 Landscove C of E Primary School

*Landscove, Nr Ashburton, Devon. TQ13 7LY*

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**NEWSLETTER FRIDAY 11th SEPTEMBER**

Dear Parents / Carers,

**Foreword by Mrs Dunford**

Pupil return to Landscove this week has been excellent and very positive, despite the fact that we are having to manage the Covid 19 arrangements, brilliant learning is going ahead and the children are thoroughly enjoying being with their friends and the staff.

As always Jill leads her team with experience and efficiency and they are confident in their own roles so Landscove is a highly successful school with great staff and happy children and families.

Unfortunately Landscove’s neighbour school Broadhempston is not in such a fortunate position and we asked Jill to help support that school while the Academy Head was absent for the first two weeks of term. She has done a brilliant job stepping into the leadership role and is working as hard as ever to support both schools in her usual highly experienced and efficient manner. The more unfortunate position is that Matthew Medd remains unwell and has tendered his resignation for the end of the autumn term. This is totally unexpected and we feel that he is unlikely to return for any part of the term.

Jill worked closely with Dan Turner last year, particularly the last two terms as they recognised the advantages of schools working in partnership. At the start of this term she led the staff from both schools in their two days INSET training and will continue to support and develop staff and learning as we go forward. Jill is best placed to manage this unexpected position because the actions were already in place as the two schools planned to work more closely together throughout the year and into the future. She is a very experienced and well organised Academy Head as I know you will all have experienced, respected for the highly successful way she runs and manages Landscove. I know she will continue to do this. Also, there are so many benefits to working in partnership schools, for example, there are more staff to take responsibility for strategic development and more than 12 different curriculum areas to be led. We have experienced significant improvement in schools that work as a pair closely together- Diptford and Harbertonford, Hennock and Bearnes, Drakes and Otterton and Cheriton Bishop and Yeoford.

This arrangement is in place for the current term now as we consider how we should proceed, but I would say that if it is possible that Jill continues to maintain and develop both schools as effectively as she has, while maintaining a good work life balance this would be a preferred option. We will ensure parents know our decision as soon as we have made it- Trustees will be looking into what is considered best for both schools before any decisions are made. Please rest assured that we will consider every detail as we are committed to ensure all our schools are highly successful and maintain their high standing within their communities.

The Trust Senior Leadership Team will be supporting Jill throughout this early period and going forward; we will do everything we can to ensure Landscove continues to deliver the quality first teaching and learning they always do.

Jill will answer any queries you may have, so I urge you to liaise with her if you have any issues that need to be resolved- she is best placed to give you the correct information. I know Jill will keep parents well informed.

Many thanks for your continued support.

***Mrs Nicky Dunford CEO***

**WELCOME BACK!**

Well I can guarantee that this wouldn’t be what anyone (including me) was expecting for the first newsletter this term! Whilst I am sad not to be working in tandem with Mr Medd, as we had planned, I would like to reassure you that I intend to continue to develop Landscove in the best way possible for all the children; our chief beneficiaries.

I aim to split my week equally between the two schools.

**Week A** :Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday morning will be spent at Broadhempston and the rest of the week will be at Landscove.

**Week B**: Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday morning will be spent at Landscove and the rest of the week will be at Broadhempston.

This allows me to see a full week at both schools and have the big picture of what is happening on the ground. There may be times when this changes due to meetings or staff training needs. When I’m at Landscove I will be fully immersed in the jobs that need doing for this school and communicate this clearly and in advance to staff.

This should not make a huge difference to the time I have previously spent on leadership as two days of my school life have usually been taken up with teaching in classes and the preparation and marking that comes with this part of the job. However, I will not have a teaching commitment this year, which means it will be normal service at Landscove. We also have a highly dedicated, professional and experienced staff who will continue to provide inspiring and exciting opportunities to their classes.

**RECEPTION SETTLING IN**

What a fantastic start class one have made as they begin their Landscove journey, settling in during their induction visits. They separated from their parents so well (thanks for all your support with this) and got stuck in to lots of fun activities, lovely to see early friendships blossoming! We are

really excited for them

to be together as a whole class next week.

🙂

**SCHOOL WEBSITE**

Do take a look on our school website, the latest information on the beginning of term can be found in individual Class pages. I am assured these will be published over the weekend if they’re not already there. Next week staff aim to upload a video presentation to introduce the year ~ these will be in place of the meet your teacher sessions which we are unable to offer at this time.

**MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING -COVID RECOVERY**

As we begin the process of returning to school the NHS website has some very helpful and practical 'top-tips' to ease and support this transition for your children. It includes things that you can do to help them look after their mental health in these 'Covid times' .It really is worth taking a quick look, I found it very useful. Mrs Field

<https://www.nhs.uk/oneyou/every-mind-matters/childrens-mental-health/>

<https://www.nhs.uk/oneyou/every-mind-matters/childrens-mental-health/back-to-school-coronavirus-covid-19/>

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| [https://digitalcampaignsstorage.blob.core.windows.net/oneyou-cms-production/original_images/EMM-OG-parent-hub.jpg](https://www.nhs.uk/oneyou/every-mind-matters/childrens-mental-health/back-to-school-coronavirus-covid-19/) | [Every Mind Matters | One You](https://www.nhs.uk/oneyou/every-mind-matters/childrens-mental-health/back-to-school-coronavirus-covid-19/)  Feeling stressed, anxious, low or struggling to sleep? Every Mind Matters and One You can help with expert advice and practical tips. Start the fightback to a healthier you today.  www.nhs.uk |

**SAFEGUARDING & ATTENDANCE**

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| Attendance:  (Our school target is 96.8%) | | Number of sessions missed per class: (session = a whole morning or afternoon) |
| Whole school | 96.55 % |  |
| Class 2 | 95.17% | 14 |
| Class 3 | 96.15% | 10 |
| Class 4 | 95.42% | 11 |
| Well done to class 3! | |  |

The Designated Safeguarding Lead for Landscove is Mrs Jill Ryder and the Deputy DSLs are Ms Karen Barlow and Mrs Anna Neville. If you have any concerns please contact school or you can directly access MASH on 0345 155 1071

**FOLS ~ A message from Vicky**

Whilst we all allow the school and the children to settle into the “new norm” FOLS activity will be limited. However we do welcome any support people are able to give or welcome any communication via the Facebook page or email address. We are continuing with the bags for school and the 100 club which we would encourage people to support. We have achieved so much over the last few years and we hope to continue this with fundraising going forward.

**CHILDREN ENJOYING PE WITH MR TANNER THIS WEEK – Ultimate Frizbee**

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It’s been great to see so many children here this week~ the school really is alive once more and gives us a sense of normal service! I think that’s it - in the meantime, if you have any questions about anything to do with the school or your child please get in touch by phone or email.

Have a good weekend



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