

Lydgate Junior School
NEWSLETTER
November 2018



Diary Dates

30 th November, a.m.	Y5 at Octagon Centre for Christmas science lecture, packed lunch required please
1 st December	Cross country race at Longley Park school
5 th December, 7 p.m.	Choir concert in aid of Breast Cancer Care, Sheffield Cathedral
6 th December, 2:30 p.m.	Round table discussion: adverse weather & school opening, see below for more information
11 th December, 4.30 p.m. – 6 p.m.	Christmas disco, Y3 & Y4
11 th December, 6.30 p.m. – 8 p.m.	Christmas disco, Y5 & Y6
12 th December	'Bags2school' collection
12 th December	Christmas lunch
14 th December, 9:15 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.	Y4 Cinderella performance in the school hall, all parents welcome
19 th December	MAST advice session for parents, appointments available
19 th December, 7 p.m.	Carol Concert, with Nativity - St Mark's Church, Broomhill
21 st December	School closes for the Christmas holiday
7 th January 2019	School re-opens for the Spring term

Children in Need

Thank you to everyone who supported our Children in Need fundraising activities. There were bun sales, sponsored silences, and a duck race, to name but a few. We raised the grand total of £1359, 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 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.

I am holding an informal discussion on this topic on 6th December at 2 p.m. and invite parents to join me to ask questions and to give opinions. Please reserve a place [here](#). Unfortunately, due to restrictions on space we have to limit the number of places to 12.

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 about this? We recently had an incident where a child could not see the person who was due to collect, and so decided to walk home alone.

Christmas lunch

On 12th 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 crispy Christmas pudding 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 sQuid, 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.

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 Y3D/dB, Y4HN, Y4S/S and Y6CW. 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 17th – 21st 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.

Thank you very much.

🎵 Music news 🎵

Tickets are now on [sale](#) for Breast Cancer Care's 'Carols by Candlelight' event on 5th December. The choir are busy rehearsing for this, and also for the Carol Concert at St Mark's Church on 19th December.

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 has been sent home with details of how to sign up for this. Please contact us if you would like any further information.

Reading: an area of focus

Reading is an area of the curriculum we are gently promoting this year. We want to maintain and develop the very high standards our children reach, by ensuring that our provision is as good as it can possibly be.

We are spending those two crucial resources, time and money, to support this work. FOLA is supporting book purchases and we will be putting the best proportion of the recently-announced grant for 'little extras' towards library developments.

As we review our homework policy it is worth reminding everyone that reading most definitely counts, especially when it comes with support and discussion with an adult.

Parent Governor vacancy

Could you be a Parent Governor? Would you like to shape the school's provision and direction? We have a vacancy to join our Governing Body.

You would be expected to attend three meetings of the Full School Governing Body each year which take place on a Thursday evening from 7 p.m. until 9.30 p.m. and other sub-committee meetings which also take place on Thursday evenings from 5 p.m. until 6.45 p.m. There are two sub-committees:

The Resources Committee (looking at finance, staffing & premises) meets once every half term / six times per year.

The Teaching, Learning & Progress Committee meets once per term / three times per year.

Therefore, you would be expected to attend between six and twelve meetings per year, depending on which sub-committee(s) you join.

Please note that there are certain restrictions which prevent a person from standing for election as a Parent Governor. More information and details of how to apply can be found [here](#). The deadline for applications is 6th December.

Sports and PE premium

All schools receive a grant each year to support and develop PE and sports activity. So far this year we have used this grant to cover the cost of travel to dodgeball and athletics competitions; to buy new t-shirts and vests for pupils when competing in cross country and other sporting activities; to buy a set of balls for each class to use at playtimes. We have also used the grant for supply cover to enable staff to accompany pupils to competitions, to subsidise the cost of some clubs, and to continue our membership of the Forge School Sport Partnership which exists to increase participation in PE at school.

Bags2school collection

A reminder that our annual Bags2school collection will take place on Wednesday 12th December. We would be grateful for donations of good quality items (i.e. which can be re-used). Bags will be sent home after the half term holiday. All the money raised is put towards paying for the Edale residential trip for Y6.

Items accepted are:

- Men's, ladies' and children's clothing
- Paired shoes (tied together or elastic band around)
- Handbags
- Hats
- Bags
- Scarves and ties
- Jewellery
- Lingerie
- Socks
- Belts
- Soft toys
- Household linen, curtains, towels
- Household bedding (bed sheets, pillow cases and duvet covers)

Sorry, these items are not accepted:

- 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 workwear
- Textile off cuts, yarns or threaded material

Well done to...

Florence (Y3) for her success in horse riding. Recently, she came first in a gymkhana competition and won a rosette for a completing a clear round in the show jumping section.

These pupils who have achieved the following karate belts

Charlie (Y4) - red belt; Diana (Y4) - yellow belt; Edward (Y6), Lucy (Y4), Jacob (Y4), Tilen (Y5), Zach (Y5) and Thomas (Y4) - green belt; Josh (Y6) - purple belt.

Yours sincerely



Headteacher