

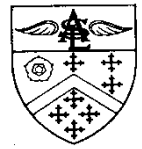
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Headteacher: Katy Brennan

6th January 2023

School Newsletter

A message from the Headteacher

Happy New Year! It was lovely to see all of the children back in school. I hope you all had an opportunity to relax and spend time with your families over the festive season.

We are all facing rising costs and school is not immune to this. We are facing severe increases especially in the cost of our heating, and we are watching this very carefully. Please assist us in reducing our heating bills by making sure that your children come into school well wrapped up during the colder months. We would advise you to dress children in layers and ensure they have a fleece which they will be allowed to wear in the classroom. A careful approach will ensure we have more to spend on the children's education rather than utilities. Thank you for your co-operation and understanding.

Words of Encouragement

This week's words of encouragement come from Psalm 65:11

*You crown the year with a bountiful harvest;
even the hard pathways overflow with abundance.*

God always wants our future to be bright, and His intention is to surround us with abundance and blessing. Have faith in that intention as you go forth into this new year.

Look what the children have been doing

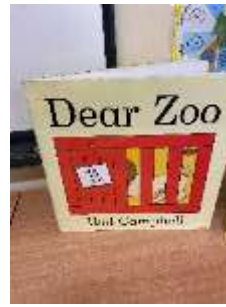
Nursery

We would like to welcome all of our children and families back to the nursery. We have spent this week settling the children once again and reinforcing all of the routines. We are looking forward to welcoming some new children who will be joining our nursery in the coming week.

We are also very excited to tell you that as of Monday 9th January, all Nursery children will arrive and leave from the gate on Church Street. All other gates will no longer be in use. Work on our outside area has been undertaken and the area will be used for outdoor play and lunch time play which is brilliant news! Look out for continued improvement in the Nursery garden in the coming months.

The story this week is a well-known book called 'Dear Zoo.' The children have been encouraged to join in with the story and think about what pet they would like to receive from the Zoo. The children are beginning to copy words to label their pictures, which is very impressive. We also played some listening games and thought about animal noises.





Reception

Welcome back to all our lovely reception children. It's been a short but very busy week. This week children were introduced to a new book called 'Our Very Own Dog.' It is story about a dog called Sophie who goes to live with her new family. The book also gives information about how to care for dogs. We made dog kennels and turned our role play area into a vets.



Our RE focus for this term is: **Who Cares for This Special World?** This topic will also include the importance looking after everything on God's earth, including caring for animals. For the first lesson we discussed the problem of pollution and did an experiment to demonstrate how pollution is spoiling the sea and harming the sea creatures. We will move onto discussing the importance of recycling.

https://www.abcya.com/games/recycling_game

Next week we will be having a visit from a little dog called Nico which links to our topic work. Please ensure that you return the permission slip to your class teacher if you **would** like your child to meet Nico and discover what it is like to be a dog owner.

Please remember that Reception children need to wear their PE kit to school on PE days. We will be using apparatus so children will not be allowed to participate if they are not wearing a full PE kit for health and safety reasons.

Year 1

Our topic for this term is 'Extreme Weather'. Thank you to the following children for their amazing projects on our new topic, completed during the holiday:

Zachary and Khayana – 1 Blue, Liam and Mckenzie in 1 Yellow. We look forward to seeing more projects next week. Many thanks to the parents who supported this learning opportunity. Our RE topic is Judaism. Children looked at some Jewish artefacts. They watched how the Jewish Holy book, 'The Torah' is used in the Synagogue on 'Purple Mash'.



Year 2

It has been wonderful to see how the children have matured following their time away, as they have returned with such vigour and enthusiasm. A gentle reminder that the completion of Homework and the Home-Reader, will support your child in preparation for the Year 2 SATs assessments. Let's work together to help our children achieve the best they can. Thank you for your continued support.

Year 3

Year 3 children have come back to school with a positive attitude, ready and determined to learn new things!

In our R.E. lessons, we have been learning about Judaism and what it means to be Jewish. We learned about the covenant that was made between God and Abraham and discussed the importance of keeping promises. The children acted out some scenes where promises had been broken and explained how it made them feel. Year 3 enjoy using drama to express themselves!



Year 4

Happy New Year to you all from the Year 4 team and we hope that you have spent a restful time with your friends and family and were able to celebrate your time together. It's great to be back to a new term and we know that all the children and the team are keen, determined and excited to build on the learning and experiences from last term. We have started the Spring Term as we mean to go on with our Topic- Transport and Trade. We are currently enjoying the class text, *Around the World in 80 days* by Jules Verne whose main character, Phileas Fogg, is determined to succeed, achieve his goal and fulfil his dreams- just like every child in Year 4. It would be helpful for you to ask your child about the story and discuss the different characters with them. Please continue to encourage your child to learn their times tables, complete any homework set and make the most of Times Table Rockstar and Purple Mash our online resources to support their learning. Well done to those who have already brought in your FITT projects. So far, we have had airplanes, buses and boats all



created from recycled materials. Please remember to return projects by Monday 9th when the entries will be judged and a prize given for the winner!

Year 5

What do people do when their basic rights are taken away? Well, the year 5 children and staff found themselves in this position when they found out that all of year 5's (only year 5) break times would be banned for the entire year! Everyone was outraged as this decision seemed extremely harsh, unfair and against article 31 of Unicef's rights for children. As a result, in the junior hall, they staged a peaceful protest sit-in. However, slightly more 'in your face', a number of students stood outside the offices of the Senior Leadership Team, linking arms, chanting phrases such as 'We need breaks!', and 'Treat us fairly!'. As part of their topic Achievements and Legacies part 2, children learnt about the differences between the suffragists and suffragettes. They were both women's suffrage societies, who campaigned for the right to vote. The Suffragists believed in peaceful, constitutional campaign methods. Whereas the suffragettes were willing to take direct, militant action for the cause!



Year 6

It was lovely to see children come back to school relaxed and ready to continue on their educational journey after their Christmas break.

Our class novel this half-term is *The Hobbit* (we will be reading the abridged version as it is shorter than the full novel). So far we have read up to chapter 4 and the children are engrossed and eager to find out the fate of Bilbo Baggins and the dwarves. Why not ask your child to tell you all about the character that they have come across already?

In RE this half term we will be looking at the journey of life and death from a religious perspective. We will spend time looking at key milestones and events in our lives and develop a deeper understanding of some of the sacraments.

Our science topic is 'The Circulatory System.' Children will identify and name the main parts of the human circulatory system, and describe the functions of the heart, blood vessels and blood. They will also consider the importance of a healthy diet and how labels on food can help us identify the nutritious content of items we buy in the supermarket.



Staff changes

You may remember that Mr. Wiseman retired from his post as Site Manager at the end of last term. He very kindly agreed to remain in post for a few days a week until the end of January to help our new site manager, Mr. Burrow, settle into his role. I am sure that you will all make Mr. Burrow very welcome.

We have two new teachers in school this term; Mrs Ogbonna has returned to us after spending some time abroad, and will be teaching 3 Red whilst Miss Emin is on maternity leave, and Mrs Rapjara will be taking over from Mrs Wilmott in 4Yellow. Please make them feel very welcome.

On 25th January Mrs Kemal, from Nursery will be leaving us to take up a post nearer to her home. I am sure you will join me in thanking her for all of her hard work at LAS.

Snow day closure provision

With any luck we will not have any further disruption or school closures due to snow. In the event that we do, please be aware that work will be posted on Purple mash for children to complete. If your child does not know their purple mash log in details please ask your teacher.

Y5 movie night.

You may recall that the year 5 movie night was postponed due to the snow day closure. This event will now be on Monday 9th January. The arrangements will be the same as for the previous event and will only be for those children who paid for the postponed event. Unfortunately there are no free spaces.

FSM applications

Many families on lower incomes or who are in receipt of benefits are eligible for Pupil premium funding. This funding allows us to provide additional help for your child including free school meals after the end of Year 2. If you think your child may be eligible please ask the office to help you to check.

Year 5 Swimming lessons

A reminder that next week Year 5 begin their swimming lessons. Please make sure that you wear correct kit as outlined in the letter sent home before Christmas. If you are unsure please ask your class teacher. Lessons will be on:

Wednesday : 5 Yellow 9.30 - 10.15 am

Wednesday: **5 Red** 11-11.45 am

Thursday : 5 Blue 11.00 -11.45 am



Community news

An online Career Pathway and Wellbeing Advice Workshop hosted by Wellbeing Connect services will be held on Saturday 7th Jan between 1 and 2.30pm.

The workshop will be easy to access and will be held on zoom, but you must first collect a free ticket through Eventbrite, in order to obtain the meeting ID and join on the day. The link is below:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/503327785957>

Dates for your diary

Please make sure you check these dates regularly as additional events may be added.

Wednesday 1st Feb: INSET day no children in school.

Friday 10th Feb: Break for half term holiday.

Monday 20th Feb: Return to school after half term holiday.

Friday 31st Mar: School closes for Easter holiday at 1.30pm.

Monday 17th Apr: Return to school after the Easter holiday.

Monday 24th Apr: Class photograph day.

Monday 1st May: Bank holiday

Monday 8th May: Bank Holiday for the Kings coronation.

Friday 26th May: school closes for half term holiday.

Monday 5th Jun: Return to school after half term holiday.

Monday 3rd Jul: INSET day no children in school

Friday 21st Jul: school closes at 1.30 for summer holiday.

If you have any queries about information in the newsletter please do not hesitate to contact school via the office or to ask one of the staff team in the playground at the beginning and end of the day.

Best wishes

Katy Brennan

Head teacher

In our school we love deeply, respecting everyone and treating them with dignity;
we aspire with confidence, working hard and embracing challenge and
we serve God and the community, following the example of Jesus, to create a better world.

Ephesians 5:2 (NLT)

“Live a life of love, following the example of Christ. He loved us and offered himself as a sacrifice for us”

