

Loatlands Edition

Respect, Resilience and Curiosity

Issue 1 Term 2 – Friday 12th January 2024

Telephone: 01536 903713

Email: parents@loatlands.pfschools.org.uk

Website: www.loatlandsprimary.net



Dates for your Diary – Please do remember that we cannot always guarantee these dates and sometimes changes will need to be made due to unforeseen circumstances, bad weather or staffing.



Welcome back into 2024. I hope this year brings you all good health and happiness.

It has been great hearing from the children about their Christmas holidays.

The schools aims for 2024 are:

For children –

We want to continue to build on the children's resilience and determination to achieve well.

We aim to make the curriculum fun and engaging with external trips and school events.

The school –

We will be sharing our new behaviour policy which has been created using the voice of all stakeholders in school.

We will be setting open mornings for you to come in and see example lessons.

As parents –

We just ask that you continue to support us with reading at home, homework activities and encouraging your children to speak out and be confident individuals.

Mrs Willis



School Absence

If your child is absent from school due to illness, please either ring the school office (you can leave a voice message), send an email or use the Studybugs App everyday of your child's absence by 9am



(Get the app or register now (<https://studybugs.com/about/parents>))



Telephone number – 01536 903713



Parents@loatlands.pfschools.org.uk

Please remember, If your child is suffering with sickness or diarrhoea, they cannot return to school until 48 hours after the last bout.

For more information about what to do when your child has common illnesses follow the link below

<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

Parents Evening

Dates and information to follow –

You will be able to book your 10 minute slot where you can sit with your child's teacher and discuss their progress. You will also have an opportunity to look at their work and see their classroom environment.

You will be sent a link in due course which will enable you to book your appointment.



Online Safety



We know lots of children would have received new gaming consoles or mobile phones for Christmas. Below is a handy guide for parents to keep children safe whilst online.



Online Safety Newsletter

January 2024

WhatsApp

You must be at least 16 years old to register for and use WhatsApp. WhatsApp is a free messaging app that allows you to send messages, voice notes, photos and videos.

What should I be aware of?

Group chats: One of the key features is the group chat function. Everybody in the group, even if they are not one of your child's phone contacts, will be able to see all messages within that group. If your child is added to a group with someone that they have previously blocked, that person can still see their messages and send them messages within the group chat. In settings, you can change who can add your child to groups. You can leave a group chat at any point so talk to your child and encourage them to leave any chat that makes them feel uncomfortable.

Location sharing: you can share your location on WhatsApp. Talk to your child about when this would be appropriate to use but also the potential danger of sharing their location, for example with strangers.

Blocking/Reporting: Show your child how to block and report other users or inappropriate content. You can find out how to do it based on your child's device here:

<https://faq.whatsapp.com/1142481766359885/>

Further information

NSPCC provide further advice and tips to help keep your child safe:

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/online-safety-blog/2023-01-12-is-whatsapp-safe-for-my-child/>

New devices

If your child has a new device, have you set up parental controls?



Consoles

All consoles offer parental controls such as limiting the time spent on the device or restricting who your child can communicate with. Find out the specific settings below:

- **PlayStation:** <https://www.playstation.com/en-gb/support/account/psn-safety-parents-guide/>

- **Xbox:** <https://www.xbox.com/en-GB/family-hub>
- **Nintendo Switch:**

<https://www.nintendo.co.uk/Hardware/Nintendo-Switch-Parental-Controls/Nintendo-Switch-Parental-Controls-1183145.html>



Mobiles/Tablets

You can set up parental controls and restrictions on most mobile devices, which can limit what your child can access. Additionally, make sure appropriate settings are applied on the apps your child is using.

- **Apple devices:** <https://www.apple.com/uk/families/>
- **Android devices:** <https://families.google/familylink/>

Further information

Internet Matters provide a checklist here:

<https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/e-safety-checklist-getting-your-kids-tech-devices-set-up-safe>

LEGO Fortnite – PEGI 7

Lego Fortnite is free to play (in game purchases are available though). The game has been rated as PEGI 7, meaning that the content is suitable for children over the age of 7. However, you should be aware that this game can be played with up to seven people (or solo). Lego Fortnite is only accessible on Fortnite, so you must download the main game. When setting up an account, if your child is under the age of 13, then they will be given a 'cabin account,' therefore certain features will be disabled (such as communicating with other players) unless you override them.

Please ensure you set the parental controls as appropriate for your child, we also recommend setting the appropriate settings on the console itself.

There are two worlds available - Survival or Sandbox, you can find out more about each world here so you can decide which would be best for your child:

<https://www.lego.com/en-gb/themes/fortnite/lego-fortnite-parents-guide>

YouTube

YouTube is intended for users over the age of 13 (however, children of all ages may use the Service and YouTube Kids if enabled by a parent/legal guardian).

What if my child is under the age of 13?

If your child is under the age of 13 then your child should use either YouTube Kids or a Supervised Account. Which option you choose, will depend on your child's age and your requirements.

- **YouTube Kids** – this is a separate app that includes a smaller selection of videos based on the age you select:

- **Preschool** (ages four and under)
- **Younger** (ages 5–8)
- **Older** (ages 9–12)

- **Supervised accounts** – this is a parent-managed version of YouTube. You can select one of the following options, again depending on your child's age and your requirements:

- **Explore** - Generally for viewers aged 9+.
- **Explore more** - Generally for viewers aged 13+
- **Most of YouTube** - This setting includes almost everything on YouTube except for videos marked as 18+ and other videos that may not be appropriate for viewers using supervised experiences.

Google have created a table to show the differences between YouTube Kids and a Supervised account to help in your decision:

<https://support.google.com/youtube/answer/10315420>

Posting videos

You should be over 13 to post videos. If your child does post videos on YouTube, ensure they understand what information they should keep private and what to do if they receive negative comments. Talk to them about the different settings available -

1. **Public:** anyone can view the video.
2. **Private:** video can only be viewed by users that you select.
3. **Unlisted:** only people who have the link to the video can view it.

YouTube have produced these safety tips for teens when posting content:

<https://support.google.com/youtube/answer/2802244>

How can I make YouTube safer?

- **Explore YouTube together** and see what they like to watch. Make sure your child understands that they can **talk to you** if they see anything that makes them feel uncomfortable online.

- **Restricted mode** - is an additional setting (when logged in via a Google account) to restrict the availability of mature content.

- Ensure your child knows how to **report inappropriate content/comments**. Find out more here: <https://support.google.com/youtube/answer/2802027>.



A Guide to the Online Safety Bill

The Online Safety Bill is a new set of laws to protect people online. The laws will make social media companies more responsible for the safety of their users on their platforms. The Government have created a guide to the new laws detailing how the laws will protect children and adults. For example, the new laws mean social media companies will have to show how they are enforcing age limits.

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/a-guide-to-the-online-safety-bill>

YouTube Content Warning

The INEQE Safeguarding Group have published a report warning about the YouTube cartoon series called Jeffy. Due to the content being animated, viewers may believe that it is suitable for children to watch when in fact the content is inappropriate. You can find out more here:

<https://ineqe.com/2023/11/09/safeguarding-update-youtube-cartoon-jeffy>

World Events

There are a lot of distressing events happening around the world, which your child may see online. Childnet have published an article discussing how you can support your child when they see something worrying or upsetting online. The article also directs you to other organisations that you can contact if you require further help and support:

<https://www.childnet.com/blog/navigating-violent-online-content-from-global-events/>



COMING SOON

Month	Date	Event
	15th	Cowell Class stay and Read 2:45pm – 3:10pm
	16th	Lewis Class Stay and Read 2:45pm – 3:10pm
	17th	Pullman Class Stay and Read 2:45pm – 3.10pm
	17th	IEP Reviews Yr 3
	18th	Wilson Class Stay and Read 2:45pm – 3:10pm
	18th	Special lunch menu - All American – book via school money
	22nd	Horowitz Class Stay and Read 2:45pm – 3.10pm
	23rd	Tolkien Class Stay and Read 2:45pm – 3.10pm
	24th	IEP Reviews Yr 4
	29th	KS1 Dodgeball event @ Montsaye – named children
February	7th	IEP Reviews Yr 6
	13th	Pancake Day Menu – book via school money
	14th	IEP Reviews Reception & Nursery
	15th	Movie Night – Elemental – see poster below
	16th	School closes to pupils for February half term
	19th	Wear Red for Encephalitis – info to follow
	26th	School reopens to pupils

Year 2 Dahl Class will be having their sessions every Tuesday morning starting on **Tuesday 9th January**.

Year 2 Milne Class will be having their sessions every Wednesday morning starting on **Wednesday 10th January**.

Please send your child wearing their forest school kit and send their school uniform in a named carrier bag to change into



We would really appreciate any donations of Real Christmas trees for our Forest School sessions. Please contact the school office to arrange bringing them into school.

Message from Mrs Greenwood....

"As you are aware, we have had a considerable amount of rainfall over the last few weeks. This means our Forest school site is much wetter, and muddier than usual. Please send your child to forest school in old, warm clothes which you will not mind coming home dirty. As the weather is set to get colder please ensure children have plenty of layers of clothes including thick, or multiple pairs of socks, hats, gloves scarves etc (again these are likely to get very dirty.)

Please send in a change of socks and underwear with your child's uniform. Where possible please can you send in 2 coats, one that can get wet and muddy and then a coat which will be warm and dry for lunchtime and coming home. If this is a problem please let us know as we have many spare coats which can be used for Forest school.

We will always go out in every weather, even if this means a reduced session. We will ensure that the children remain happy and comfortable, have a warm and filling snack and of course have a great time."

Our wonderful Forest School was recently featured on a local news website 'In your area'.....

OUTDOORS, WHATEVER THE WEATHER!

++ Northants Nursery Enjoys Nature's Playground ++

Despite the wintery weather, hardy youngsters from Loatlands Nursery, Northamptonshire, wrapped up to enjoy the best of the outdoors and nature's playground. In hats and overalls, they ventured out to make mud pies and leaf art – keeping warm with a hot chocolate and chopping wood for their 'camp fire' when temperatures dropped.

The three-year-olds from the nursery, which is part of Pathfinder Schools, are used to outdoor fun, and already enjoy on-site Forest School. During weekly sessions with qualified outdoor education staff they are developing key learning behaviours such as curiosity, creativity, enthusiasm, persistence, imagination, resilience and reflectivity. Working together on tasks such as den building supports collaborative working, while tool work and fire safety encourage the children's understanding of risk and keeping safe. At Forest School the children are setting the foundations for lifelong learning.

A Loatlands parent said: "All three of our children have used the Forest School at Loatlands. It has given them fantastic opportunities to learn about who they are, what they love and how to connect with nature and the world around them in such a safe and engaging environment. The nursery team are absolutely wonderful at what they do and I really feel that they care that the children's experiences are positive and empowering."

Alison Willis, Headteacher, Loatlands Primary School, part of Pathfinder Schools, said: "Our nursery is the jewel in our crown, and much-loved by so many families. Forest School has been a huge hit and is key to how we support the children's emotional, social, physical and intellectual development. Through hands-on experiences the children develop into confident, independent, creative – and, in this weather, resilient - learners who are brilliantly set up for success when they start school. As we grow our nursery and prepare to extend our hours in the future, we look forward to welcoming many more families to our fabulous Forest School." **Less**



Please can we remind parents about parking considerately outside school. We ask you to be mindful of other pedestrians, cars and local residents. We would also urge you to switch off your engine if you arrive early.

Loatlands
Primary School
Presents

MOVIE NIGHT



THURSDAY 15TH FEBRUARY AFTER SCHOOL

TICKETS £2.50 INCLUDING CRISPS AND A DRINK

**PARENTS TO COLLECT OUTSIDE THE COMMUNITY
ENTRANCE AT 5.15pm**

Tickets available for purchase via schoolmoney



Loatlands
Primary School

Starting w/c: 4th Jan

Kids+ AM

7:30-8:50am - £5.50
8-8:50am - £3.85

Complementary breakfast
only for children who arrive
before 7:50am

Clubs

Club 1: 3:15-4:30pm -£4.95

Per session excluding VAT

Kids+

3:15-4:45pm- £6.60
3:15-5:30pm - £10.45
3:15pm-6pm - £12.10
Per session

KEY FACTS:

- ✓ High Quality Delivery
- ✓ DBS Checked
- ✓ Welcoming & Safe Environment
- ✓ Ofsted Registered
- ✓ Accept childcare vouchers

**Children who
are booked on
for wraparound
can choose to
attend the Club
or Wraparound
Activities**

CLUBS

ACTIVITIES

		Clubs	Wraparound Activities
Mon	1	Target Games	Fun science
	2		Play ground games
Tue	1	Pokemon club	Arts & crafts
	2		Creative Play
Wed	1	Football KS2	Playground games
	2		Creative Play & Fifa & Minecraft & Ipads gaming
Thu	1	Football KS1	Creative Play & Fifa & Minecraft & Ipads gaming
	2		Creative play
Fri	1	Laser KS1 & KS2	Ball games
	2		Film & board games night

*No collections available before 4:30pm as this is protected time
Pupil voice is collected termly to decide activities.

After 4:30 pupils can choose to participate in scheduled activities or 'creative play' which is pupils voice and they can vote for what they would like to do.



Contact the school office for pupil premium spaces

Sign Up Now <https://fiestasportscoaching.magicbooking.co.uk>



Loatlands
Primary School

AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

3:15PM - 4:30PM

**MEDALS &
PRIZES TO
BE WON**



TARGET GAMES
Mondays

POKEMON CLUB
Tuesdays

FOOTBALL KS2
Wednesdays

FOOTBALL KS1
Thursdays

**LAZER KS1 &
KS2**
Fridays

**FUN GAMES,
COMPETITIONS
AND
TOURNEMENTS**

**EXTENDED CLUBS
AVAILABLE UNTIL 5:30PM**



SIGN UP NOW AT

<https://fiestasportscoaching.magicbooking.co.uk>

There is a route into teaching for everyone. Why not start yours in 2024?

We are partnered with Ambition Institute to deliver in-school teacher training, starting this September. You can find out more here:

[Pathfinder Schools - Initial Teacher Training \(ITT\)](#) or email training@pfschools.org.uk for more information



**Make school days
the best days.**

Enjoy the benefits of training
to teach in school.

APPLICATIONS OPEN



In collaboration with

Teaching 

Search: Get Into Teaching

Please see the dates for this academy year and the following year. Please remember all holidays will not be authorised and we ask you avoid booking holidays in school time as this has a huge impact on children's learning and wellbeing. Thank you

Pathfinder Schools - 2023-24 academic year Term Dates

Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
Sep-23							Oct-23							Nov-23							Dec-23						
28	29	30	31	1	2	3	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
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Jan-24							Feb-24							Mar-24							Apr-24						
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School days	
School holiday	
Weekend	
Training day	
Bank Holiday	

Total Days	
Pupils	190
Teachers	195

Term	Days	TD	Term	Days	TD	Term	Days	TD
Autumn 1	30	32	Spring 1	28	29	Summer 1	30	30
Autumn 2	36	36	Spring 2	29	29	Summer 2	37	39

Term Dates 2024-2025

Pathfinder Schools - 2024-25 academic year Term Dates

Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
Sep-24							Oct-24							Nov-24							Dec-24						
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Term	Days	TD	Term	Days	TD	Term	Days	TD
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Autumn 2	35	35	Spring 2	30	30	Summer 2	40	40