

Lydgate Junior School

NEWSLETTER

October 2021



Dear Parents / Carers,

Diary Dates

Thursday 7 October (AM)	Y3D/dB & Y3SH Crosspool Walk
Saturday 16 October	Cross Country – Concord Park
Monday 18 October	Y6 Athletics Competition at EIS (20 pupils only)
Thursday 21 October	Y5 Egyptian Day
Thursday 21 October	Y6 Shakespeare Company Event
Friday 22 October	Whole School Flu Innoculations
Monday 25 – Friday 29 October	School closed for half-term holiday
Tuesday 9 November	Parents' Consultations
Thursday 11 November	Parents' Consultations
Saturday 13 November	Cross Country – Bradfield School
Saturday 27 November	Cross Country – Norfolk Park
Friday 3 December	Y6 Bags2School (Edale Fundraiser)
Friday 17 December (3.15 p.m.)	School closes for Christmas holiday
Monday 20 Dec – Tue 4 Jan 2022	School closed for Christmas holiday
Wed 5 Jan 2022	Pupils return to school

A very warm welcome back to school to everyone as we begin the Autumn term.

The return to school has been very successful. Pupils have settled to lessons, and the rest of school life, immediately. I am sure parents have noticed children's confidence over new arrangements and classes. Our new Year 3 pupils have been really impressive in the way they have quickly adapted to our routines. Lessons are well underway. Clubs have restarted. Friendships have been re-established. We have had a small number of positive covid19 cases in school and in line with government guidance have not sent other pupils home, but where cases are clustered in a class, we have advised parents to take pupils for a PCR test. The majority of these results are negative which is proving promising.

Parent consultation meetings

Parent-teacher meetings will take place this term on 9 & 11 November from 3.30 p.m. – 6.20 p.m. In line with Sheffield Public Health advice these will all be on line via Zoom. Appointments will be available to book online at the end of October – we will send an email with instructions on how to do this shortly.

Before and after school clubs and activities

As always, the demand for both before and after school clubs and activities has been phenomenal. The indoor space we have free for such activities is limited and this unfortunately dictates both the number of clubs we can offer and the number of places available for participants. Available clubs are notified to parents with an electronic link for parents to express an interest, via email. When places are allocated, parents receive a text asking for payment via Parentpay. We regularly have parents ask to be placed on waiting lists, so if pupils change their mind about participating, please can parents inform the school office as soon as possible.

RASCALS & Benty Lane After School Clubs

Can we remind parents whose children routinely attend the above child care facilities to keep the club fully informed of any changes to their child's sessions. This is particularly necessary if children are ill and not able to attend their session, if they attend after school clubs in school or may require collecting later from

one of our clubs. This will save undue worry to staff and unnecessary phone calls to parents trying to locate missing children.

School calendar

We do try to put events which are due to take place on the website: <http://www.lydgatejunior.co.uk/events-calendar>. I have also included the term dates for this year (2021-22) at the end of this newsletter. Sheffield City Council have recently set the dates for next year – 2022-23. I have also agreed the dates for the INSET days with Lydgate Infant School. To avoid confusion we will publish these in the next newsletter, however they are also available on the website.

Global Goals

Each year group has been learning about Global Goals by taking part in the World's Largest Lesson. Pupils also chose to have a non-uniform day to raise funds to send provisions to our partnership school, Nyofelleh Lower Basic School, in the Gambia. As a school we raised an amazing £460.

<https://worldslargestlesson.globalgoals.org/>

Year 6 transfer to Year 7

If your child was born between 1/9/2010 - 31/08/2011 they will transfer to secondary school in September 2022. You must apply for a place by 31st October 2021. The council will have sent information about how to do this to your home address. Please contact the admissions team on 0114 2735766 if you have any queries.

National Tuition Programme – School-led programme

We will receive funding this year to provide 15 hours of additional tuition for around 25 pupils. Our plan is to offer this in frequent, regular, short sessions of half an hour, three times a week, immediately after school. This will start in November, run by our own staff. We hope all invited pupils and their parents will take up the opportunity.

Music News:

One of the greatest joys about the gradual return to a more normal school life is that the sound of children singing and playing instruments together can be heard again! We know how much our children's happiness and mental wellbeing is boosted by the communal experience of music-making so this is a really positive step. Choir, Hand Bells and Swing Band are all underway and sounding terrific already. More children are also able to enjoy using the instruments in the music room in their weekly lessons.

Sadly, recommendations from Public Health Sheffield mean we have to wait a little longer before singing assemblies can restart and we are unable to hold a Christmas carol concert in the traditional way. However, we're not going to let the children's efforts go to waste and are looking at creative ways that we can offer a seasonal performance for parents to enjoy. Watch this space! Another exciting development is that, later in the year, the choir have plans to take part in the Young Voices performance at the Sheffield Arena, which will be a tremendous experience for all those involved. We will provide more information nearer the time.

Sports news

Our cross country season has had a great start and it has been fantastic to see lots of boys and girls attending the first two events at Bole Hill Park and Parkwood Springs. The next race is on Saturday 16th October at Concord Park.

We are looking forward to repeating and building upon our successes of last year. New members are very welcome – you do not have to commit to every race, or to have run before. These races are very inclusive and all paces are welcome.

Below are the venues for the races this year. Please be aware that *these may change, sometimes at very short notice*. For an up-to-date picture, see the Sheffield Federation for Sports website:

<https://www.sfss.co.uk/cross-country-primary.html>

Please look out for letters the week before each race confirming individual race details. Generally, we ask parents & children to meet at the venue at 9.30 a.m.

If any parents are able to help on the day of the races, it would be much appreciated – please leave a message at the school office for Mrs Drury. Thank you.

3	16 th October	Concord Park
4	13 th November	Bradfield School
5	27 th November	Norfolk Park
6	22 nd January	Brunswick Community School
7	12 th February	Longley Park
Championships and Presentations	26 th February	Graves Park
Year 3 and 4 Relays and League Presentations	12 th March	Hillsborough Park
Year 5 and 6 Relays and League Presentations	19 th March	Castle Dyke

Beginning and end of the day staffing and security

Parents and other adults at the top gate at the end of the day will have noticed how many staff come out at the end of the day, every day. We accompany some individual pupils, meet parents, pass and receive information, but most importantly support children at this key hand-over moment. There will always be a member of staff available at the Manchester Road & Y3 Tapton Field gates in case a child is not collected as expected. By 3:30 p.m. we will bring any children still uncollected back into the main building where a member of the admin team will contact parents.

The start of the school day is 8:35 a.m. when we unlock the classroom doors. Registration is at 8:45 a.m. with the gates being locked at 8.55 a.m.

Quite a number of pupils are biking and scooting to school; just to let parents know that, as well as the racks near the Manchester Road gate, there is also storage in racks adjacent to Tapton School field.

Lydgate Junior – Knitting Club

Some of the children in Year 5 have just started a new lunchtime knitting club. They will be learning to knit and making 20cm squares for the charity Knit-A-Square.

When the squares are finished, they will be sent away to be sewn together and made into knitted blankets for orphaned children in South Africa. If parents would like to knit 20cm squares too, we can include them in our charity donations.



Headteacher





People Services

SCHOOL CALENDAR FOR THE 2021/22 ACADEMIC YEAR

For community and voluntary controlled primary, secondary and special schools

September (22 Days)

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

October (16 Days)

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

November (22 Days)

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

December (13 Days)

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

January (20 days)

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

February (15 days)

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28						

March (23 Days)

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

April (10 Days)

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

May (19 Days)

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

June (19 Days)

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

July (16 Days)

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

August

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				



Denotes Bank Holidays

195 days – including 5 days to be taken as professional development days for teaching staff



Denotes School Holidays



Denotes INSET Days – school closed to pupils