

LIONEL WALDEN PRIMARY SCHOOL

SPRING TERM NEWSLETTER



JANUARY 2019



HAPPY NEW YEAR!

A warm welcome back to school! This term, we are again looking forward to our annual 'Healthy Week' and also 'Science Week'. Pupils and staff, as well as parent helpers and visitors, very much enjoy participating in the wealth of learning experiences we have arranged. Further information is provided below. Other events include World Book Day, Comic Relief Day and Safer Internet Day - a meeting for all parents is scheduled for 7th February on the topic of e-safety. Further details will follow. We are also holding another Maths Workshop for parents of our Pre-School and Reception Class children - this will take place on 17th January. You are also invited to attend our Class Assemblies, which showcase the learning which is taking place in each class, and our Open Evening and Parents' Evenings.

Please be aware that, as far as possible, we shall be **emailing all letters and correspondence** to you in order to reduce our printing costs and usage of paper. If you would prefer paper copies, please contact Mrs Clarke in the School Office and we shall continue to provide them to those parents/carers who request them.

Congratulations to Mr Harfield, our SENDCo and Year 3 teacher! He has been successful in gaining promotion and will take on the role of Assistant Headteacher, with a focus on Special Educational Needs, Inclusion and Safeguarding, at a school in Peterborough after the Easter holidays. Whilst we shall miss Mr Harfield and his work here, we know that this is a further opportunity for his career development. We are currently in the process of advertising for a teacher to join our team and will update you later in the term.

The staff and I are all looking forward to working with you again this term. Please come and speak to us if you have any concerns, questions or comments.

Best wishes
Mrs Barnard-Taylor

HEALTHY WEEK

Healthy Week is 28th January to 1st February. During this week, we have a range of activities planned including visits from the Chatteris Tang Soo Do Club, Chatteris Cycling Club, Chatteris Tennis Club, Ely Rugby Club, Everyone Health and Doddington Scouts. We shall also be participating in Clubbercise sessions. Healthy Week activities count towards our Games Week as part of our quest to achieve the Silver Games Mark once again.

If there are any parents who are involved in a sport, or have coaching qualifications, and would like to lead taster sessions during Healthy Week, please contact Mrs Clarke in the School Office. Sports coaches, provided by the Witchford Sports Partnership, will be teaching multi-skills sessions to our Year 1 children this term whilst our Year 4 pupils will develop striking and fielding skills.

Molly Dancing will be taking place with Year 5 on Wednesday afternoons. This will be led by Gordon Philips, from the Ouse Washes Molly Dancers, who will teach specific dances and recount stories of the local area. Swimming sessions also continue this term, with Years 5 and 6 before half-term and Years 3 and 4 after half-term.

SCIENCE WEEK

Science Week is 11th to 15th March. Once again, a range of visitors will be in school including Jules the Wildlife Man, Mad Science, the Raptor Centre and Lion Learners. Some classes will be visiting a local secondary school where they will participate in various science lessons. As in previous years, each class will be experiencing a range of exciting experiments and activities. Parental help is always appreciated during this busy week - please contact Mrs Clarke in the School Office for further information. We hope you are looking forward to participating in this year's 'Homework Challenge' - further details will follow!



Lionel Walden Primary School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

COMMUNITY BIDS

RAISONMOOR ENVIRONMENT FUND

We are delighted to report that we have been successful in securing additional funds to enable us to develop specific learning areas within the school grounds to benefit all of our pupils. The **Ransonmoor Fund Committee** has awarded £5,000 towards the purchase of two outdoor learning pods which will be sited at the rear of the playground. These pods will be used in a variety of ways and will enable our children to carry out scientific experiments outdoors including the setting up of equipment to collect and measure rain water, learn about the water cycle and plan and create miniature gardens. These wooden structures will also provide shade and shelter. Majestic Heritage will be completing the works during the half-term break.

TESCO BLUE TOKEN SCHEME

Thank you for all your support in donating to the **Tesco Blue Token Scheme**. We were hoping to collect the most tokens and be awarded £4,000 as our plan was to erect a wooden Reading Pod in which groups of children could read during breaks and lunchtimes and where adults could work with groups during lessons and run activities. However, we are still pleased to have been chosen for this scheme and awarded £1,000 for coming third. This will enable us to purchase additional equipment, such as books, posters and comfortable seating, for the Environmental Learning Pods on the playground.

FENLAND AND EAST CAMBRIDGESHIRE EVIDENCE BASED FUND

We have secured a bid of £15,500 from the **Fenland and East Cambridgeshire Evidence Based Fund** to purchase and expand the range of reading scheme books, Accelerated Reading books and Story Sacks for our Early Years and to provide a programme of professional development for all our staff. We continue to value our strong partnership with parents and have continued with our Reading and Speaking and Listening workshops for parents of our children in Pre-School and our Reception Class. Other events planned for the year include visits from The Phonic Fairy (StoryTime Phonic creator Michele Larbey) to work with pupils and parents. We will also be hosting Reading Cafés where you will be invited to join us in a range of reading related activities with your child. Further information will follow.

BURNTHOUSE FARM WIND FARM COMMUNITY BENEFIT

We have also secured a grant of £3,000 from **Burnthouse Farm Wind Farm Community Benefit** to regenerate our Science Garden. The pond will be excavated and replaced with a natural, self-sustaining pond with a non-slip platform which may be used in all weathers. There will be bug hotels and natural wildflower areas to attract wildlife, planting areas and a designated teaching area. These works are also scheduled for the half-term break and will be completed by Brad White and DBM Landscapes Ltd.

These bids have secured funding for these exciting projects which will improve the learning environments for all of our children and we are grateful to all involved as, otherwise, we would not have the means for them to evolve. The **Lionel Walden School Association** have agreed to fund the purchase of additional resources to complete these projects and 'put the icing on the cake!' Thank you to all our parents/carers, grandparents, other family members and friends for coming along and supporting LWSA events. The Lionel Walden School Association, our parent fundraising body, have many exciting events planned for this term - further details will be circulated and also posted on our website. We value the hard work and commitment of the LWSA and value your support at these events.

PARENTS' EVENINGS

The Parents' Evenings for this term are as follows:-

Wednesday, 27th February

Pre-School Parents' Evening for parents of children starting Reception in September, 2019.

Wednesday, 6th March

Open Evening for the whole school. This is an opportunity for parents to look at their children's work. We encourage parents to bring their children into school and talk to them about their work. The Open Evening times are 3.15 p.m. to 6.30 p.m.

Monday 11th, Tuesday, 12th and Wednesday, 13th March

Appointment times will be given for individual consultations with teachers regarding children's work and progress. Children are not to attend these meetings. Please note that **Monday 11th March** is an extra date for consultations for all year groups, apart from Reception and Year 2.

PARKING OUTSIDE SCHOOL

Parents are reminded that they should not park their cars on the yellow zig zag lines or pavements outside school. This applies before and after school and when collecting children at other times.

In addition, please park with consideration for our neighbours, particularly along Child's Lane and Wood Street.

Parents and children should enter the school premises through the pedestrian access (smaller gate) and not through the car park, which is for staff only. Please also approach the Lions' Den/annexe along the pedestrian access route.

SCHOOL PERFORMANCE TABLES

Below is a link to the latest School Performance Tables 2018 including financial data.

<http://www.education.gov.uk/cgi-bin/schools/performance/school.pl?urn=110632&superview=pri&qtype=LA>

COMIC RELIEF - RED NOSE DAY

The school is having a non-uniform day on Friday 15th March.

Further details will follow after half-term.



WORLD BOOK DAY

Thursday 7th March - further details will follow.

BOOK FAIR

Tuesday 26th February to Friday 1st March.



CAKE STALLS

Cake Stall dates for the remainder of the year are:-

Friday 11th January - Year 4
Friday 8th February - Year 3
Friday 22nd March - Year 1
Friday 17th May - Year 2
Friday 28th June - Reception
Friday 12th July - Pre-School

CLASS ASSEMBLIES

The next two term's Class Assemblies are listed below:-

Year 6 - 25th January/19th July
Year 5 - 8th February/17th May
Year 4 - 15th February/14th June
Year 3 - 8th March/21st June
Year 2 - 22nd March/28th June
Year 1 - 29th March/5th July
Year R - 5th April/12th July

A crèche is provided for babies/toddlers.

COME AND HAVE A SCHOOL LUNCH WITH YOUR CHILD

We would like to invite you to come and have a school lunch with your child. Adult meals are priced at £2.75 each and children's meals are £2.20 for children in Years 3, 4, 5 and 6. Meals for children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are provided free of charge due to a government scheme. We are organising this during the following weeks:

- w/c 11th February and 25th February



Please let Mrs Clarke know, by 1st February, on which day you would like to come in. All meals should be paid for in advance. Places are limited to 15 parents each day.

SCHOOL WEBSITE (www.lionelwalden.cambs.sch.uk)

Please visit our school website to read updated information about our Governing Body, school policies, important dates, recent events (including photographs) and details of the curriculum and organisation of the school day. Each class teacher has produced a 'Link Up' which outlines the key topics being taught this term and provides further relevant information.



Please let us know if you view the website on a regular basis - your feedback and comments are welcomed.

ATTENDANCE/TERM TIME HOLIDAYS

Following meetings of the Education Welfare Officer and Headteachers of local primary schools, we are reminding parents of the need to ensure their children attend school regularly and punctually. When a child's attendance falls below 95%, the school will notify parents unless there is a valid reason. Sometimes a child may suffer illness more frequently than normal or develop a recurring illness. If this is the case, please inform us of the details so that we can provide support. The School Office should be contacted as early as possible when a child is ill and on each subsequent day thereafter.

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'. All children need to be present in school consistently to achieve their full potential.

CHARITY

The Carol Service held at St. Mary's Parish Church in December raised £169.03.

This money has been donated to Cancer Research UK, at the request of the pupils.

P.E. LESSONS

Please could you ensure that your child has a separate pair of shoes in school for P.E. and games lessons and warm clothing for when the weather is colder. All items must be labelled clearly with your child's name.

No jewellery should be worn in school except for small stud earrings. These must be removed on the days of PE and swimming.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

We would greatly appreciate everyone adhering to the recommended school uniform. The school uniform consists of navy or grey skirt, or pinafore dress, or grey or black trousers with a white shirt with a navy sweatshirt, jumper or cardigan. No 'hoodies', please. Black shoes are preferred - sports shoes should be worn for outdoor PE/games. PE kit should consist of a plain white t-shirt with navy or white shorts. PLEASE ENSURE YOUR CHILD'S CLOTHING IS LABELLED CLEARLY WITH THEIR NAME. Jewellery should not be worn, except for small, stud earrings, if essential, for pierced ears. Please note that no earrings are to be worn for any PE or swimming lesson - children must be able to remove them themselves prior to the lesson or have them removed at home on days when PE is timetabled. Nail varnish and false nails should not be worn. Mrs Clarke, in the School Office, has sweatshirts and coats, with the school logo, for sale which are hard-wearing and reasonably priced.

Important Dates - 2019

Please refer to school website for all dates

Tuesday, 5th February	Safer Internet Day
Thursday, 7th February	E-Safety/Internet Information Evening for Parents/Carers
Monday, 11th February	Class and Sports Group Photographs
Monday, 18th February - Friday, 22nd February	Half Term
Tuesday, 26th February - Friday, 1st March	Book Fair
Wednesday 27th February	Pre-School Parents' Evening for 2019 Reception Intake
Wednesday, 6th March	Open Evening
Monday, 11th, Tuesday, 12th & Wednesday, 13th March	Parents' Evenings
Friday, 15th March	Comic Relief 'Red Nose' Day
Friday, 5th April	Last Day of Spring Term
Tuesday, 23rd April	Staff Professional Development Day (school closed)
Wednesday, 24th April	First Day of Summer Term
Monday, 6th May	School Closed - Public Holiday
Week commencing Monday, 13th May	End of Key Stage 2 Tests
Wednesday, 22nd May	Sports Afternoon (weather permitting)
Thursday, 23rd May	LWSA Bag2School Collection
Friday, 24th May	Staff Professional Development Day (school closed)
Monday, 27th - Friday, 31st May	Half Term
Thursday, 20th June	LWSA Summer Fair
Monday, 1st July	New Parents' Evening for 2019 Reception Intake
Wednesday, 3rd July and Wednesday, 17th July	Year 6 Transition Days at Cromwell Community College
Monday, 22nd July	Awards Assembly
Wednesday, 24th July	Leavers' Assembly Last Day of Summer Term

SWIMMING

Swimming dates for this term are as follows:-

YEARS 5 AND 6

Fridays: 11th, 18th and 25th January; 1st, 8th and 15th February

YEARS 3 AND 4

Fridays: 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd and 29th March; 5th April

The cost of swimming is £2.50 per session. Please note that it is compulsory for all children to wear swimming hats. These are available from the school office at a cost of 75p each. Earrings must be removed beforehand.