

Lydgate Junior School
NEWSLETTER
November 2021



Dear Parents / Carers

Diary Dates

Friday 19 November	Children in Need
Tuesday 23 November	Y4JP & Y3AW Parents' Consultations
Thursday 25 November	Y4JP Parents' Consultations
Saturday 27 November	Cross Country – Norfolk Park (all pupils welcome, it's free)
Friday 3 December	Edale Fundraiser – Bags2School
Monday 6 December	Y3 Panto
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 Calendar

The [current school year calendar](#) was circulated with the last Newsletter and is also available on the school website. The dates for the school calendar for next year [2022-23](#) have also been agreed and are attached to this newsletter as well as being available on our website.

Coronavirus

SCC Public Health still urges schools to adopt a cautious approach to Covid-19 control measures and we are not hosting any large gatherings (such as Christmas Fairs or indoor concerts). All schools receive regular briefings from the Department for Education (DfE) and information from the local authority, and the advice to all schools is to continue to open as normal, minimise larger indoor group activities if possible, but take part in planned events essential for learning. We will continue with normal hygiene routines, washing hands regularly and following the guidance of 'catch it, kill it, bin it' if you need to cough or sneeze. We are grateful for our parent's support when we have to send children home who are looking or sounding poorly. Some parents, along with their children, have chosen to take LFD tests twice weekly. Positive Covid cases in school

remain low with only 1% of pupils being affected. Pupil attendance is 2.2% higher than the national average, although it is slightly lower than this time last year.

Christmas Carols

This year due to Public Health Sheffield's COVID19 recommendations, we are unable to hold our annual carol concert at St John's Church, Ranmoor. We will, however, be holding outdoor Christmas carols after school at the school gate on Manchester Road. The carols will be performed by our Y6 pupils, the School Choir, our Handbell Group along with



Swingband and FOLA (Friends of Lydgate Association) will be serving festive refreshments to mark the occasion. The performance will take place on Thursday 9 December between approximately 3.00-3.30 p.m., however should the weather be too poor, the performance will take place the following day on Friday 10 December. Pop the date in your diaries; it promises to be a really lovely community event, providing our children with the much-missed opportunity to perform live.

Parents' Consultations

We once again held our parent-teacher meetings for the Autumn term in line with Sheffield Public Health advice on line via Zoom. Appointments were down on previous years; however many parents were able to discuss their child with their class teacher successfully. Due to previous absences Mrs Purdom (4JP) will be holding her appointments next week on Tuesday 23rd & Thursday 25 November & Miss Wall (3AW) will be holding her final session on Tuesday 23rd November.

Scootfit



Last week the children took part in a new initiative Scootfit, which was funded by our P.E. and Sport Premium Funding. Each class experienced a 35 minute session, scooting around the top yard with music, which was great fun. Some pupils have been coming to school on their scooters and if we can find a further flat space, tucked out of the way, to install extra scooter parking then we will.

Global Goals Actions

COP26 and the climate change emergency

All of the school community wants to address the urgent need to reduce our carbon footprint, and to take significant action. Each month we will mention something new we are introducing to cut our impact on the world and to protect it for the generation we have in our school right now.



One of the greatest things we can do is teach our children about the actions they can take, give them a voice to be heard, and to help them learn about the issues.

We already use the Rights Respecting Schools award to shape our ethos, and we teach about the UN's Global Goals. This term we have shaped our Whole School Art project to raise the children's awareness of vulnerable and endangered animals and plants. In doing so we can discuss some of the issues around topics like deforestation and the pledge by more than 100 countries at COP26 to reverse this trend.

Practically we have staff trying to reduce paper use and photocopying, one sheet at a time. We reckon we can reduce our paper use by 200,000 sheets (or 40 boxes) a year if we just reduce our use by one sheet per pupil per day. We have started to attack that target.



Rights Respecting School

Campaign Week and RRS Election

A huge well done to all the children who campaigned to become a class RRS Council representative. There were fantastic posters around school and the standard of speeches was really high, we're so proud of the pupils who campaigned. In many classes, the results were extremely close. Congratulations to those who were successful. The RRS council will be meeting in the coming weeks.

Class Charters

All classes in the school have been working on a class charter. Class charters highlight the children's rights that are most relevant to each class and the actions for children and staff to make sure all children's rights are met. Each class will have a themed display in their classroom. We will update the school website soon with the new charters for this year.

Plastic Clever Status

We are continuing to work on gaining 'Plastic Clever' status following a successful campaign in the summer term last year. Year 6 children will be continuing to lead the way in helping us to gain this award. We hope to share some good news on this soon. If you want to find out more about this award, go to <https://www.kidsagainstplastic.co.uk/do/be-plastic-clever/>

A point worth noting, is the little, clear, plastic cups used at lunchtime to serve salad and fruit portions are, in fact, biodegradable and are sent away with the food waste to a biogenerator where energy is reclaimed (part of the, Green Cities Initiative).

Music Tuition Room

We have always been proud of our music traditions in school, and are lucky to have many pupils who play a musical instrument. Space to support those pupils having lessons has often been a challenge, with very limited meeting rooms available. Over the half term holiday we have converted an old P.E. changing room

into a Music Tuition Room. There is still a little work to take place, but we are hoping the children will be able to use the space very soon.

Foodbank Collection

Once again we will be 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); 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.

Children in Need

The children have been really excited to take part in our Children in Need fundraising events this week. 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. We look forward to seeing just how much the children can raise for such a good cause. Many thanks to everyone for supporting this cause.



Jasmine (Y5BB) is fundraising for BBC Children in Need by cutting off her hair and donating the hair to The Little Princess Trust. Well done to Jasmine. If you would like to donate, you can do so at [Just Giving](#)

Community Flu Immunisations

At the end of the term some pupils had their nasal flu immunisation in school. If your child missed the immunisation and you would like your child to have one, pupils can attend a drop in session by contacting IntraHealth on 0333 3583397 (option 7) to book an appointment.

Christmas lunch

On **8th 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).



[Bags2school collection](#)

A reminder that our annual Bags2school collection will take place on **Friday 3 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 on the following dates:

Y3 - Monday 29 November

Y4 - Tuesday 30 November

Y5 - Wednesday 1 December

Y6 - Thursday 2 December.

All the money raised will support the fundraising 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 <p>http://bag2school.com</p>
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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, with BA1 students working in Y3AW. The class teacher remains responsible and accountable for the class, and the class teacher remains your point of contact.



Parking and picking up children

Unfortunately, we have to remind parent/carers about pupil safety at drop off and collection time. The gate is not a stopping/dropping place; both Manchester Road and Shore Lane have double yellow lines, along with SCC signs regarding restricted loading and unloading (i.e. dropping off children and specific times). Irresponsible parking by some parents/carers blocking pavements and makes crossing the road difficult, putting our pupils at risk. Please pause for thought and park sensibly and respectfully.

Precious items

Just a little reminder to discourage pupils where possible bringing in precious items. We are a large school and unfortunately items can be misplaced. Not only can the children be upset if they misplace something, but

time out of class searching for items distracts from their learning. Jewellery should stay at home as should trading cards which when missing can cause arguments amongst friends.

School Sports News

Our Athletics Team won their heat and have made it through to the next round and will compete early December. Well done to all the children who have been coming to train early on Tuesday mornings.

Our cross country season is well underway with four races under our belt. Our next race is on 27th November at Norfolk Park. We look forward to seeing you there. Please see our [school website](#) for details.

Well done to...

Josh H (6S/W) who has passed 3 music exams in the last 6 months. He achieved a Distinction in Trinity Initial Piano in April 2021, a Merit (1 mark off distinction!) in Trinity Grade 1 June 2021 and now a Grade 2 Distinction! He is understandably very pleased after all his hard work!

Josh has also played Harry Potter's "Hedwig's Theme" at The Steel Cauldron twice.

Maisie F (6HN) who is performing in the choir at the production of Annie at the EPIC Theatre in Ecclesfield on 26 & 27 November. .

Saanvi U (4S/S), along with her sister Shreya won the consolation prize in under 12 badminton held in Leicester where 5 counties participated. Saanvi, at only 8 years old, partnered her sister in the double competition at the last minute due to a positive Covid case. She represented the Yorkshire team and showed flexibility and resilience, coping well in the 5 hour long tournament and playing in 14 games. She also showed good partnership and good sportsmanship.



Mr S Jones
Headteacher



People Services

SCHOOL CALENDAR FOR THE 2022/23 ACADEMIC YEAR

September (22 Days)

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

October (16 Days)

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

November (22 Days)

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

December (12 Days)

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

January (21 days)

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

February (15 days)

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28					

March (23 days)

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

April (10 Days)

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

May (19 Days)

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

June (20 Days)

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

July (15 Days)

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

August

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			



Denotes Bank Holidays

Denotes School Holidays



Denotes INSET Days –School Closed for Staff Training