

# SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



JAN 1  
UPDATE  
TERM 3

WHAT'S  
NEW?

WINTER  
WEATHER

We recognize that it is important for our school to remain open so that parents can continue to work and pupils can continue to learn; Lunsford Primary School is committed to make every effort to remain open to all pupils and to meet this aim we have robust risk assessments in place which include gritting the main walkways around school and clearing access points each day adverse weather is present. However in unavoidable circumstances we may be forced to close. Unavoidable circumstances include those where it is no longer safe for staff or pupils to be on site or where conditions prevent staff from safely travelling to and from work

The decision to close the school is made by the Headteacher, Mr Anscombe. This decision is not taken lightly and is made with the safety of our children and staff as priority. In the event that the site must close in these circumstances, parents will be notified by email and SMS. Details will also appear on the Kent Closures Website:

You can register to receive free updates from the Kent Closures website here:  
[Kent Closures - Kent County Council.](#)

You can help us in the following ways:

- Making sure that your contact details are correct on your Arbor account. There should be at least two emergency contacts per child.
- Ensure that students wear suitable, warm clothing - gloves, hats, scarves, wellies or even a change of clothing if needed
- If you are a working parent or carer or may have difficulty with an early pick up, please have a backup plan with another family member or parent or carer
- Please be mindful that we may notify parents with less than 24 hours notice that the kitchen is unable to provide school dinners due to delivery issues. If this is the case we would ask for a packed lunch to be provided

It has been a team effort to keep the site safe for the children this week, with regular gritting happening on the playground to enable break and lunchtimes to continue outside - thank you to everyone who has assisted in making the area ice and slip free.

The latest forecast from The Met Office shows a warming of temperatures next week, but please remain mindful of the Winter Weather plan on this page as we head through the rest of this month and through February which has seen plenty of snowfall over the years.

Keep up-to-date with the Met Office app or through their website:

[Weather and climate change - Met Office](#)



# Attendance matters



Week Ending

12th December

Panda Class 84.65%

Elephant Class 93.1%

Giraffe Class 87.24%

Lion Class 96.67%

Koala Class 90.69%

Tiger Class 96.67%

Zebra Class 90.29%

Week Ending

19th December

Panda Class 94.22%

Elephant Class 91.72%

Giraffe Class 93.79%

Lion Class 93.67%

Koala Class 83.1%

Tiger Class 94.00%

Zebra Class 90.00%

**Whole School  
Attendance  
Target  
97%**

**Whole School  
Attendance  
this Week  
95%**

**Whole School  
Attendance  
this year  
94.55%**

Week Ending  
9th January

Panda Class 95.00%

Elephant Class 94.3%

Giraffe Class 87.93%

Lion Class 95.00%

Koala Class 86.9%

Tiger Class 94.33%

Zebra Class 97.42%



# Safeguarding Focus

## GET TO KNOW AGE RATINGS

Age ratings are in place to help protect your child, so here is a little reminder of how important it is to check the age ratings of what your child is accessing online.

Here are the age ratings of some of the more popular apps that young people are accessing. Did you know that WhatsApp has an age rating of 16?



Game Title	PEGI Age Rating	Reason for Age Rating
Roblox		Mild violence and scenes which younger children may find frightening.
Minecraft		Non-realistic violence in a child-friendly setting or context, non-realistic looking violence towards characters.
Fortnite		Mild Violence and In-game Purchases.

Game Title	PEGI Age Rating
Grand Theft Auto V	
Call of Duty®: Modern Warfare® III	

Whether your child is viewing films, accessing apps, playing games online, using social media or downloading other apps – check the age rating first to see if your child is old enough.

In addition, the likes of PEGI include further content descriptors, which will give you an indication of the type of content that your child might view e.g. violence if accessing the app/game etc. It is important to note that whilst age ratings do allow you to see if something may be appropriate for your child, it is also important to review the content yourself. This will allow you to make an informed decision as to whether it is suitable for your child to access and if it would be beneficial to apply further parental controls. Parent Zone have published this article about why age ratings matter:

<https://parentzone.org.uk/article/age-ratings>

As ever, if you require any support, guidance or further information, please do not hesitate to contact a member of DSL team: Mrs Lomax (Deputy Head); Mr Anscombe (Headteacher); Ms Beckett (SENCO); Amy Taylor (FLO)

All can be contacted via the school office.

## Young Carers

Last week we had a Young Carers Assembly delivered by IMAGO.

One in ten young people living in the UK are thought to be a Young Carer – that's approximately 3 Young Carers per classroom! Kent Young Carers supports those aged 5-18yrs who are providing care, support or supervision to any family member that may have; a long-term illness, physical or neurodevelopmental disability, suffering with poor mental health or substance misuse issue.

Imago has been awarded the contract to deliver services for Kent Young Carers across all 12 districts of Kent, supporting an ever-growing number of young carers. A key focus of the project will be working closely with professionals to identify 'hidden' young carers—those who may not yet be recognised or receiving support. By raising awareness and improving identification, the initiative aims to ensure that more young people can access the help they need.

What Kent Young Carers can do:

- Provide opportunities for Young Carers to get together to share concerns, suggestions and make their voices heard,
- Seek funding for trips and activities to provide respite activities across the county,
- Develop resources and support with Young Carers, to enable them to cope with challenges and concerns,
- Establish a Young Carers Forum for new ideas to ensure we provide a wide range of services for Young Carers and their families.

In each area there will be a local Coordinator who will be the key contact for families, as well as their Central Hub for additional support. They will regularly ask families for their views about the service and will use this feedback to develop the Kent Young Carers service further.

How can schools support

Due to the growing number of Young Carers across the county, their aim is to build partnerships with schools and community organisations to broaden support for Young Carers. It is anticipated that this will enable more Young Carers access to support not only from their services, but from people they see on a daily basis.

How to contact Kent Young Carers

For further information please contact the KYC Hub:

0300 111 1110

[youngcarers@imago.community](mailto:youngcarers@imago.community)

[Young Carers referral form.](#)

Resources

[Kent Young Carers flyer](#)

[Young carers initiating conversation with parents resource](#)

[Young Carers parent resource](#)





## Y2 Small Steps Road Safety Programme

This term Year 2 are participating in a Kent County Council road safety programme.

Small Steps is a pedestrian training scheme designed for key stage 1 children and is delivered over the course of a term on a Wednesday afternoon. Children are taken out in small groups for up to 30 minutes each week to the roadside to learn the 3 key skills

- Finding safer places to cross
- The dangers of junctions
- Crossing between parked cars

The children have been amazing and a huge thank you to all the parent volunteers who have helped support the children when they have gone on their walks.

## Tiger Class Emotion Explorers – EWT

Tiger Class have been enjoying sessions with our Emotional Wellbeing Team Lead this term.

Please ask about the sessions with your child.

Thank you Becky for all your hard work.

## IMPACT Archery Inter-house competition

On Wednesday morning Year 1 & 2 participated in an inter-house archery competition held by IMPACT in the hall.

This was followed by Year 3 and 4 in the afternoon.

Well done to all houses – we look forward to presenting the final scores in assembly next week.

Thank you to the IMPACT team – the children thoroughly enjoyed the competition.



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## RE WIRE AWARD

Lunsford Primary School is very proud to have been awarded the RE WIRE Award. The WIRE Award (Widening Inclusion in Religious Education) recognizes UK schools for excellent Religious Education, encouraging visits to diverse places of worship, staff training, and RE-focused events or competitions, promoting inclusivity and British Values. It's led by local Standing Advisory Councils on Religious Education (SACREs) in areas like Kent

Thank you to Mrs Lomax who has worked hard to promote RE across the school and who is our PSHE and RE lead.

## Governor Visit Day

This Wednesday Governors spent the day visiting the school. Their focus areas were Early Years, phonics and reading, writing pupil voice and attendance.

We spoke to them regarding our ideas and plans for breaktimes and lunchtimes.

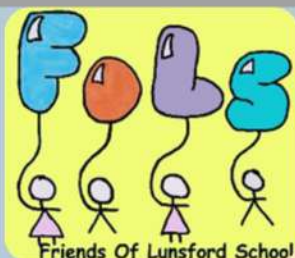
Well done to all the children they spoke to – we had such fantastic feedback from the day.



29th January

Remember all clothing should be warm and suitable for a day at school.

Friends of Lunsford Primary School  
Sort Code: 53-61-55  
Account No: 70337500  
Please use your child's name as the reference



## PIZZA + PRAISE

JOIN US FOR PIZZA, FOLLOWED BY INFORMAL WORSHIP

**3PM THIS SUNDAY**

**St JAMES THE GREAT CHURCH, EAST MALLING**