Lydgate Junior School

Headteacher: Mrs R Hurding
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Dear Parents and Carers

Thank you for all your support in settling your children into school over these past few weeks, and for your fantastic attendance at our recent parents' evenings. It has been wonderful to connect with so many of you.

Communication and Staff Support
A strong partnership between home and school is built on clear communication and mutual respect. To help us manage this effectively, please note our communication protocols:

- **School Systems & Operations:** If you ever have questions or concerns regarding school systems or the general running of the school, please contact me directly rather than approaching classroom teachers.
- **Learning & Pupil Dynamics:** Our teaching staff are available to discuss your child's learning and any specific classroom dynamics affecting them. Please reach out to them via our central enquiries email.
- **Response Times:** Our teachers are incredibly busy during the school day but they will always make contact with you as soon as possible.
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We take immense pride in supporting all of our staff, including the excellent regular supply teachers who work hard to maintain continuity for our classes. I have been disappointed to hear of a small number of busy WhatsApp groups making comments about our teaching and supply staff.
We think it is vital that all adults in our community role model the same high standards we expect from our children. Please remember to always follow our core school code of conduct: **Be Safe, Be Kind, and Be Respectful.**

Allergy Safety Updates & Benedict's Law
Following the implementation of **Benedict's Law**, all schools are now required to have a dedicated Allergy Safety Policy. Our updated policy is now available to view on the school website, and all staff are undergoing comprehensive allergy and anaphylaxis training.
To ensure our environment is as safe as possible for children with severe allergies, we need your help with the following rules:

- **No Food Sharing:** We are strictly enforcing a "no sharing" rule for snacks and packed lunches. While giving food is a kind gesture, avoiding sharing is a vital safety measure. Please reinforce this important message at home.
- **Nut-Free School:** We remain a strictly nut-free school. Please double-check packaging on all lunchbox items.
- **Healthy Snacks Only:** We encourage healthy snacks for break times. Please do not send children into school with sweets in their packed lunches or snack bags.

Autumn Safety & Travel
As the darker nights begin to draw in, it is the perfect time to review travel safety with your children.

- **Using the Crossing:** If your child walks to or from school, please remind them to use the designated crossing. This is the only safe place to cross the exceptionally busy **Manchester Road**.
- **Bikes and Scooters:** For those cycling or scooting to school, wearing a cycle helmet is a mandatory safety requirement to keep them protected on their commute.

Thank you once again for your continued cooperation. We hope everyone has a wonderful, safe, and restful half-term break.
Warm regards

Mrs R Hurding
Headteacher