

# Lent Rise School Newsletter

March 2020



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## Learning Together

Each year we ask our parents to complete a short survey that helps us to understand more about the experience of children and parents and also the direction school could move in. A similar survey is completed by staff and also the children. We take the results seriously and act on them. In the past information provided by the survey has been the driver behind the introduction of hot school meals, consultation on opening a preschool, the introduction of breakfast and afterschool clubs, holiday activities, changes to homework and morning entry system as well as lots of other small changes that can go unrecognised but have a profound impact on the children. No school can thrive in a vacuum and it is essential that we are always moving forward, embracing the changing landscape and needs of our school community to offer the best education possible to our children. The survey is a powerful tool to understand where we have come from, where we are and where we go next. I would strongly urge every parent to complete one at <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/LRSparent20> and provide us with this vital feedback.

### Pre-school consultation

Thank you to all those that completed our consultation on lowering the age phase of Lent Rise School to include 3 and 4 year old nursery provision.

There were 56 responses received in total:

A parent / guardian of a child at Lent Rise School	78.57% (44)
A parent / guarding of a pre-school child	7.14% (4)
A close neighbour of the school	5.36% (3)
A member of the local community	5.36% (3)
Other (please specify)	3.57% (2)

I am in favour of Lent Rise School lowering the age of admission to 3 years:

Yes	92.86% 52
No	7.14% 4

- 35 comments were received.
- 30 were positive focussing on the benefit to the local community, benefit to children of accessing high quality learning and requesting places at the pre-school
- Three comments expressed concerns. These included location within the school, impact on current children and resources, parking and impact on existing nurseries and childminders.
- Two comments were queries about start times and admissions criteria.

Having reviewed the consultation responses our governing body have formally decided to proceed with an application to lower the schools age phase as described. We will keep you all informed as the outcome from the Department for Education as soon as we can, as we are aware many of you will be making pre-school place applications over the coming months.

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## Corona virus - Covid-19

All schools have received information from Public Health England and have been asked to share this with parents and children. There have been no reports of any relevant symptoms or travel patterns at Lent Rise School and we have no current concerns but we would like to reassure parents that we are following all Public Health guidance and making plans should the situation change. Here is the link to the government information to assist.

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/wuhan-novel-coronavirus-information-for-the-public#summary-of-action-taken>. We recommend you check this guidance regularly for any updates.

***At present the guidance for schools is:*** For schools is to promote hand-washing and good hygiene and report any concerns to public health, acting on advice at that stage. Please let us know if you need to alert us to any relevant information as per the guidance.

Please wash your hands:

When you get to school

Before you eat any food

After any visit to the toilets

After break and lunch times

After any sneezing or blowing your nose

Before you go home

If you feel unwell, tell a member or staff or go to first aid.

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## Secondary School Provision

The joint venture between Lent Rise School and Burnham Grammar School continues to gather momentum as the community, parents and local businesses express their support for secondary school provision in Burnham. The plan would see Lent Rise School become a 'through school' for children aged 4-18 years, utilising the Opendale Road site, left vacant when underperforming Burnham Park E-Act Academy closed its doors in 2019. There is currently no secondary school in Burnham and parents are forced to send their children significant and often costly distances to either Bourne End Academy, which is also run by E-Act, or to one of the Maidenhead Secondary Schools, where transport spaces are limited and bus fees can be £800 per child. A recent open consultation with over 500 respondents saw 98% support the plan for secondary provision in Burnham, utilising the experience of Lent Rise and Burnham Grammar. Governors from both schools are currently in discussions with Buckinghamshire County Council and with the Regional Schools Commissioner's team and will shortly be meeting with Burnham's new MP Joy Morrissey. The next steps are to work with the local authority and engage a partner to secure the short term future of the Opendale Road site. We would like to stress that this is by no means a certainty and there is still a long road ahead to obtain the go ahead for the school, but the process is continuing. We will keep you posted on developments.

## Road Safety

One of our parents has asked us to highlight the tragic death of Max Simmons, a pupil at Furze Platt Secondary School. Max died following a road traffic collision in Maidenhead on 21<sup>st</sup> December 2019, he was 13 years old. We would encourage all parents and children to take care when crossing roads; Max's tragic death is a reminder of how dangerous even local roads can be. We will be working with children throughout the year to embed road safety as part of our PSHE curriculum. We would also ask parents to respect the suggested voluntary 20mph speed limit on Coulson Way.

## Parking

Following an incident outside a school in Buckinghamshire last week, the Fire Service were delayed reaching a vehicle that was on fire due to double parking by parents/carers dropping off at the school. The Fire Service have asked all schools to remind parents that emergency vehicles require at least three metres clearance to pass and to ask you to bear this in mind when parking.

## PTA

The PTA would like to thank all those who supported the valentine's bake sale. This raised almost £400 with an additional £280 from the non-uniform day donations. This is a fantastic result. All funds will go towards the PTAS targets for the year. If you visit the school office have a look at the PTA totaliser, with your help the team have reached 80% of their target already!

To help meet this target, the PTA will be running the annual quiz night once again. This year's event takes place on the 13<sup>th</sup> March and will be accompanied by a three course feast from Chhaya's Kitchen. Tickets are £15, for more information contact [pta@lentrise.bucks.sch.uk](mailto:pta@lentrise.bucks.sch.uk)

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## Staff News

Miss Hitchman will be leaving Lent Rise School for pastures new at the end of this term. We wish her all the best for the future. Mrs Rogers who has been teaching cover in Key Stage 2 this year will be taking on the role of class teacher for 4H.

## World Book Day

This week is World Book Day, a great chance to celebrate books and encourage a love of reading in the children. We will be running a dress up day on Friday 6th March where children are encouraged to dress as their favourite book character. We would like to remind parents that face paint is not allowed. We will be collecting donations of £2 towards literacy activities including the visit from poet James Carter.

## February's Attendance

Our overall whole school attendance figure for last month was 95%. The KS1 award went to class 2G who achieved 98% attendance and the KS2 award to 3E who achieved 99% attendance, for the month of February.

## Parent Consultation

We hope you managed to make it to Parent Consultation last week. This was our last formal consultation for the year but we would like to remind parents of our open door policy. If you would like to speak to a teacher about your child's progress or have any queries please do contact the school office and staff will be happy to arrange an appointment for you.

## Ducklings

We are very eggcited to have some duck eggs that we will be caring for in Early Years with the hope that they will hatch into some lovely little ducklings. This is a great way to teach the children about life cycles and also about nurturing and responsibility. We think the children will go quackers for them! We are also hoping to launch a social media account to coincide with the appearance of our hatchlings so watch this space for future 'tweets'!

## Mental health support for children

Young Minds provides support and resources for young people and their parents on a range of issues around mental health. Their website has lots of useful information on ways to access support and is a great resource.

<https://youngminds.org.uk/find-help/for-parents/parents-guide-to-support-a-z/>

## Morning entry

Over recent months, we have had a growing number of parents share with school staff that they find groups of parents congregating around the entrance gates, particularly on Coulson Way, intimidating for adults and children alike. Whilst we appreciate parents become friends and like to catch up socially, please be respectful of providing sufficient space for other parents and children to walk through the gates.



## Safeguarding and E-safety

TikTok is introducing a new "family safety mode" designed to give parents tighter control over teens' mobile phone habits. It will let parents link their own TikTok accounts to their child's - and turn features on and off remotely. That includes a "restricted mode" that tries to filter out inappropriate content, and turns off messaging.

TikTok has an age limit of 13, but many younger children still use the app. Parents and guardians who have their own TikTok accounts - or create one for this purpose - can link their account to their child's, to have direct control over the safety settings. The adults must open the app on both phones, head to the "digital wellbeing" settings, and identify which phone belongs to them, and which to the child. Scanning a QR code from one phone with the other links the accounts, and lets the parent password-protect certain features.

That means the adult's phone can now turn on and off the setting for:

- restricted mode, an automatic filter, driven by an algorithm, which tries to hide content that may be inappropriate
- messages, which can be limited so they can only be received from friends - or turned off completely
- screen time controls, putting a hard limit on how long the app can be used each day

These safety features have been on the TikTok platform for some time, but needed to be set on the teenager's phone manually, and locked behind a password that had to be reset every 30 days. From <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/technology>

Wink

Following on from the information we sent out recently about Apps parents needed to know about (from Thames Valley Police). We would like to draw your attention to an app called 'wink'. It is basically a child version of 'Tinder', which allows children to see people in their area with the potential of meeting up with strangers. This app is linked to Snapchat (which lots of young people use). It allows users to swipe left and right on images to find new friends on Snapchat. If you swipe right on a user's photo and they swipe right on yours, you can add each other as friends. You get a limited number of swipes per day by spending "gems," which you can earn by checking in on the app daily, sharing your friends' contact information, and sharing about the app on social media. Users technically have to be 17 to use the service, but there is no age-verification process.

Please check your child's phone and speak with them about the dangers that using this app could bring.

Thank you to the parent who provided this useful information.

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## Term Dates 2019-20

### Spring Term 2020

Monday 24th February  
Inset day 6th January - staff only  
Friday 3rd April

### Summer Term 2020

Monday 20th April  
HT- Monday 25th May  
Monday 1st June  
Inset day 20th and 21st July - staff only  
Friday 22nd May  
Friday 29th May  
Friday 17th July

## Term Dates 2020-21

### Autumn Term 2020

Wednesday 2nd September  
HT- Monday 26th October  
Monday 2nd November  
Inset days 1st September - staff only  
Friday 23rd October  
Friday 30th October  
Friday 18th December

### Spring Term 2021

Tuesday 5th January  
HT- Monday 15th February  
Monday 22nd February  
Inset day 4th January - staff only  
Friday 12th February  
Friday 19th February  
Thursday 1st April

### Summer Term 2021

Monday 19th April  
HT- Monday 31st May  
Monday 7th June  
Inset day 19<sup>th</sup>, 20th and 21st July - staff only  
Friday 28<sup>th</sup> May  
Friday 4<sup>th</sup> June  
Friday 16th July

## Diary dates

Wed 4th March - Year 1 visit to Windsor Castle  
Thurs 5th March - Class and team photographs  
Fri 6th March - World Book Day dress-up  
Week beginning 9th Feb - Sports Relief week  
Fri 13th March - Sports Relief non-uniform  
Fri 20th March visit from poet James Carter

## Assessment Dates

Year 2 SATs will be administered in May 2020  
Year 6 SATs will be administered in the week beginning 11th May 2020  
Year 1 Phonics Screening tests will be administered week beginning 8th June 2020  
Year 4 Multiplication Times Table Check will be administered in June 2020

## 2020 Residential Trip Dates

Year 5 trip to Shortenills 20th-22nd May 2020  
Year 6 trip to Weymouth 23rd - 26th June 2020

All dates are subject to change