

Lydgate Junior School

NEWSLETTER

March 2016



Dear Parents / Carers,

Diary Dates

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| Monday 21 st March – Friday 1 st April | Easter holiday, school closed |
| Monday 4 th April | Summer term begins, school re-opens |
| Wednesday 6 th April | Class photographs |
| Monday 9 th – Friday 13 th May | Year 6 - SATs week |
| Friday 13 th – Sunday 15 th May | Year 6 residential trip to Edale |
| Thursday 26 th & Friday 27 th May | INSET days – school closed to pupils |
| Monday 30 th May – Friday 3 rd June | Half-term holiday, school closed |
| Monday 6 th June | School re-opens for the Summer term |
| Thursday 30 th June | FOLA 'Crosspool Crawl', details to follow |

Second half-term highlights

Great fun was had by everyone on World Book Day. Many of the children (and staff!) dressed-up!! There were fun reading activities and the children were given vouchers to exchange for a book.

Please do visit the school website and look at the Year Group blogs. There you will find updates, often written by the children, on what's going on in their learning. Year 6 have written about 'Mr Frostbite' and the 'mock SATs' week. Intrigued? Visit <http://www.lydgatejunior.co.uk/year-6>

As well as Year Group news, you will find a blog page that I write and occasional pieces from Governors. The whole website has now reached its paid-for capacity. (We can't post any more photographs until we either delete some or pay for additional web host server space.) We will keep it fresh and as accurate as we can.

Staff news

This week sees two of our most dedicated staff retire. Mr Buck supposedly retired a couple of years back, but has been back pretty much every week since. He seems to have enjoyed teaching as much as ever during this, semi-retired, period. I am sure all pupils who have been taught by him will have fond memories of time in his classroom. Mrs Buck, our school's Finance Officer and so much more, has decided to retire also. She has been Lydgate Juniors 'through and through', and we cannot thank her enough for her many years of service far beyond her job description. We wish both a very long and very happy retirement.

A new 'Cook in Charge'

Teresa Yates, our previous cook in charge moved on recently. Taylor Shaw, the catering contractor, has been interviewing for a replacement. The candidates came to school this week for a 'craft test'. I'm hoping for a taste test afterwards. I'm sure our children will be welcoming a great, new 'cook in charge' soon.

From 4th April there will be an exciting new menu for school meals; it will be sent home at the end of this term, and it will be posted on the school website.

Respecting school's environment

The focus for this term's RRS work is respect for the school environment. My 'thing' at the moment is trying to keep the children on the paths and out of the muddy edges of the paths. We have barrier matting where they can scrub their shoes coming in to the buildings, but not getting shoes covered in mud in the first place would be best. We haven't replaced a carpet in three years, and cannot afford to. To have a place to work

in that looks good requires us all to do our part – encourage your child, please, to keep to the path, as tempting as the edging strip may be.

Fast as Last

It's not every day we have an Olympian in school, but we did have a visit from Annie Last a couple of weeks ago. She rides cyclo-cross, mountain bike and BMX for England and Britain. As our school was by far the best in the 'Fast as Last' competition she came along and handed out some more prizes.

Secondary School places allocation

We've just heard about the allocation of places for Year 7 entrance in September. 119 out of 120 pupils in Year 6 have been offered their first choice of Secondary School.

FOLA Chair and news

FOLA (Friends of Lydgate Association) has a new Chair, Ms Sarah Gillott. Many events are in the planning and preparation stages, including a film night, a fell race, an autumn fair and more. They send out news on distinctively coloured paper, so do watch out for these.

Cross Country

This weekend saw the final fixture in the schools' cross country programme, a relay event in Hillsborough Park. It remains totally free of charge to all who take part, and is an incredible way to start a weekend. The whole thing will start again in the autumn. Well done to every runner, thank you to every parent who brought the children to each event, and my sincere gratitude to all the school staff who make this possible and come along on cold and wet winter's mornings.

Music news

Two classes of Year 3 children had a quick Wednesday morning visit to Firth Hall, University of Sheffield, to take part in a choral event. I'm told they were great, and I believe every word I've heard.

The Orchestra also appeared and performed at Firth Hall recently, as part of the 'Music for Youth' festival. They were given some very good feedback: "your percussionist has an excellent sense of rhythm" "what a fabulous euphonium solo" and "your leader is doing a great job". Thank you to every parent who made it possible by getting the children (and their instruments) to the venue.

Yellow Moon

Yellow Moon sells a huge range of art and craft materials and the school benefits from 10% cash-back on all purchases made by parents/carers. The company no longer produces a paper catalogue but orders can be made on-line (www.yellowmoon.co.uk) quoting the Lydgate Junior School source code SLY1059.

Sainsbury's Vouchers

We would be very grateful for any vouchers from parents / carers – in previous years we have used them to buy cooking and PE equipment. This year the vouchers will look slightly different – you will still get a voucher for every £10 spent, but they will all be printed on one piece of paper.

What's on....

- Wesley Hall, Crookes Easter Fun Day: 10am - 4pm on Monday 21st March, for children aged 5 - 11. A day of games, crafts, baking, treasure hunts and a Photography workshop. £8 donation per child, please bring a packed lunch. Contact Claire Eaton on 07412 124310 or families@wesleyhall.org.uk for more information or to book a place.
- Bursting Through - Children's Spring/Easter Activity Morning: 10.30am - 12.30pm on Saturday March 19th. Making chocolate nest cakes, painting terracotta pots, planting a garden and lots of other games. Cost is £1.50 per child. At Tapton Hill Chapel on the corner of Manchester Rd and Tapton Hill. Phone 0114 2325790 or email Suzanne Nockels at suzannenockels@gmail.com.

Well done to....

- Pupils from Y6 who held their annual Apprentice sale and raised £550.82!! This money will go towards the trip to Edale in May.
- Laura Green from Y6 who has won the 'design an elephant' competition. Laura's elephant will join more than 40 others and will be displayed in the city centre from July to September this year.
- Polly and Niamh from Y6 who held a cake sale – they raised £237 for Bluebell Wood Children's Hospice!
- Ronnie George, Toby Morrison, Liza Constanzo, Josh Lee, Hannah Morley, Benjamin Oxley and Jack Sherwin who have all achieved their next karate belt. They all attend the before school karate club – contact Steve Hegarty, 07952 158 838 for more information.
- Max, Sam, Monty, Miles, Jamie, Archie, Toby, Ben, James, Zak, Lola, Joseph and Fraser who were runners up in the final of the Turquoise Cup, representing Crosspool Juniors Under 8s.
- Our squad of Y5 and Y6 Cheerleaders took part in the Sheffield Schools Cheerleading Competition in February for the very first time. They were competing against 16 other schools. Although they didn't quite make it through to the South Yorkshire Finals, they looked immaculate and performed their routine brilliantly showing skill, determination and great team spirit! Well done to all of you!
- Emilia, Sofia and Iris from Y3R/W who took part in two shows, called the 'Magic of the Musicals'
- Kai (Y3) who acted, sang and danced in a performance of Alice in Wonderland at the Library Theatre.

I wish all our families a safe and happy Easter holiday and look forward to seeing the children at school on Monday 4th April.

Regards



Mr S Jones
Headteacher