



LIONEL WALDEN PRIMARY SCHOOL

SUMMER TERM NEWSLETTER

April 2015



I am delighted to be starting this term as Headteacher of Lionel Walden Primary School. I am now looking forward to working with our team of committed staff and governors, together with you as parents/carers, to ensure that we continue to provide the very best education for all of our pupils, whilst ensuring they are safe and happy. Relationships between home and school are key to supporting the academic achievement and emotional well-being of our children. Please come and speak to me or a member of the teaching staff if you have any concerns or comments to make. I look forward to seeing you in school soon.

STAFFING

I am pleased to announce that Mrs Bayes was recently appointed as Deputy Headteacher with effect from the start of this term. We also welcome three new members of staff: Mrs Susan Brighty, Mrs Siobhan Cotter and Miss Helen Mills as Teaching Assistants. Mrs Brighty will also be providing additional office support on Tuesdays, working alongside Mrs Clarke. Congratulations to Teaching Assistant Miss Buckland-Smith who recently married and is now Mrs Kent. Also, congratulations to Catering Assistant Donna Brand who married during the Easter holiday and is now Mrs Scrivener. Our best wishes go to Mrs Nell and her husband on the safe arrival of their beautiful baby girl, Lily. We wish them every happiness for the future.

COMPUTING

Mrs McBeath and Mrs Naughton have worked closely with our staff and the county's ICT Service to make further improvements to the technology provision at Lionel Walden. The Interactive Whiteboards (Smartboards) in three of our classrooms have been replaced with more up-to-date models. We have recently updated our technological equipment (including the purchase of further laptops, iPads and programmable devices) in line with the new National Curriculum requirements and have purchased secure storage units to ensure they are locked away when not in use. These improvements will ensure that all children are engaged in their learning and that their knowledge is extended.

Nowadays, children spend much more of their time 'online' and using technology, both at home and at school. It is apparent that they are not always aware of the potential risks or how to handle certain issues. We as teachers and as parents have a duty to ensure our children are safe. In school, we have secure filters in place but it is still vital that we alert children to possible dangers. With this in mind, we are planning an 'E-safety Week' in June. As part of this, we have the ICT Service team coming into our school to run e-safety information sessions for parents at 2.00 p.m. and 6.30 p.m. on Tuesday, 9th June. Further details will follow. Class teachers will be supporting the children in activities to help them learn how to use technology responsibly and with increased awareness.



KEY STAGE 2 TESTS

These will take place between Monday, 11th May and Friday, 15th May. It is important that all Year 6 children attend school during the week of these tests.

SPORTS AFTERNOON

Come and join us on Wednesday, 20th May at 1.15 p.m., weather permitting. All pupils will remain with their classes throughout the afternoon and must be collected from their classrooms at the end. Please ensure they have a sunhat with them. Water will be supplied for the children. Drinks will be available for parents and spectators. We ask that all parents refrain from sitting at the starting/finishing lines.



SUMMER FAIR

The School Association is gearing up for its major fundraising event of the year—the Summer Fair. This takes place on Thursday, 18th June. More information about the Summer Fair will be distributed in due course.



WALK TO SCHOOL WEEK

This takes place from 18th — 21st May. Please mark this on your calendar and join in by either walking to school or, if you travel into Doddington by car, by parking away from school and walking the rest of the way.



PHOTOGRAPHS

Throughout the year, your child's photograph may be taken as we record activities taking place in school. On some occasions, these photographs may appear on the school's website or in the local press. If any parent has any objection to this, please inform the school office as soon as possible.



SCHOOL RECORDS

Please inform the school office of any changes regarding your child/children's records. This is particularly important in respect of mobile telephone numbers—we may need to contact you in an emergency! This also applies to email addresses—please ensure we have your most up-to-date address.



INTERNATIONAL WEEK

We are in the process of planning another International Education week at the beginning of the second half of this term (1st—5th June). The aim of this themed week is to create opportunities for children to discover about other countries and cultures and to have their awareness raised about local, national and global issues. Below are details showing the countries which each class will be studying. If you can help us with any activities, please contact Mrs. Barnard-Taylor or Mrs. Bayes.

Pre-School	-	Holland	Class 5	-	Vietnam
Class 1	-	Switzerland	Class 6	-	Haiti
Class 2	-	France	Class 7	-	Countries of Africa
Class 3	-	Italy	Class 8	-	Denmark
Class 4	-	Russia			



SCHOOL UNIFORM

We shall continue to reinforce our expectations regarding the wearing of school uniform and encourage children to take pride in their appearance. The school colours are navy/grey skirts/pinafore dresses or grey/black trousers with white shirts. PE kit should consist of a plain white t-shirt with navy or white shorts and plimsolls. Strappy, colourful tops are not suitable. Jewellery should not be worn, except for small stud earrings for pierced ears. Earrings are not to be worn during PE/swimming lessons and children must be able to take them out themselves. If they cannot do this, they should not wear earrings on the days that they have PE/swimming. Thank you in advance for your support and co-operation with this. Please could you ensure that your child's clothing is named, particularly sweatshirts, cardigans and coats. With the arrival of warmer weather, if children leave their sweatshirts lying around, we can then return them to their owner.

Come and have a look at our range of sweatshirts and jackets. Orders are now being taken for September.

POINTS TO REMEMBER

- ⇒ All school uniform/items of clothing must be clearly labelled with your child's name.
- ⇒ School letters—please check, on a daily basis, your child's bag.
- ⇒ Health & Safety issues—please use the pedestrian access at all times—the vehicular access/staff car park should not be used. Bicycles/scooters must not be ridden on the school premises by anyone including children.
- ⇒ Please adhere to the parking restrictions outside the school and give consideration to local residents.
- ⇒ We are a no-smoking premises.
- ⇒ Please note that dogs should not be brought onto the school premises.

SWIMMING

The dates for this term are as follows:-

<u>Years 3 and 4</u>	<u>Years 5 and 6</u>
Friday, 24th April	Friday, 5th June
Friday, 1st May	Friday, 12th June
Friday, 8th May	Friday, 19th June
Friday, 15th May	Friday, 26th June
	Friday, 3rd July
	Friday, 10th July

The contribution towards teaching and transport costs for swimming lessons remains at £1.50 per session. Please note that all children must wear a swimming hat. These can be purchased from the school office at a cost of 50p.



ADMINISTERING OF MEDICINES IN SCHOOL

You are reminded that in the event of your child needing medicines in school time, a consent form MUST be completed by you before any medication can be administered by school staff. Forms can be obtained from the school office.

PUPIL ILLNESS - DIARRHOEA AND VOMITING

Parents are reminded that in incidents of diarrhoea and vomiting, children should be kept away from school for 48 hours after the last bout of illness. This is to prevent infections from spreading.

VOUCHERS

Once again we are collecting vouchers for the school. At the moment we are collecting the Sainsbury Active Kids vouchers. We will also be collecting Tesco vouchers later on in the year. Many thanks to all of you who have collected vouchers so far. Collection boxes can be found in the school entrance hall.

IMPORTANT DATES

SCHOOL TERM AND HOLIDAY DATES

2015

Closure Day	Monday, 4th May (Bank Holiday)
Staff Training Day	Friday, 22nd May (school closed)
Half Term	Monday, 25th to Friday, 29th May
End of Summer Term	Wednesday, 22nd July
Start of Autumn Term	Thursday, 3rd September

OTHER IMPORTANT DATES

Thursday, 23rd April	Class and Sports Group Photographs
Friday, 24th April	Class 3 Cake Stall
Friday, 1st May	Class 5 Assembly
Friday, 8th May	Class 7 Assembly
11th–15th May	End of Key Stage 2 Tests
Wednesday, 13th May	Sex Education Meeting
Friday, 15th May	Class 2 Cake Stall
18th–21st May	Walk to School Week
Wednesday, 20th May	Sports Afternoon
1st–5th June	International Week
Tuesday, 9th June	E-Safety Workshops for Parents
Tuesday, 9th June	Year 6 Library Resources Day at Cromwell Community College
Friday, 12th June	Class 4 Assembly
Friday, 12th June	Class 1 Cake Stall
Thursday, 18th June	Summer Fair
Friday, 19th June	Class 2 Assembly
22nd–26th June	Isle of Wight Residential Visit
Friday, 26th June	Class 3 Assembly
Friday, 3rd July	Class 6 Assembly
Monday, 6th July	Parents' Evening for children starting school in September, 2015
Wednesday, 8th July	Year 6 Induction Day at Cromwell Community College
Friday, 10th July	Pre-School Cake Stall
Friday, 17th July	Class 1 Assembly
Monday, 20th July	Awards Assembly
Tuesday, 21st July	Class 8 Assembly
Wednesday, 22nd July	Final Assembly (Year 6 Presentations)



SCHOOL WEBSITE

The school website, www.lionelwalden.cambs.sch.uk, is updated on a regular basis, giving information on events taking place in school.

TERM TIME HOLIDAYS

Changes to the law, which came into force on 1st September, 2013, mean that schools no longer have the discretion to grant 10 days of authorised leave/absence to pupils each year. The new rules state that Headteachers "may not grant any leave of absence during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances". Family holidays do not fall into the category of 'exceptional circumstances'.