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Executive Headteacher: Mrs RM West

Head of Schools : Mrs V Brown

### Term 2 2021 Week 6

Dear Parents and Carers,

This is the last newsletter we will be sending out this term and we would like to thank you for all your support this term and in these continuing challenging times.

It has been great that we have been able to celebrate many of the Christmas festivities in person and as a whole school this year. The infants have worked so hard on their Nativities and the juniors on their singing, that it would have been a shame for them not to have a live audience.

We continue to be vigilant about school procedures and appreciate your support with these.

When the children return on 5<sup>th</sup> January (4<sup>th</sup> is an INSET) we will revert back to all the children being on the playground at the start of the day and lining up for staff to collect them at 8:40 a.m. We will have staff on duty at both gates and a member of the senior leadership team on the playground.

High Peaks will then walk in to school using the gate they use now with Miss Everest, Underwater will go through their gate with Ms Ricca and Bugs and Jungle will go through separate hall doors with Mrs Coakley and Miss Mandy. In reinstating this practice we hope that parents and carers will feel more connected to staff as senior leaders rarely see some parent and carer groups due to standing on the sensory garden gate. We also hope it will improve health and safety on the playground at this time.

We would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very Happy Christmas. Please stay safe and enjoy the holidays. We will start our new term on **Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2022**.

As you can see from the length of this newsletter it has been another very busy fortnight!



### ATTENDANCE

Congratulations to Bugs class for their attendance of **97.6%** last week and to Jungle class for their attendance of **92.2%** this week.

### REWARDS

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

100 Points	<b>Underwater:</b> Hugo, George T
200 Points	<b>High Peaks:</b> Sophie
300 Points	<b>Bugs:</b> Florence, Harrison, Dolly
500 Points	<b>Bugs:</b> Toby, Kellan, Ben
600 Points	<b>High Peaks:</b> Maisie, Joe
700 Points	<b>High Peaks:</b> Thea, Esta, Ida
800 Points	<b>High Peaks:</b> Mya, Phoenix
1100 Points	<b>High Peaks:</b> Ava
1200 Points	<b>Jungle:</b> Charlie
1400 Points	<b>Jungle:</b> Flossy
1500 Points	<b>Jungle:</b> Ava E

### Diary

#### December

13 <sup>th</sup>	LSA Christmas shop
14 <sup>th</sup>	LSA Christmas shop
16 <sup>th</sup>	LSA Home clothes day
17 <sup>th</sup>	Carol service
17 <sup>th</sup>	Last day of term

#### January

4 <sup>th</sup>	INSET
5 <sup>th</sup>	Children return to school
13 <sup>th</sup>	LSA meeting – 8:45am

### OPEN SESSIONS

Our final open session for parents and carers with children due to start school in September 2022 is on **Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> January 2022**. There will be two sessions, the first at 9:15am prompt, and the second at 1:30pm. In order to monitor numbers, please can you book with the school office on 01323 811306 or email [laughtonoffice@oaktreefederation.co.uk](mailto: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 Head

teacher, 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 **15<sup>th</sup> January 2022**.

## STAFFING

We are very sad to say goodbye to Mrs Millward who will be leaving us at the end of this term. We would like to thank her for being a fantastic member of the staff team at Laughton. The children and staff will miss her and we all wish her well in her new job.

## SUPPORT AND FREE SCHOOL MEALS

We are aware that the impact of Covid may 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/>

## ECO UPDATE

Autumn is passing us by as we fast approach the Christmas break. The trees are now bare but remember leaves make excellent compost over time so rake them up and get them in your compost bins to rot down ready for spring and summer. The Eco Warriors will have their final meeting of the term next week and I am planning a special surprise for them! Please don't forget to continue bringing in your crisp packets, pens, batteries and biscuit wrappers. Also remember over Christmas to recycle as much packaging as possible!

Eco Ernie has had a great time in Jungle watching the children practice singing! This week he is awarded to Bugs class.

Mr Herdman

## CROSS COUNTRY

A huge well done to Sam, Henry W, Arlo, Jack K, Jack S, Kit, Ava, Rose, Flossy, Hannah, Dora, Delilah and Isabella in Jungle class who represented Laughton Primary School at the cluster Cross Country race on Tuesday 30th November, at Hailsham Community College. Congratulations to Arlo who came 1<sup>st</sup> and Henry W who came 7<sup>th</sup> in the boys' race and to Flossy who came 1<sup>st</sup> and Rose who came 5<sup>th</sup> in the girls' race. They have gone through to the Cross Country finals which take place January.

## CHRISTMAS TREE

A huge thank you to Staverton Nursery who very kindly donated a Christmas tree to Laughton School. The School Council did a great job with the decorating and the hall now looks very festive indeed! Thank you to Katy (Bea and Florrie's mum) for organising this again this year.



## CHRISTMAS CARDS

We are delighted that our post box will be reinstated in the foyer again this year for the children to post their cards to each other. Please be mindful that as a school we support recycling whenever possible, so it would be lovely to see some homemade cards, made of recycled paper and card.

## SCHOOL CHRISTMAS DINNER

We all enjoyed a delicious school Christmas dinner this week. As always it was a lovely event with crackers and Christmas music playing, and we even had a visit from Father Christmas who brought gifts for each class funded by the LSA. The children had a fabulous time. Thank you to Mrs Bolton and Mrs Pope for the wonderful lunch.

## KS1 NATIVITY

Congratulations to Underwater and Bugs class who did an amazing job in their Nativity performance, 'Nativity'. We hope you all enjoyed watching it as much as we did.

"You need to speak loud and low" Mia-Summer

"You have to go on stage at different times" Ivy

Some great advice from the children who said they all really enjoyed performing to you all!



## KS2 PERFORMANCE

Congratulations also to Jungle and High Peaks for their singing performances today.

Normally they would take part in 'The Big Sing' but unfortunately this couldn't go ahead this year. However, we were delighted to be able to offer two performances for parents to enjoy instead.

"It was so much fun, but some of us were nervous in front of our parents" Flo & Holly



## CHRISTMAS TREE DECORATIONS

Once again, each class did a great job creating some beautiful decorations for the Village Christmas tree, which needed to withstand the elements. Please do take a look at them on display if you get chance.

Here is High Peaks design.

## SAVE THE CHILDREN CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY

Today is Christmas Jumper day and everybody looks very festive! We raised an incredible **£84.96** for Save the Children. Thank you all very much for your kind donations.



## SCHOOL LIBRARY

Please could all library books be brought back into school by Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> December. The library sessions will then resume after the Christmas break.

## MUSIC ASSEMBLIES

Well done to Alyssia in High Peaks who did amazingly well performing during the music assembly with SAM Music Service. Everybody really enjoyed it! Please see the attached flyer for more information on music lessons.

On Monday, we have Dan from Harmonessence coming in to sing with the children. Dan will be supporting our music assemblies and choir next term and will also be able to offer singing and guitar lessons. He will issue fliers to all those interested on Monday.



## BREAKFAST CLUB

Breakfast club will continue to run next term on a Monday, Wednesday and a Thursday from 7:45am. Children are provided with a nutritious breakfast, comprising of a choice of healthy cereals, toast, fruit, yoghurt or pancakes. Children will participate in an activity until 8:35am when they will be walked to the playground to line up with their class for the start of the school day. The sessions are £5 per child per session, which will include breakfast and participation in the activity that day. This can be paid for by BACs or cheque to the school office.

To ensure the sustainability of the club we will require parents and carers to sign up to this termly, as we need 2 members of staff to run it. You can select your days and we will offer places on a first come, first served basis. You do, however, need to book a minimum of 1 session per week.

If you would like to book a place, please contact the school office. Places must be booked in advance; you will then be contacted to confirm your place.

If your child is currently attending breakfast club, please could you confirm with the office if you would like to continue in term 3.

### **AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS**

We will be continuing with our after school clubs as of the week commencing 10<sup>th</sup> January. Football will once again be on a Wednesday and Lego club for year 4-6 on a Thursday. Please see the attached information on how to book.

### **RINGMER POOL**

From Ringmer Parish Council - Members of the Parish Council are putting together a more formal group ie: Ringmer Community Pool, to attempt to get the Pool repaired and opened for the long-term benefit of the community. It's a long journey that may come to nothing, but they want to try. If you are interested, the first step is to please email your name, address, and contact details to [ringmercommunitypool@gmail.com](mailto:ringmercommunitypool@gmail.com) so they can count you in as a member. This will help them firstly to register the Pool as an Asset of Community Value which, if successful, will give them a time to build a strong business case. NB they need at least 21 members! So please don't be shy.

### **LIBRARY SERVICE**

Over the Christmas holidays East Sussex Libraries Service will be running Christmas Code and Craft with seasonal games in Scratch, Christmas design projects and kids can learn more about what is on offer in their local library. Sessions will be held in Newhaven and Bexhill Libraries, booking is required.

See below leaflets for more information.

<https://escc-govuk-backoffice.azurewebsites.net/media/isqlyp0h/haf-newhaven.docx>

<https://escc-govuk-backoffice.azurewebsites.net/media/kl4hplqb/haf-bexhill.docx>

### **MESSAGE FROM EARLY HELP 0-19 SERVICES**

There are some fantastic courses for parents and carers here on really useful topics 'Please find attached our new guide which outlines all the programmes we have available to support parents and carers (and, thereby, yourselves) all ready for the new year and whatever it may bring! This guide contains all the course information, dates and how to book. In fact, we've gone all high tech this time and you will see each course has a QR code with it. Just using a QR code reader or camera on a phone will take you directly to the booking forms. Please share this with parents/carers in either its electronic format by email, by adding to your website or newsletter or, if you wish to, print it out to hand to parents. Here at 'Open for Parents', we can offer help and support directly to the parents, free of charge, as part of East Sussex's Early Help 0-19 Services provision. We provide a variety of online parenting courses, each with specific tips to help them deal with the most common behaviour problems. This service is all run online, so parents and carers can join in from the comfort of their own home. All they need is a laptop, tablet or phone and internet access.'

### **GRAPEVINE**

The Eastbourne, Wealden & Lewes Family Grapevine Winter 2021/22 issue is now available online! It is a onestop directory of things to do for family with children from bump to teen. The magazine lists activities, places to visit this winter & events taking place in the run up to Christmas. It also features 5 fantastic competitions to enter from family days out, panto to book, toy and more! The magazine is available to view online and to download here:

<https://thefamilygrapevine.co.uk/eastbourne-wealden-lewes/see-a-copy/>

### **FRIENDS OF LAUGHTON SCHOOL NEWS**

Thank you all for your support with our recent catering events at the children's performances and for the upcoming shops next week. Please remember to send in some money with your child on Monday and Tuesday next week in a named purse or envelope. It will be £2 a gift.

We are already planning a number of fun events to brighten up January including another ever popular bake sale and also a move night.

For now, from all of us to all of you, Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

### **School lottery**

Don't forget you can join in with our school lottery. It's a really easy way that you can help us with fundraising on a regular basis. Every ticket bought raises money for the LSA and gives you the chance of winning a cash prize. Please see the attached poster.

Kind Regards  
Rachel West, Vicki Brown





## UNDERWATER CLASS

Underwater Class have had a busy week: in Maths we have been focusing on repeating patterns. Can you spot the patterns here?

We have also been practising our fine-motor and counting skills in a challenge to pick up as many buttons as we can in one minute. The children used tens frames to support accurate counting, and then recorded their scores on a chart to see who picked up the most.

We all thoroughly enjoyed our Christmas lunch, and the visit from Father Christmas. He brought us alot of presents!



## JUNGLE CLASS

Jungle class visited the Church to find out all about advent.

