



LING MOOR

A PRIORY ACADEMY

NEWSLETTER OCTOBER 2020



The start of the academic year has certainly been a very challenging one for the Ling Moor Family but it is clear that together our community has risen to the challenges presented. We are absolutely delighted with the start the children have made, their excellent behaviour and high quality Ling Moor Learning. There is a real energy flowing around Ling Moor at the moment that is so welcome – it makes a splendid change from the quiet corridors in the summer.

Whilst our whole Ling Moor Family is unable to be together, it has been lovely to witness a real strength in friendship and community grow and develop in each year group bubble. All of our new children have settled in well and we are now officially full as a school with a record breaking 407 children currently on role - each and every single one of them is a superstar.

Academically, the children have all made a positive start and we are really impressed with the quality of their learning. The teaching staff are working incredibly hard to ensure that any missed learning is covered and that any gaps in learning are filled. There will be an opportunity to catch up with your child's class teacher at the upcoming online parent's evening – please keep an eye out for the opportunity to sign up.

Rand Farm

A real highlight of our start to the term was the Y3 visit to Rand Farm. The original Rand Farm residential trip had to be cancelled just days before the children were due to go in Year 2 and we wanted to make sure that they could experience the visit in some shape or form. The children all had a superb day, rewarded with a full breakfast after mucking out. They farmed, created, made and learned in

a wonderful environment. They even learnt that goats do pretty much eat everything. The connection to the environment and where food comes from is a really important part of our curriculum and we were delighted that we could make this happen. The huge smiles on the children's faces and their eagerness to share stories of the day was wonderful.

Other visits and residential visits

Unfortunately, we are having to be very cautious about other visits and trips at the moment as we need to be assured that where we go is going to be safe and the weather is fine enough for us to be outside for the majority of the time. We are hoping that we can have some more visits for other year groups in the Spring and Summer term but we will only do this when we know it is safe to do so. At the moment, we are not allowed to go on residential visits but should this change we are keen to make sure that these valuable experiences can happen.

New parents for September 2021

For those of you who currently have a child in school and who have children who are starting Ling Moor in September 2021, we would usually be making arrangements for you to look around the Academy. If you are in this position, please can you email enquiries@ling-moor.lincs.sch.uk so that we can make arrangements with you to answer any questions you may have. Please do not book on our upcoming open evening as we need to reserve these spaces for families who have no experience of Ling Moor.

Sports Uniform

The change to the children wearing sports kit to school on their PE days has

been a very popular one and it will be something that we are planning on continuing into the future and beyond Covid-19. In the winter months, we are still going to be encouraging the children to take part in outdoor sports so please do send them in wearing leggings or tracksuit/jogging bottoms. Ideally these will be plain navy. On these days, please can they bring a spare pair of shoes as it is likely that the shoes they wear outside will need changing before they come back into school.

In terms of sport, we hope that you have noticed the incredibly positive impact Mr Small (our new sports coach) is having in school. Each session is fun filled with a clear focus on developing the children's range of sport experiences and their skills set.

Uniform

Thank you for the many donations of uniform that we have received. We will continue to provide a thrift shop for uniform as often as possible with any funds raised going directly to playground resources for the children. As well as providing a cheaper source of uniform, it provides lots of environmental benefits as well.

Financial hardship

The impact of Covid-19 on family finances for many has been significant. Please do contact the Academy in strictest confidence, if this is impacting upon you.

Social Distancing Expectations

Thank you for continuing to model high expectations of social distancing in and around the Academy site – 1.5m + at all times and in groups no larger than 6.

One way systems

We do have a one way system at our Inns Close entrance currently in place. We would appreciate everyone following this so that everyone feels safe as they come in and out of school through this particular gate.

Birthday sweets

It has become a bit of an unwanted tradition that children bring in sweets to share with their classmates on their birthday. We are not allowed to give out anything brought from home at the moment so please do not send your child with sweets or anything else to share. It is highly likely that this is something that we are going to discourage post-covid as it does create a pressure for some families and goes against the healthy eating messages that we are trying to promote.

Covid-19 symptoms

Anyone displaying symptoms, or who are ill, must not be sent to school.

The main Symptoms of Covid-19 are:

- a **high temperature** – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- 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)
- has a **loss, or change in, their normal sense of taste or smell;**

