Multi Academy Trust. Please follow the following link to our DMAT Code of Conduct for Parents and Social Media Use Statement:

[https://www.dartmoormat.org.uk/uploads/8/0/6/1/80615962/dmat\\_code\\_of\\_conduct\\_for\\_parents\\_and\\_social\\_media\\_use\\_statement\\_v1.0\\_jan\\_2020.pdf](https://www.dartmoormat.org.uk/uploads/8/0/6/1/80615962/dmat_code_of_conduct_for_parents_and_social_media_use_statement_v1.0_jan_2020.pdf)

This code aims to clarify the types of behaviour that will not be tolerated and seeks parental agreement to these expectations. Thank you all for abiding by this code for the benefit of our school community. Together we wish to create a positive and nurturing environment not only for the children but also all who work in and with our school.

We are all looking forward to our first full week with the children next week and hope that you all enjoy the weekend.

With warmest wishes,



Mrs D A Petersen (Acting Head of School)

