



# LING MOOR

## A PRIORY ACADEMY

NEWSLETTER November 2020



We hope that this newsletter finds you and your families well as we head towards the festive period. In recent weeks, many of our parents have said that it feels like 'business as usual' at Ling Moor and we are seeing this as a massive compliment. Normal isn't usually a word that we connect to Ling Moor as it feels a bit average and the children and families we get to work with are exceptional. Throughout November, we have seen the children rise to all of the challenges that they have been presented with and they continue to be a pleasure to spend time with each and every day. Their humour, warmth and love of learning has been clearly evident each day. As has their resilience as they recover from a period of school being closed.

At the start of December, you will receive an update regarding your child's attainment and progress this year. In more instances than usual, children are identified as not meeting the secure expectation of their year group. This is not because the children are not making progress it is because they are taking time to catch up with missed learning. We are working hard to capture where the children are in their learning and as we move through the course of the year, the high quality teaching and carefully planned

intervention will mean that the significant majority attain at or beyond expectation. Our promise to you during lockdown was that no children will miss out on attaining their best due to lockdown. This continues to be our promise.

The quality of learning that the children have been part of has really impressed all of the members of staff and they are taking great pride in displaying many of the outcomes the children have produced. Twitter continues to be the best window into what is taking place in the Academy. Even if you do not have Twitter, it is worth signing up and following @LingMoorAcademy

So far this year we have seen Year 4 excel in their learning about the Roman period, fantastic exploding science in Year 5, celebrations of Diwali in our reception class and the appearance of Botley the robot in Year 2. It is amazing to see the Year 2 children writing algorithms to program the robot.

Our Year 1 children spent time learning about Remembrance. They impressed us with their thinking. They have also impressed with the superb writing they are producing.

We have been thoroughly impressed with all of the children's writing – the presentation, creativity and grammatical knowledge applied is fab. The Year 3 Narnia inspired writing was lovely to read.

A real highlight of November has been the visit of our resident WW2 expert (Mr Boole) to work with the Year 6 children. They experienced a brilliant evacuee day full of learning. The knowledge gained and the empathy on display showed how mature, sensible and passionate about learning our Year 6 pupils are.

Keeping fit and healthy, working with the amazing Mr Small, is a real priority this year with football, netball, hockey and lots of other sports taking place. Our Year 5 children are gearing up and training hard for the virtual cross country championships – an 8 minute 2km is the target for many of them.

Alongside this the fire making and den building in our outdoor learning area. We have tidied up the pond but we may be calling on your help and support in the Spring to make the space an even better environment to explore.

Our Year twos have had a whole term of Hockey Heroes with Hurricane Sports and our Year 1 children are now experiencing hockey for the first time. Lots of talent has been on show alongside lots of smiling!

Many of you will have noticed our new outdoor space next to the Year 1 classrooms. It is so important for the children to have access to high quality outdoor spaces and we cannot wait to see their creativity, problem solving and communication in action.

### Generosity

This month has yet again see our Ling Moor Family being so generous. The donations for the Lincoln Larder were simply wonderful with those collecting the donations of much needed supplies having to make two visits to the Academy to collect.

You have also been wonderfully generous in your donations to Children in Need – a

whopping £638 that will go towards making a difference to the lives of many young people.

Beyond this, thank you to the many of you who continue to be generous for your thoughts about the well-being of the Academy staff. The simple, 'How are you?' on the playground means an awful lot to the staff at Ling Moor. Your kind words bring a positivity to the staff who are working in challenging circumstances.

### Christmas

This year, Christmas at the Academy is going to feel a little different and there are some things that we are not going to be able to do this year with the guidance that is in place. This is not a case of Mr Sisman being a 'Grinch' but a case of working within the guidelines to keep the Academy safe and opinion.

Unfortunately our usual infant plays and nativities will not be able to take place but we do have some surprises in store for you all as we want this period of time to be really magical for the children. We would ask that this year your child does not bring in Christmas cards for the rest of the class. Instead, we would ask them to write a single card to their class if they wish to. The teachers will be reading these out to the rest of the class. We are looking forward to seeing some lovely messages. For those families who do not celebrate Christmas, we would welcome a letter.

### 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. If you require any uniform, please email the [enquiries@ling-moor.lincs.sch.uk](mailto:enquiries@ling-moor.lincs.sch.uk) address

### Financial hardship

The impact of Covid 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. It is also really important for children to stay with those collecting them and to not play after school.

### 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.

### Covid 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;**

If a member of your household is displaying symptoms or awaiting the outcomes of a test, the family must isolate until the outcome of any test is known or 14 days.

If a member of your household tests positive, please follow the NHS guidance you receive and ensure that children stay away from school until they are advised by the NHS that they can return.

The important thing is to keep communicating with the Academy so we

can guide and support you through the process.

