



Lydgate Junior School NEWSLETTER December 2021



Dear Parents / Carers

Diary Dates

Thursday 9 December	Christmas Carols – outdoors (weather dependant)
Friday 10 December	Christmas Carols - outdoors (alternative back up date)
Friday 10 December	Food Bank Collection
Wednesday 15 December	2 Y4 Classes – Roman Workshops
	Y3SH & Y3D/dB Classes to Kelham Island
Thursday 16 December	2 Y4 Classes – Roman Workshops
	Y3AW & Y3RH Classes to Kelham Island
Friday 17 December (3.15 p.m.)	School closes for the Christmas holiday
Wed 5 Jan 2022	Pupils return to school

School Intercom

For those parents who visit school to collect pupils for appointments etc., we have an intercom on the Shore Lane entrance, the only route into school during the school day between 9.00 a.m. – 3.15 p.m. The process is simplicity itself: come to a gate; buzz to get in; wait patiently for a member of the admin team to answer, check who you are and your reason for attending the school site; and to release the lock, push the gate open and close it behind you.

End of the day staffing and security

Parents and other adults at the school gates at the end of the day will have noticed how many staff come out at the end of the day, every day. We accompany some individual pupils, meet parents, pass and receive information, but most importantly support children at this key hand-over moment. There will always be a member of staff available at the gate in case a child is not collected as expected. By 3:30 p.m., we will bring any children still uncollected back into the main building where a member of the admin team will contact parents.

Before and after school clubs and activities

As always, the demand for both before and after school clubs and activities has been phenomenal. The indoor space we have free for such activities is limited and this unfortunately dictates both the number of

clubs we can offer and the number of places available for participants. Available clubs are notified to parents with an electronic link for parents to express an interest, via email. We are even more limited now due to the current COVID distancing rules too.

Home Learning

If pupils need to isolate briefly due to family members or themselves being in contact with a possible COVID case, we are able to direct families to our [website](#) where the weekly year group topics are available with suggested home learning.

Online Safety Policy

Many of our pupils use social media, which without appropriate guidance can be harmful at times. We teach important online safety messages in school but parent/carers are also able to access free online safety information via [The National Online Safety](#) app. The app provides online safety guides/posters, advice and guidance for the latest apps, games, platforms and devices and free online safety course, developed by experts and delivered by celebrity Mum, Myleen Klass. Further useful information is also available from [Internet Matters](#). You can see how the school manages online safety by viewing our [Online Safety Policy](#) here.

Global Goals Actions - What are we doing for COP26/Climate Change?

As we replace light tubes, bulbs and fittings, we are making the conscious decision to install lower energy systems. We have installed some LED lighting and will continue to do so, thus saving energy (and on energy bills) as a direct result, each time the contractors advise replacement. This is particularly relevant in the mobile classrooms where many systems are reaching the end of useful life. In replacing (for the third time in nine years) their heating systems, we have also looked at less energy-consuming methods of keeping the classrooms comfortable and safe.

Alongside this, we still need to ensure we turn off lights and electronics that we are not using - the main building has motion sensitive switching installed - it is human systems elsewhere that will reduce our energy consumption.

Relationship & Health Education (RHE)

This term we have continued to develop our new RHE curriculum and thought we'd give you an update on how this is being delivered in school.

Y3 have looked at how to keep our bodies healthy through a balanced diet, exercise, and good hygiene. They are now learning about healthy minds: how our brains work, how to be mindful and about their different emotional states, through the Zones of Regulation framework. The Zones of Regulation are recapped at the beginning of each year in the school. Y4 and Y5 have been looking at healthy friendships. This includes how to be a good friend and how to accept differences between themselves and others. Y6 have started looking at gender stereotypes: must girls behave one way and boys another? Can girls be good at football? Through open and honest discussion, these and other stereotypes are being explored.

We are always happy to hear your stories and experiences that you feel would be of interest and benefit to the children. Contact the school office FAO: Ms Hayden and Mrs Farrell if you would like to share your story. If you'd like to find out more about RHE in school, you can find the school's RHE policy and curriculum statement on our website.

Following our consultation with parents in summer term 2021 we have been working with The Prosperity Project on an anti-racist curriculum framework. We share their belief that *"it is important to not only diversify content and amplify historically silenced voices, but also to challenge stereotypes about those groups"*. Following staff training, subject leaders at school have looked at the content of their curriculum area with an aim to 1) decolonise, 2) challenge stereotypes and 3) amplify key voices.

Some parent feedback asked us to focus on Black History month. We feel we have gone further than this, ensuring Black voices and histories are included and amplified throughout our curriculum.

We have also worked hard to expand and diversify our school library and book corners, ensuring we have a wide range of representative and inspiring stories for all our children to enjoy. This includes more ethnic diversity representation, disability and impairment representation, neurodiversity and mental health themes, poverty and stories of refugees.

The Y5 staff are currently planning an Eid festival day that they will be enjoying next May. This has been planned as a result of parent feedback from the RHE consultation. We would like to expand this idea and celebrate more festivals too. At least one festival other than Christianity in each year group is what we intend to celebrate. If we have any parents willing to share their expertise or willing to help plan a festival day with us please do get in contact. The major religions that we study are Buddhism, Islam, Sikhism, Judaism, Hinduism as well as Christianity.

We are now holding year group assemblies weekly in the hall too. If there are any parents or you know of any members of your community who would like to share some aspects of your religious festivals and culture yet again please get in contact with Mrs Farrell. She would welcome some support in either the planning or delivery of an assembly.

Christmas Carols

At the time of writing, we are planning to go ahead with our 'Carols al Fresco' event as intended, this Thursday 9th December, 3-3.30pm, by the Manchester Road gate. We hope that Thursday will bring a big enough gap between storms to allow us to get outside! **Everyone** is welcome to join us for this event. We would really love to see you there whether or not your child is performing. Stay for a few minutes or watch the whole thing and enjoy festive refreshments served by FOLA.



If your child is taking part (all of **Y6, choir, swing band** and **hand bells**) please do make sure they come to school in sufficiently warm clothes including a winter coat, hat and gloves. Don't forget to add any festive headgear or accessories.

We expect the area around the gate to be more congested than usual and we will manage this by slightly staggering the times that the classes come out of school. Some classes may come out a little earlier or later than usual but children will still be accompanied by their teacher as normal.

Whole School Art

Twice a year we hold a whole school art project, providing the opportunity for every child in school to have a piece of art displayed around school. This term we are focussing on endangered animals, linking nicely to our RRS work and the discussions we are having around climate change, the animals' beauty but also their plight.

We have focussed on just 15 of the world's most endangered animals:

Y3 – The Arroyo Toad, Amur Leopard, Ivory Billed Woodpecker and the Giant Panda.

Y4 – The Mountain Gorilla, Northern Night Whale, Gharial Crocodile and the Siberian Tiger.

Y5 - The Dodo Bird, Snow Leopard, Bornean Orang-utan and Killer Whale.

Y6 - The Javan & Black Rhinoceros, Asian Elephants, Leather Seaback Turtle and the Lemur.

Our pupils used a variety of art methods, chalk pastels, watercolours and layered powder and oil paints, along with pearlised paint, and pens.

The finished artworks are displayed around school, with the children being able to bring their work home later in the year.

Congratulations to all the pupils for their fantastic hard work. The results are truly amazing.



Christmas Shoebox Appeal

As part of our Rights Respecting Schools work, Year 5 discussed the fact that some families will be facing difficulties at Christmas and can't afford basic toiletries let alone small luxuries. The children were given the opportunity to create a shoebox filled with small gifts for someone else.

The children showed great empathy and compassion. These shoeboxes will go to people who have to seek refuge over Christmas through difficult home situations, are elderly and lonely or face other challenges. Mrs Ridsdale drove the boxes to the drop off point. Thank you to all the children that took part and to those who are taking time to think of others during this festive season.

Foodbank Collection

Just a little reminder that we are collecting donations for the local foodbank during the week of **6-10 December**. We would be very grateful for any of the following: Milk (UHT or powdered); 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.

Children in Need



Once again, our pupils and families have been very generous in raising funds for Children in Need. This charity links really well with our Rights Respecting work as its mission is to ensure that every child in the UK is safe, happy, secure and has the opportunities they need to reach their potential. Pupils took part in many activities, including bake sales, sponsored silences, wearing non-uniform and Pudsey wrist bands and designing a Pudsey bandana.

We raised an amazing £1,196.89. Many thanks to everyone for supporting this cause.

Our Pudsey bandana winners are:

Connie (3D/dB)	Xi-An (5BB)
Mais (3SH)	Phoebe (5W/R)
Joanie (3AW)	Claudia (5N/C,
Siobhan (3RH)	Jacob G (5NL)
Charize (4JD)	Isla (6S/W)
Sophie A (4S/S)	Oscar H (6S/P)
Emily (4JP)	Betty (6R/J)
Beatrice (4CW)	Eva (6HN)



Sheffield Libraries – Mini Reading Challenge

All the Sheffield Libraries are promoting and supporting the Reading Agency's Winter Mini Reading Challenge, which is an online reading initiative. The challenge will run from Weds 1st December to Sunday 16th January 2022. It's free to take part, all children need to do is read at least three books to add to their challenge to unlock a virtual badge and a special certificate to print off.

School Sports News

Well done to Charlie (5NL) , Rowan (5BB), Leon (5BB) and Arin (5BB) who played some amazing games of Table Tennis at a recent Tournament. They made it through to the final, fought really hard, but it was a tough experienced team to beat and unfortunately they lost to them, but walked away as the second best team in the South Yorkshire tournament! We're really proud!

Well done to our talented athletics squad for coming second in the second round of the Indoor Athletics competition at EIS today. The children have shown real commitment, enthusiasm and determination in training and performed absolutely amazingly today. They are now through to the City Finals on 26 January 2022 at EIS. Well done, we are very proud of you all!

Well done too, to our Year 5 and 6 football teams. They played brilliantly in their locality matches and were a credit to our school. We are looking forward to more matches in the future.



Community News

Vertex Coaching has partnered with Hallam Rangers to present the "Wildcats" programme to help develop the girl's section of the Football Club. "Wildcats" is a football programme which provides girls aged 5-11 with the opportunity to have fun, make friends and play football and other sporting activities! The friendly environment will develop the player's physical, psychological and social skills by giving them a positive and inclusive introduction to

VERTEX COACHING & HALLAM RANGERS
WILDCATS SESSIONS ARE BACK !!
FA GIRLS FOOTBALL & ACTIVITY CENTRES

DAYS & TIME: THURSDAYS- 18.00-19.00PM
GIRLS AGED 5-11 YEARS OF AGE (YEAR 1-6)
VENUE: KING EDWARDS VII SCHOOL (LOWER SITE) PITCH
DARWIN LANE S10 5RG

WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP WITH HALLAM & REDMIRES RANGERS TO SUPPORT
GROWTH OF THEIR WOMEN AND GIRLS SECTION OF THE CLUB FOR 21/22 SE

COST: 4 MONTHLY SESSIONS FOR £16.00
TO BOOK AND MAKE PAYMENT PLEASE CONTACT MIKE DRUMMOND




✉ MIKE@VERTEXWELLBEING.COM
☎ **07800855402**
📷 **VERTEX_WELLBEING**
📘 **VERTEX COACHING & PERFORMANCE**

ALL COACHES – SAFEGUARDING / DBS / FIRST AID TRAINED
CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) GUIDELINES WILL BE IN PLACE ALONG WITH RISK ASSESSMENT


VERTEX


sport and physical activity and crucially to develop at their own pace. For more information contact: mike@vertexwellbeing.co.uk / 07800855402.

Yorkshire Football Coaching @Silverdale School



AT SILVERDALE SCHOOL
BENT'S CRESCENT, SHEFFIELD, S11 9QH.

STARTING SATURDAY 8TH JANUARY 2022
(NEW PLAYERS CAN JOIN AT ANYTIME DURING THE YEAR (PROVIDING PLACES ARE AVAILABLE))



Group 1	9:00am – 10:00am	Ages 9 - 12
Group 2	10:00am – 11:00am	Ages 7 - 8
Group 3	11:00am – 12:00pm	Ages 4 - 6

Dear Parents,

I am delighted to inform you that following the success of previous year's courses we are expanding the football coaching programme for the season. **The course will run on a weekly basis EVERY SATURDAY** during school term times.

All of our courses are run by F.A. QUALIFIED COACHES INCLUDING EX-PROFESSIONAL PLAYERS. All of our coaches have been DBS/CRB POLICE CHECKED. The course is open to Boys and Girls aged between 4 and 12. All abilities are catered for with total beginners introduced through FUN and confidence building practices. The course is tightly structured to ensure all aspects of football skills are developed.

At the end of the term (usually 10-15 weeks) every child will receive a merit Trophy and course Certificate, with chances to win extra trophies including Penalty Shoot out, American Shoot out and Champions League Competitions.

The cost of the course is £6 per week, which is payable every four weeks (£24) with the first payment due on week one. Parents are welcome to stay and watch however the club is fully supervised so children may be left in our care. We have the use of excellent facilities with the course held indoors in the large sports hall.

TO BOOK A PLACE ON TO THE COURSE PLEASE TEXT 'SILVERDALE' + CHILD'S NAME & AGE + GROUP(1/2/3) TO: 07846 770 250

A Saturday morning girls and boys football coaching session is running weekly during term time by F.A. qualified coaches (including ex-professional players). For further information please contact Steven Nugent on 07846770250.

A big thank you to...

Adrian at Bamforth Greengrocers in Crosspool, who kindly donated oranges to our Y3 pupils to make Christingle Candles. Please return Adrian's generosity by shopping local if possible and popping into his shop if you have any fruit or veg requirements. He wishes us a Merry Christmas!

Well done to...

Hollie W (4JD) and all the players in the Crosspool Juniors Under 9 green team who won the cup on Saturday 13th November winning 3 v 1 against Handsworth.

Maisie S (4JD) was awarded player of the match for showing resilience on Saturday 6th November when her team won 1v0 against Dronfield Town.

Joseph C (4JD) who completed his grade 1 fencing certificate on the 19th November.

And finally... A Merry Christmas and a Happy, Healthy New Year to everyone.



Mr S Jones
Headteacher

