

Lydgate Junior School

NEWSLETTER

November 2019



Diary Dates

30 November	Cross country race at Longley Park – first race: 10.00 start
09 December	Y4S/S & Y4R/D – Roman Day
10 December	Y4JP & Y4CW - Roman Day
11 December	'Bags2school' Collection
11 December – 7.00 - 9.00 p.m.	Christmas Concert – St Johns' Church, Ranmoor
17 December – 2.30 p.m.	Y4CW Class Assembly
18 December	Christmas lunch
18 December - 4.30 – 6.00 p.m.	Christmas disco, Y3 & Y4
18 December – 6.30 – 8.00 p.m.	Christmas disco, Y5 & Y6
20 December	School closes for the Christmas holiday
6 January 2020	School re-opens for the Spring term

Children in Need

Thank you to everyone who supported our Children in Need 'spotty/ sporty' fundraising activities. There were bun sales, sponsored silences, non-uniform day, to name but a few. We raised the grand total of £1235, which has been sent to the charity.

We promoted our Rights Respecting School ethos on the day through a series of activities. Every child has exchanged a promise to respect the rights of others.

School opening during adverse weather

As we approach the time of year when snow and ice is likely, it might be helpful to reiterate our position on opening the school.

We are very fortunate that many members of staff live locally and are able to walk to school even in the event of bad weather. We are confident that we will always have enough people on site to provide a safe environment for our pupils. Premises staff work tirelessly to ensure that the school site is safe to access.

Therefore, our aim is that the school will remain open.

We will not post a daily bulletin that we are open – we are open as usual unless we state a change.

In the unlikely event that we do have to close (the last time that happened was in 2009 and was due to 'swine flu' and not due to adverse weather) we will notify parents by text, via Radio Sheffield and by putting a message on the school's website. Notice would also appear on the City Council's school closure page.

Bringing cakes, baking, and treats into school

Every so often we ask for donations of food for our bake sales, discos, class parties etc. Could we request that when these are sent in they are labelled with a list of ingredients please? Several pupils have allergies, and it would be helpful to have this information on the items. Thank you.

Collecting children at the end of the school day

Just a reminder about our end-of-day procedures: there is always at least one member of staff available at the Manchester Road gate in case a child is not collected as expected. By 3:30 p.m. we bring any children still uncollected back into the main building where a member of the admin team will contact parents / carers. Could parents, especially of Y3 pupils, please remind their children, as we do, that they should wait with the teacher(s) on duty and not wander off?

Christmas lunch

On **18th December**, we will be serving Christmas lunch at school. The menu will be roast turkey, stuffing, and chipolata sausage, or roast Quorn, stuffing and vegetarian sausage, served with roast potatoes, peas & carrots. Dessert is a Christmas shortbread biscuit or fruit salad.

If your child would like to have Christmas lunch but does not normally have school meals, this is not a problem. Please make payment via [Parentpay](#), or send £2.00 in cash to the office (please put your child's name & class on the envelope, and mark it Christmas lunch). There is no need to order a dinner in advance.

Operation Encompass

Our School has signed up to the project 'Operation Encompass', allowing key adults in school, Police and teams within Sheffield City Council, to work together to help children feel safe, secure and receive appropriate support. Operation Encompass is the notification to schools that a child (under 18) has been exposed to, or involved in, any domestic incident. Should an incident occur a notification will ordinarily be sent by the start of the next school day to a specifically trained member of the school staff, known as a Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL). The DSL can then use the information, in confidence, to ensure the wellbeing of the child. The school may be able to make provisions or adjustments to assist the young person and their family. Our school is keen to offer the best support possible to all of our young people and we believe this will be extremely beneficial for all those involved.

Customer/Zero-tolerance on abuse towards staff

Teachers and Governors have discussed the section of the L.A.'s Customer Charter that says what we should offer (or guarantee) to parents and other visitors. There are eleven promises in three groups – we listen, we respect, we are accessible:

We listen to you

- we listen to you and, wherever possible, respond to your needs
- we ask for your views and use these to improve services
- we will support you to tell us about your needs

We respect you

- we are helpful, polite and take steps to understand your needs
- we value the diverse nature of our customers
- we will support you so that you are able to help yourself

We are easily accessible

- we will make as many services as possible available online for you to use at a time that suits you
- if you need help to access services, we will help you
- we will be clear about what we can and can't do
- if we have to say no to you, we will explain why and who else may be able to help
- we will make sure that any information we publish is correct and answers your questions as fully as possible

Governors believe we should introduce a Home-School contract. We will be looking at what we can reasonably expect of parents and visitors to complete the charter

Staff Changes

We have a phenomenally stable staff, with changes being significantly lower than expected. There are some changes coming this term, however, following appointments, retirement and a maternity leave return. Details of each will be sent out to the relevant pupils' parents where specific classes are affected.

We do have two adverts out currently for new staff. We are looking to appoint a teaching assistant (32 hours per week) and a midday supervisory assistant (7 hours 5 minutes per week). Details of both posts are available on our [website](#) and from the school office.

Trainee teachers, placement students, work experience and volunteers

We feel an obligation to support training and learning at all ages and stages, and so we offer placements in school. We are proud to have received recognition from Sheffield Hallam University for the 'inspirational mentoring' our staff provide for student teachers. We will, again this year, offer a carefully limited number of placements for students from SHU, working in Y3SH & Y4JP. The class teacher remains responsible and accountable for the class, and the class teacher remains your point of contact.

Foodbank collection

Once again we will be collecting donations for the local foodbank during the week of **16 - 20 December**. We would be very grateful for any of the following: Milk (UHT or powdered); sugar; long life fruit juice; soup; pasta sauces; cereals; tea bags; instant coffee; instant mashed potato; rice and pasta/noodles; canned meat/fish; canned fruit or vegetables; jam; biscuits; snack bars; chocolate; toiletries. As we approach Christmas, an additional suggestion of chocolate and selection boxes, would be welcome, so that families can have some 'treats'. Thank you very much.

🎵 Music news 🎵

The choir are busy rehearsing for what promises to be a spectacular Christmas performance on **11th December** at St Johns's Church, Ranmoor.

Would your child like to learn a musical instrument at school? We are pleased to offer lessons in the violin, flute, cello, oboe, clarinet, flute, tenor horn, cornet and euphonium via peripatetic music teachers and the Sheffield Music Hub. An email was sent home recently with details of how to sign up for this. Please contact us if you would like any further information.

Along with our other musical ensembles, the handbells group is busily preparing for the Christmas Service at St. John's. The school is very fortunate to own a set of professional brass handbells, which we believe might pre-date the school building itself. Their age does not dim their beauty, however - they always sound magical! Earlier this year, we invested in five new bells to increase the size of the set to a full 2 octaves. This means larger numbers of children can be involved in playing in the group and we can also widen our repertoire of music. The group is open to children in Y5, usually with half performing in the Christmas service and half in the summer concert. We hope you will come and hear the children play.

Bags2school collection

A reminder that our annual Bags2school collection will take place on **Wednesday 11th December**. We would be grateful for donations of good quality items (i.e. which can be re-used). These can be brought into school in the special bags recently sent home with the children. All the money raised will be put towards paying for the Edale residential trip for Y6.

<p>Items accepted are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Men's, ladies' and children's clothing• Paired shoes (tied together or elastic band around)• Handbags, hats, bags, scarves & ties• Jewellery• Lingerie, socks, belts• Household linen, curtains, towels• Household bedding (bed sheets, pillow cases and duvet covers)	<p>Sorry, these items are not accepted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Duvets and blankets• Pillows and cushions• Carpets, rugs and mats (including bath, shower and toilet mats)• Soiled, painted, ripped or wet clothing• School uniforms with or without logo• Corporate clothing and work wear• Textile off cuts, yarns or threaded material
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FOLA

Along with the Christmas Discos, FOLA are also fundraising by selling tickets to a Sheffield Steelers Ice Hockey game. The match takes place on **Sunday 19 January 2020** at 4:00pm at the FlyDSA Sheffield Arena. Tickets for children under 16 are £1.50 (normally £7.50) and adult tickets are £13.00 (normally £19.50). Of the tickets sold, £1.50 of each child ticket and £3 of each adult ticket will go equally to FOLA and LISA. Please see the email sent to all parents.

Community

Broomhill Community Library will be holding a Toy & Clothes Sale to support two local charities. The sale will take place on **Saturday 7 December** 11.00 – 3.00 p.m. at The Beacon Methodist Centre, Broomhill.

King Edward VII School will also be holding a Christmas Market. It will take place on Monday 9 December between 4.00-7.00 p.m. at their Upper School.

Well done to...

These pupils who have achieved the following karate belts

Harry M (Y4JP) - red belt; **Will H (Y5R/J)** – red belt; **Harry L (5EC)** – yellow belt, **Rhys H (Y5AP)** – yellow belt; **Jess C (Y3SH)** – orange belt & **Sam C (Y4JP)** – orange belt.

Erinn H (4R/D) has just moved up a level in karate. She is now on her brown belt which means that she can work as an assistant and can attend the adult karate classes!

Simeon G (5RJ) was one of only 2 boys in the country (in his age group) to be selected to compete in the Swim England Talent Games diving competition. He took the overall gold medal in his age category.

Yours sincerely



Headteacher