

# *Lydgate Junior School* **NEWSLETTER**



## *March 2022*

### **Diary Dates**

29 March	Y6R/J Visit to Grimm & Co.
30 March	Y6S/P Visit to Grimm & Co.
31 March – 9.15 a.m.	Y4JP & 4S/S parents to watch the Y4 performance of The Emerald Crown.
31 March – 1.30 p.m.	Y4JD & Y4CW parents to watch the Y4 performance of The Emerald Crown.
31 March	Last day for pupils before the Easter holiday
1 April	School closed for staff training
4 – 18 April (Inclusive)	Easter holiday
19 April – Tuesday	Pupils return to school after the Easter holiday
19 April	Y6HN Visit to Grimm & Co.
20 April	Class Photographs
21 April	Y6S/W Visit to Grimm & Co.
22 April	Young Voices Concert

### **Deputy Headteacher Retirement**

At the end of the Summer term, Mrs Farrell will be retiring as Deputy Headteacher. Mrs Noble, currently our Special Needs Co-ordinator (SENCO), will take up the post of Acting Deputy Headteacher for the next academic year. This will lend school continuity of knowledge and experience as Mrs Hurding, who takes over as Headteacher in September, starts in her role.

### **Goodbye to Mrs Shannon**

This month we will say goodbye to Mrs Shannon who has been part of the Lydgate community as a lunchtime supervisor and the premises team for twenty-six years. We wish Karen well in her retirement.

### **Assistant Caretaker & School Cleaner**

As Mrs Shannon moves on we will have a vacancy in our premises team for a permanent Assistant Caretaker. Information and application forms are available from the school office and via our [website](#). We also have a vacancy for a temporary school cleaner.

### **Whole School Assistant**

We currently have an exciting opportunity for a Whole School Assistant to join the staff of Lydgate Junior School. This is a permanent post, working 35 hours per week, term time only plus 5 INSET days. Information and application forms are available via the [school website](#).

### **School and learning starts at 08.45 a.m.**

Our school day starts at 08.45 a.m., with the first bell of the day. Teachers begin to take the day's register and start the morning session promptly at that time. We therefore open our gates 10 minutes earlier at 8.35

a.m. to allow pupils enough time for a smooth and orderly entrance and start to the day. Although the gate remains open until after 08.45 a.m. we would like to see all our pupils arrive by that time so the children can start learning promptly. Many thanks

### **No jewellery please**

The [school uniform policy](#) states that children should only have very limited jewellery at school - 'only watches and sleeper/stud earrings are allowed. These are to be removed for P.E. and swimming lessons.' Please can we ask parents to follow this policy and encourage limited jewellery wear in school. It's upsetting for pupils to lose items and can lead to missed learning time, while searching the school for their lost items.

### **Healthy eating and drinking**



When children join our school we inform them we support healthy eating initiatives and encourage our children to bring fruit or another healthy snack. As part of the Government's 'school food standards' we also offer all pupils clean, fresh water freely all day. We therefore do not encourage juices, cordials, shakes and other sugary drinks to be brought in from home. Unfortunately, we have recently had to challenge children that have brought 'energy drinks' into school. Please can parents reinforce our healthy eating and drinking initiatives? Thank you.

### **Coronavirus guidance**

The government's current 'Living with Covid' plan strongly recommends that people with a positive LFD or PCR test result continue to isolate for at least 5 whole days and end isolation with two negative test results on consecutive days, starting on day 5.

We fully expect all pupils and staff to follow this guidance. Pupils must stay off school for at least 5 days if they test positive.

Pupils who develop any Covid-19 symptoms and have a negative LFD should go for a PCR test to confirm results. A positive LFD does not need a confirmatory PCR test.

This guidance is subject to change with local public health guidance and any change will be notified to parents.

### **Positive Relationships Policy (previously known as the Behaviour Policy)**

Thank you to those parents who gave school some feedback on our current policy. We have noted the comments and used them to revise various sections of the document. The policy will be shared with pupils, via the School Council, staff in each year group and then the Governors. The reviewed policy will then be available to view via our school website.

### **Our Eco Club**

In our school we do what we can to help the environment as it is in difficulty and humans are responsible. As this is the case, we have formed a club including 26 children and 3 adults to help and it is our mission to become an ECO school. We have completed an Environmental Review and

identified 3 areas to focus on: energy, waste and biodiversity. If you have any ideas or expertise in these matters and can help, then please get in touch with school. With many thanks,

Written by Joanie 3AW (Eco Club).

We are particularly looking for help from expert gardeners as we are keen to create a wild flower/nature area. If you can help, please contact me (Steph Holden) through [enquiries@lydgate-jun.sheffield.sch.uk](mailto:enquiries@lydgate-jun.sheffield.sch.uk)

### **FOLA - [Decorated Egg Competition](#)**

After holding the competition online for the last two years, we are pleased to be able to give the children the opportunity to celebrate Easter by getting creative and decorating an egg. Parents and carers are also invited to come into school at the end of the day to purchase refreshments and view the egg entries. All entries will



receive a small prize with six 'winner' prizes also being awarded per year group. The children will be asked to bring their eggs into the school hall on the morning of **Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> April** from 8.35 a.m. onwards. The eggs will then go on display in the hall and parents/carers are invited to look at the entries from 2.45 – 3.15pm

### **Year 6 residential trip to Edale**

The remaining balance for this trip is £143, which should be paid via Parentpay by 30<sup>th</sup> March. A parents' information meeting has been provisionally scheduled for Wednesday 27 April at 4.00 p.m. via Zoom. Information about the timings, activities etc. will be discussed.

### **Spring concert**

We are looking forward to holding our annual Spring Concert live and in person for the first time since 2019. This will take place at St. Mark's Church, Broomhill, at 7pm on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> May. It will involve



performances from children in choir, hand bells, swing band and orchestra and promises to be a wonderful evening showcasing much of the musical talent of our children at Lydgate Junior School. If your child is in any of these groups, please put the date in your diary. This concert is also an opportunity for some children who learn a musical instrument to perform a solo piece, so if this is something that interests your child, the Easter holiday is an ideal time to think about which piece to play and to get practising. More details about the concert will follow nearer the time but feel free to get in touch with Mrs Jones via [enquiries@lydgate-jun.sheffield.sch.uk](mailto:enquiries@lydgate-jun.sheffield.sch.uk).

### **Y4 Tropical World**

This term Y4 visited Tropical World in Leeds. The pupils wandered through the forest floor, climbed into the canopy and encountered tropical bugs, animals and birds. The workshops taught the children about animal adaptations. Did you know koala's have six thumbs? The children were amazing – a real credit to our school.

## Comic Relief - Red Nose Day

We once again fundraised for Comic Relief, with the theme of 'Funny is Power'!



Some pupils chose to wear non-uniform, wearing something funny or anything that made them happy and made a donation of £1. The bake sale was very successful and we would like to thank parents for contributing. The class joke competition went down a storm! **Matilda and Sophie (5W/R)** raised a magnificent £46.60 through a sponsored silence from when they woke up to 3.15 p.m. **Erin, Isla and Dottie and Isabelle (5N/C)** also

raised a total of £65.17. As a school we raised £1351.33 for Comic Relief, a very generous fundraising effort from everyone.... Thank you.

## Rights Respecting School (RRS)

As well as continuing to promote our RRS ethos as a school, we are working hard on our action plan for GOLD. Some of the actions include:

- Increasing staff and children's knowledge of key concepts and language associated with being a Rights Respecting School
- Creating signs around school relating to children's rights
- Providing homework that involves exploring different articles of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) with parents
- Developing the work of the RRS Council to involve a greater emphasis on involving children in decisions that affect the school, such as evaluating the Positive Behaviour Policy.

In the summer term, every year group will be working on a campaign around the topic of Endangered Animals. The children were initially inspired by this topic when they created artistic representations of endangered animals as part of our whole school art project. In addition, each year group will be raising money for a charity of their choice.

For further information or if you have any ideas to help us embed children's rights in our school community, please contact Mrs Holden or Miss Wall (RRS Leaders).

## Sporting News

**Sophie B (4S/S), Lola (4JP), Emma (4S/S), Emily C (4JP), Hollie (4JD) , Maisie (4JD), Alice M (4CW) and Bella (4JD)** all play for Crosspool Juniors Under 9s girls. On March 12th, they won the league shield in a thrilling sudden death penalty shoot out with **Emma** scoring the winning goal! Fantastic play girls!

A big well done to all our **cross country** pupils who have been involved in the races this season.

Congratulations to **Olivia W (6R/J)** who achieved a silver medal and **Beau (6R/J)** for his bronze medal awarded for their individual finishing positions over seven races for Sheffield schools in the Year 5/6 category.



Also well done to the pupils who competed in the Year 5/6 relays event last weekend. **Dejan, Ali, Ethan, Thomas, Dolores, Izzy, Olivia and Ellie.**

## Y5 Football Tournament



Mr Bradshaw and Mrs Watkinson were delighted to take 14 Y5 girls to a football tournament at St George's Park at Graves on Tuesday morning. They played several games as two 5-a-side teams. Team A excelled, winning all three of their games and got through to the finals where they played another 2 games and finished in joint 3rd position. The B team: lost 1, drew 1 and then won 1, so showed great determination and developed well as a team. It was a fantastic tournament and the players were impeccably well behaved throughout and all seemed to have a great time! They even managed to get a photo with professional boxer, Kel Brook. Well done to all the girls involved.

**Well done... to Alissa T (5BB)** who achieved a Distinction in her Grade 3 piano exam last week. Such a fantastic achievement and effort.

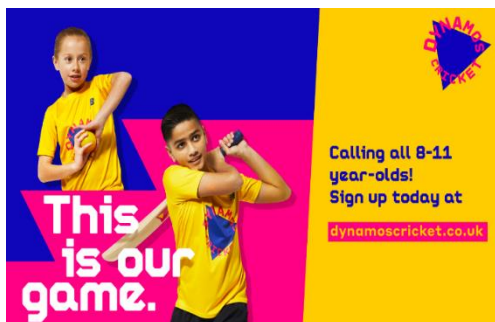
## Community

### Sheffield Hawks Rugby

The Sheffield Hawks Rugby League club are recruiting new players for this season. Please contact the club via the flyer details.



### Dynamos Cricket



Dynamos Cricket provides an introduction for all 8-11 year olds new to cricket. For more information see their website.

<https://www.ecb.co.uk/play/dynamocricket>

### UiS Community Gym - Boxing and Kickboxing

United in Sport are offering afternoon sessions, during the Easter Holiday. For more information see the flyer.

Yours sincerely

**S R Jones - Headteacher**

