

Lydgate Junior School

NEWSLETTER

February/March



Dear Parents / Carers,

Diary Dates

1 st March	World Book Day (details have been sent home via email)
5 th March	All Year 5 pupils to visit the National Space Centre, Leicester. Voluntary contributions (£18.00) requested please
6 th March	Year 6 Apprentice Sale
9 th March	FOLA film night
14 th March, 12.30 p.m. – 3.30 p.m.	MAST advice session – appointments available via the school office
14 th March, 5 p.m. – 7 p.m.	MAST Anger Management workshop (at Lydgate Junior School)
15 th March, 4.30 p.m.	Meeting for parents of Y6 pupils going on the Edale residential trip.
19 th March	Y3EC & Y3D/deB to visit Poole's Cavern, Buxton. Voluntary contributions (£10.50) requested please
20 th March	Y3W/W & Y3AR to visit Poole's Cavern, Buxton. Voluntary contributions (£10.50) requested please
22 nd March	FOLA Easter disco
27 th & 28 th March, from 3:30 p.m.	Parent Consultation meetings
28 th March	Decorated Egg competition
29 th March, 3.15 p.m.	School closes for the Easter holidays
16 th April	School re-opens for the Summer term
18 th April, 5 p.m. – 7 p.m.	MAST Self-esteem and Resilience workshop (at Lydgate Junior School)

Science Week

Pupils and staff alike enjoyed an amazing week of activities. The theme of the week was 'change' and each day brought with it a range of investigations and presentations to immerse and inspire all in science.

We were delighted to welcome many visitors, including: Professor Nitrato from 'Silly Science'; 'Google VR' (where pupils were able to 'visit' the rainforest, polar ice-caps, and a coral reef all via the magic of virtual reality); and the stunning Harley, a beautiful hawk, from 'Beaks and Talons'.

We are also very fortunate that some of our parents are expert scientists and we would like to say a huge thank you to them (Dr Milne, Dr Brooks, Mr Brooks, Dr Morley and Professor Lewis) for coming in to share their expertise with our pupils. Please visit the school blogs to see what we have been getting up to!

Attendance at School – contacting us

A reminder: if your child is going to be absent from school please telephone to let us know before 9 a.m. on the first day so that we know they are safe at home. You can leave a message if there is no-one in the office to take the call.

We will text parents if we have not received a phone call; if we don't get a response from this we will phone the child's additional emergency contacts. If we cannot establish the child's whereabouts we may carry out a home visit and contact the Local Authority safeguarding team for further advice.

Please telephone again on the third day of absence to update us.

Parent Governors

I would like to thank Simon Hamilton, Jacqui Hoole and Carina Kemp for putting themselves forward for the role of Parent Governor and to welcome them to the Governing Body.

Parent Consultation Meetings

Appointments will be available to book online soon. We will send an email when the system goes live. The system administrator has added an automatic log out after a period of inactivity which will hopefully prevent the problems which some parents experienced in October.

MAST (Multi Agency Support Team) News

Following our very popular Emotional Literacy workshop for parents, we will be holding two further workshops here at the Junior School:

- ❖ Anger Management: how to help your child to learn to cope with and express anger appropriately.
- ❖ Self-Esteem and Resilience: how to help your child to develop these skills for use throughout life.

Please contact the school office if you would like more information.

Refreshments will be available. Please note that these workshops are for parents/carers only, not children.

The MAST link worker will also be holding advice sessions in school on 14th March. If you would like to make an appointment to speak privately with her, please telephone the school office. She is able to offer advice on issues such as family breakdown, housing, finance, sleep problems. Please note that she cannot offer advice on your child's progress and learning at school.

Paying for School Meals, Milk and Trips – moving from Parentpay to sQuid

As a result of the Parentpay contract coming to an end, Sheffield City Council has selected sQuid as their preferred new online payment system provider.

We will be moving from Parentpay to sQuid in March. As a school we feel sQuid offers our parents improved options, including a mobile telephone app and parental access to pre-order their child's meal online in advance.

There will be a brief transition period when some payment items may still appear on Parentpay, however, any balances on the children's accounts will be transferred from Parentpay directly to sQuid in March.

School Sports Update

We will receive around £20,000 this year specifically to support PE and sport. We will use it to subsidise sport clubs, cover the costs of inter-school sports events, increase the range of activities on offer, implement additional staff development and buy resources.

A full report on impact, and a plan of spending for the year, is on our website.

The latest activities funded from this income include a cheerleading festival, curling at Ice Sheffield and girls' football coaching.

World Book Day

On Thursday 1st March we will be celebrating World Book Day in school with a day of fun based around the theme of 'Pass It On!'

Our hope is that the children and staff will inspire each other to continue enjoying reading by celebrating and 'passing on' books that they've loved.

As part of the celebrations, the children can also dress up as a favourite book character, if they wish to, and they will receive a £1 World Book Day token to take away and exchange at a later date.

Year 6 Apprentice Sale

The Year 6 pupils will be raising money with their annual 'Apprentice Sale' on 6th March. This will take place during the school day and all children will have the chance to go along and buy – please send them with some small change. All the money raised will go towards the Edale fund.

Well Done To.....

- ❖ Theo (Y6) who won the North of England Schools' Trampolining Competition. He's going on to represent our school in a competition in Northern Ireland later on in the year. We wish him the very best of luck.
- ❖ Ruby and Evie (Y6) who held a bake sale in school. They took the money raised, along with some extra food, to the St Wilfrid's centre.
- ❖ Kate, Sophie, Eva, Chloe, Immi, Berfin and Olivia (all from Y3) who raised £43 by holding a bake sale. They donated the money to WWF.



Headteacher