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Executive Headteacher: Mrs RM West

Head of Schools : Mrs V Brown

Term 2 2022-2023- Week 4

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are about to head into an incredibly busy time of the school year so please make sure that you have all the dates in your diary for our festive events.

Due to breaking up on 16th December we have had to start learning some of our Christmas carols in November which seems very early!

One of the big changes over the last couple of weeks is that we now have a school dog. Alma has settled really well into Laughton and we hope that she will be able to visit other classes next week. She has definitely been a calming influence on us all!

ATTENDANCE

Congratulations to Bugs Class for their attendance of **98.9%** this week.

REWARDS

Congratulations to the following children who have received their next Pupil Point certificates.

100 Points **Underwater:** Lottie, Livvie
800 Points **High Peaks:** Franklin

STAFFING

We are delighted to share with you the exciting news that Mrs Coakley is expecting a baby in May. We are all very pleased for her and the children in Bugs class were told today.

PLAYGROUND

We have been advised that Playdale will be repairing the junior playground during the week beginning 12 December. In addition to replacing the fireman's pole, they will also be repairing and replacing some of the other items, including some of the large posts and also the Bermuda bridge. They will let us know once they have a precise date closer to the time, and how long the works will take.

Diary

November

25th CLASS+ Coffee and Chat Session
25th EYFS and KSI Nativity costumes in school
29th Library

December

1st LSA Christmas Shop
2nd LSA Christmas Shop
5th EYFS and KSI Nativity dress rehearsal
6th Library
7th EYFS & KSI Nativity 9:15am
8th EYFS & KSI Nativity 2:00pm
8th Christmas Jumper Day
9th LSA Home Clothes Day
13th Library
13th Christmas Dinner
14th Christmas Concert
16th Last day of term

January

3rd INSET
5th LSA Meeting
27th CLASS + Coffee and Chat session

Other INSET Days

21st July 2023



SCHOOL DOG

We are delighted to say that Alma, Mrs Water's dog has passed her formal assessment and has become our school dog. Alma is a 4-year-old Cocker Spaniel. She is calm and affectionate and loves spending time with people and children – she particularly enjoys cuddling up or going for explorations!

Alma has settled in really well and the children in High Peaks have loved spending time with her. Alma is now able to visit the other 3 classes and permission letters have been sent home this week. Please can you return these by Monday.

There has been a lot of research across the locality on the effects of school pets and the positive impact they have on the school environment and we feel this would be a valuable resource to have in school to not only enhance learning, but promote children's wellbeing and life skills.



EYFS AND KSI NATIVITY

EYFS and KSI will be performing their nativity play, 'Wriggly Nativity', on the following dates:

Wednesday 7th December 9:15am

Thursday 8th December 2pm

A letter will be sent out next week regarding booking tickets for the performances.

CHRISTMAS CONCERT

On **Wednesday 14th December** we will be hosting a Christmas concert where the children will share with you songs and music that they have been learning in class and whole school assemblies. There will also be an opportunity for some of our children who learn instruments, to play for you.

The Friends of Laughton will set the hall up as a café so that you can buy a drink and mince pie to enjoy the event. There will also be a raffle drawn for some amazing hampers.

Please see the Friends of Laughton later in this newsletter for further details of our Mufti day for Raffle donations.



CHRISTMAS DINNER

A reminder that our school Christmas dinner is on **Tuesday 13th December**. If your child would like a school Christmas dinner, please complete the attached form regarding menu choices, and return to the school office by Tuesday 29th December. Please make your payment (KS2 only) on ParentPay, Children in KSI are free. The children may accessorise their school uniform with something festive for Christmas Lunch. Please could you complete the form if your child is having a packed lunch from home so that we don't have to chase replies. There is a box to tick for this option. Thank you.



CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY

Once again, we will be supporting the Save the Children Charity by wearing a Christmas Jumper to school Thursday 9th December in return for a minimum £1 donation to the charity.

CROSS COUNTRY

Well done to Maisie, Leila, Alice, Joshua H, Shea, Jack, Arlo, Tom and Kit from Jungle class who represented Laughton Primary School at the cluster Cross Country race on Tuesday, at Hailsham Community College, they all did so well.

Congratulations to Alice, Maisie, Arlo and Kit who made it through to the finals which will be held in Lewes in January.



JUNGLE CLASS RESIDENTIAL

Last week Jungle class had their residential trip to Hindleap Warren. They all had a fantastic time and enjoyed a range of activities.

'I really enjoyed getting wet in the tunnel and having fun with my friends. My favourite activity was when I went rock climbing. Theo was really cheering me on! The food was really nice too' Ava



CHILDREN IN NEED

Thank you very much for donating to our Children in Need dress up day last Friday. We made £116.40 which is fantastic.

As Jungle class were away on their residential trip, we have arranged for more activities to take place next week.

Monday - Cookie, Cupcake and Toy Sale Please can you bring in a toy in good condition and an item of good quality clothing that your child no longer wears, if you can. We would also appreciate donations of cookies and cupcakes. All donations can be left with the office on Monday morning.



Tuesday – Movie Lunch We are offering a movie lunchtime showing of a 'U' film which the children will vote on, on the day. The school council will bring a selection of 'U' rated DVDs for the vote.

We are hoping to raise more money for Children in Need by charging:

- Movie 50p
- Cup/ cake and cookies 50p
- Toy sale 50p-£2

Please can your child bring in change in a named purse or wallet for these events on the Monday and Tuesday. Donations can be brought in on Monday morning and put in the hall.

CLASS+ COFFEE AND CHAT SESSION

Thank you to everyone who attended the CLASS+ coffee and chat session, we hope you found it useful. These sessions are for parents and carers of an autistic child (or a child who is on the autism pathway) to meet, talk and share information or ideas with other parents/carers. There will be another on **Friday 27th January** at 9.20am.

SUPPORT AND FREE SCHOOL MEALS

We are aware that the impact of changes to the cost of living have affected many of our families in terms of jobs and money coming in. We are here to offer support if anyone needs anything so please just ask. You can contact the school office and any help or advice can be given in confidence.

Some of you may be eligible for free school meals. This means that your child can receive a free meal at school. You can do this if you receive any of the following benefits:

- [Universal Credit](#) – if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)
- [Income Support](#)
- Income-based [Jobseekers Allowance](#)
- Income-related [Employment and Support Allowance](#)
- Support under [Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999](#)
- The Guaranteed element of State [Pension Credit](#)

- **Child Tax Credit only**, if your annual household income (assessed by HM Revenue & Customs) isn't over £16,190. [Anyone getting **Working Tax Credit** **won't get** free meals regardless of income]
- Working Tax Credit run-on – paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit

Children will get free school meals if they meet the criteria and are in school both before and after lunchtime.

Children eligible for free school meals on or after 1 April 2018 will remain eligible until they finish the phase of schooling (primary or secondary) they're in on 31 March 2023 even if your circumstances change.

The school also receives additional funding to support your child in their learning and this can be used to help with resources, uniform, trips e.t.c.

The process is not taking very long at the moment and can all be done on online. See link for further information and the application form.

<https://www.eastsussex.gov.uk/educationandlearning/schools/school-life/meals/free/>

OPEN SESSIONS

Our final open sessions for parents and carers with children due to start school in September 2023 is on **Tuesday 10th January 2023**. There will be two sessions, the first at 9:15am prompt, and the second at 1:30pm. So we can monitor numbers, please can you book with the school office on 01323 811306 or email laughtonoffice@oaktreefederation.co.uk where you will also need to confirm who will be attending with you. The session will last a maximum of 45 minutes, and you will have the opportunity to meet with the Executive Headteacher, Rachel West.

Please spread the word if you know anyone who has a child due to start school next year. The ESCC closing date for applications is **15th January 2023**.

ONE VOICE DIGITAL FESTIVAL 2022!

This December Create Music, in partnership with Glyndebourne, are offering an exciting range of FREE online vocal workshops for families and children focused on different elements of singing and the voice. Workshops are run by leading vocalists and industry experts, supported by a curated selection of online resources to support singing this festive season.

Family Workshops:

- **[Zoom into Christmas](#)** - with Rosie Adediran. Sat 3 Dec, 2-3pm (for Age 4-8)
Musical games and singing to get you into the festive spirit!
- **[RhymeWave - Sharpen Your Words](#)** - with Jon Clark. Sat 10 Dec, 2-3.30pm (for Age 7-14)
An online workshop exploring 'RhymeWave' the word weapon based on the phonetic alphabet, built for MCs, poets and songwriters.
- **[The Stupendously Cool Vocal Movement & Beatbox Workshop](#)** - with Randolph Matthews.
Available 1-16 Dec. (for Age 7-14)
Use movement and voice to create amazing sounds through songs, beatbox and body percussion.

All the workshops are FREE, but registration is required in order to receive the workshop links.

To find out more about the workshops, tutors, and to register please visit our website, or click on the workshop links above. createmusic.org.uk/onevoice

EASTBOURNE, WEALDEN & LEWES FAMILY GRAPEVINE

We just wanted to let you know that their **WINTER 2022/23 digital issue** is now live on the website : <https://thefamilygrapevine.co.uk/eastbourne-wealden-lewes/>

It is filled with ideas of things to do this winter: activities, days out, Christmas events; they are also offering 6 fantastic competitions for a chance of winning some fabulous prizes, from days out, evening out, weekend away as well as some eco-friendly toy sets!

SAM MUSIC SERVICE

SAM are offering a free no commitment on line taster for Drums, Guitar, Piano & Vocal tuition for children & adults <https://sammusicsservice.com/>

LOCAL TRANSPORT PLAN

East Sussex County Council is consulting on their fourth Local Transport Plan. This Plan will look at improving transport and travel to better connect people to places between 2023 and 2050. They want to know your views on county-wide transport issues, opportunities and priorities which will affect you and

your child(ren) now and in the future. You can help to shape the Plan by responding to the consultation which can be found online at [East Sussex Local Transport Plan 4 - East Sussex - Citizen Space](#)

PENALTY NOTICES

East Sussex County Council can issue a penalty notice for parents or carers who don't ensure that their child goes to school. The fine is £120 per parent per child. If you pay within 21 days this is reduced to £60 per parent per child.

- Holidays in term time – 10 sessions (5 school days) or more
- Unauthorised absences – 10 sessions (5 school days) within 10 school weeks
- Unauthorised lateness – if a pupil arrives at school after the register has closed 10 times in 10 school weeks
- A combination of unauthorised absence and lateness

We regularly monitor our attendance and punctuality and are reviewed by East Sussex to check that we are fulfilling these obligations. If you are liable for a penalty notice we will send you a warning letter first, and if things do not improve, the local authority will issue a penalty notice.

FRIENDS OF LAUGHTON SCHOOL NEWS

Thursday 1st and Friday 2nd Dec - **Christmas Shop** - All children have the opportunity to visit the shop and buy presents for their friends and family. All presents will be £2 each, and are not limited, so children will be able to buy for as many people as they'd like. All donations to the shop are really appreciated, and should be given to Natalie (Ruby and Spencer's Mum) by the end of next week - 18th Nov. Any volunteers to help on either day are also most welcome, please just let one of the LSA know.

Friday 9th Dec - **Home Clothes Day** - Children are invited to wear home clothes in exchange for donating a prize for the Christmas raffle. Classes are asked to donate the below. Please could you check use-by dates on all donations and ensure they're nut-free - thank you!

Underwater: sweets/chocolates

Bugs: Biscuits/crackers

High Peaks: Chutneys/preserves

Jungle: Bottles (either alcoholic/non-alcoholic)

The Friends of Laughton will be selling tickets for the **Christmas raffle** at the Nativity on Wednesday 7th/Thursday 8th and the Christmas Concert on 14th December, as well as providing refreshments at both - so please do come and support us at these events.

As there's so much going on, we won't be holding a second hand uniform sale this term. But do speak to Kirsty (Toby's Mum) or any of the LSA if there's anything specific you need. Kirsty is also organising a second hand Christmas Jumper Shop, so look out for more details of this.

Date of our next meeting: 5th January 2023 @ 1.30pm

Kind regards

Mrs Rachel West and Mrs Vicki Brown