



Dates for your Diary

We shall be holding our **Macmillan Coffee Morning on Friday 27th September 2019**. All parents and carers are welcome to join us from 10:00am until 11:30 for coffee, tea and cake. Further information will follow nearer the time.

On Saturday 19th October we will be holding a Car Boot Sale at Lonsdale School, from 8:30am until 12:00pm. Sellers entry will be from 8:00am with a charge of £10 for cars and £12 for vans, with all proceeds going to charity. Entry will be £1 for adults, under 16's free, and refreshments will be available. Please email Sheena Harley if you would like to book a place sharley@lonsdale.herts.sch.uk

On **Tuesday 15th October**, we will be **celebrating British values and our monarchy**. We have some special guests on the day and hope that **many parents and grandparents can join us from 2pm to 3.15pm at school** to join in our celebrations! More info will follow.

A list of dates for the academic year can be found on the school website, together with copies of lunch and supper menus for this term.

Whole-School News

We would like to welcome all of our pupils, parents and carers to Lonsdale for the Autumn Term. We hope you all had a wonderful Summer break and are coming back to school refreshed and ready for the exciting Autumn Term ahead! All staff are looking forward to enjoying lots of different activities, trips, house and sports events with the students over the next few months. May we remind parents that term dates can be found on the school website www.lonsdale.herts.sch.uk under the Parents tab and that all equipment for your child is labelled in order to return items to their owners.

On Saturday morning, a group of six pupils and their parents met with six members of school staff at 4:45am to travel to Ypres in Belgium. Despite the early hour, they made the ferry in plenty of time and travelled across to Calais, then drove across to Belgium. The first stop on Saturday was at Ypres, where students, parents and staff walked through the Menin Gate and into the Town Square, to visit a chocolate shop. The people there were lovely, and even had a sign in the window welcoming Lonsdale School! Having tasted and bought lots of chocolate, everyone visited the Flanders Field Museum, which was very interactive and informative. On the way back to the hostel, we stopped to visit the German trenches, where everyone realised that people were a lot shorter 100 years ago! Once at the hostel, after dinner everyone returned to the Menin Gate to take part in the Last Post Ceremony by Jake, Ross and Sam laying a wreath, thanking the soldiers for putting their lives in danger to protect us. The following day started with a visit to Tyne Cot cemetery, where Aoife and Riordan laid a wreath. The coach then travelled to Langemark German Cemetery and bunkers. On the way the guide Steve told us about the Hertfordshire Regiment and the coach stopped briefly at Vancouver Corner with its memorial to almost 6000 Canadian soldiers, who died in a battle which only lasted 2 1/2 weeks. Will and Mrs Thiele laid another wreath at the German cemetery before we made our way back to Calais for the ferry home. Despite feeling quite tired, everyone had an amazing time and learned lots about different battles of the First World War and the conditions that the soldiers fought in. Photos of the trip can be found on the website www.lonsdale.herts.sch.uk under the Gallery tab in News and Events.

Primary News

Bumble Bees: This week Bumblebee Class have started to get stuck into our learning! We have been exploring letters and sounds and recapping our phonic knowledge after the holidays, and have worked with number, shape and comparing/contrasting in Maths. In Topic we are learning all about ourselves and our friends, what makes us unique and how to be a good friend. We have also made cookies in cooking, explored instruments in Music and played parachute games in PE. The teachers have been so impressed with how well the children have settled back in! We hope you had a lovely weekend!

Dolphins: Dolphin Class have settled well back in to school. They have explored lots of toys both, inside and outside. We have worked hard practicing fine-motor skills through playdough, mark-making, puzzles, building and drawing in sand. This term we are learning 'All about me', finding our picture, name and learning who our friends and staff are. We have drawn around our bodies, ready to paint and talked about what we like. In PE we had soft play, enjoying rolling around and singing songs. Next week we would like to make a book about family. If you could send photos in, that would be really helpful. You can either print and send or email me at MBaker1@lonsdale.herts.sch.uk. I have really enjoyed getting to know Dolphin Class and am looking forward to the year ahead.

Primary News

Owl Class have had a lovely first week back. The children are settling well into their new class group and making new friends. The children have been getting to know their new timetable and routines.

We have created a class motto:
O owls
W we are
L learning at Lonsdale!

Our class poem (you may have heard this before):
A wise old owl sat in an oak
The more he heard, the less he spoke
The less he spoke, the more he heard
Why can't we all be like that wise old bird.

Koalas: In Literacy we have looked at various reports and what their different parts are. In Numeracy we did some excellent work with 2D shapes and have developed our number knowledge. In Topic we have looked at maps of England and Stevenage- both, new and old, and have tried to get a 'birds-eye view'. In Cooking we made lemon-drizzle cake, planned our models in Creative and played medieval instruments in Music. Miss Rose will support the Gold DofE expedition next week, so our class will be supported by other Lonsdale teachers and staff. Please get in touch with Mrs Sumner or write a message in the diary if you have any questions whilst Miss Rose is not at school from Tuesday to Friday.

Secondary News

Gorilla: It has been great to welcome everyone back for the new term and good to see everyone settling in and ready to work. Timetables for the year can be found on the back of the new diaries. You will see that Mr. Perrett is in class on Mondays & Tuesdays and Mrs. Herbert on Weds, Thurs and Fridays with specialist teachers taking the class for swimming, PE and Food Tech. Our main theme for the term is 'Places', so we have been revisiting some basic map work in K&U and will be learning about Stevenage. We have been transported to Ancient Greece for the story of Icarus in Literacy, and the class has particularly enjoyed the fun action song which accompanies our art work on 'The Dot'. In Maths we have been practising the use of number and revisiting knowledge of 2D shapes.

Hippos: It's great to see everyone back in 3H (H for hippopotamus, formerly 3JW). It's hard to believe we've already been back for a week and a half, but here we are! In our English lessons this week, we've been looking at myths and legends and learning about different heroes, gods and monsters as well as coming up with some of our own. In Science we've been learning about why we have night and day as well as different seasons, and in Maths we've been working on the number of days in each month. In our K&U lessons we've been finding different parts of the United Kingdom as well as learning more about our local area.

Sea Turtles: The Sea Turtle Class has made an excellent start to the year! In Computing this week, they created their own PowerPoints, and in Food they baked some amazing lemon-drizzle cakes. In their English lessons, they looked at a poem about Autumn and created some of their own fantastic poems. In their Knowledge and Understanding lesson, they looked at the community and how they can work together as a community. Their Science topic is 'The Seasons', and this week they looked at each of the seasons in detail and discussed how they changed and why. In Maths, they looked at Time. In PSHCE, the students had an excellent discussion about friendship and the qualities they like to see in their friends. Amongst all of this exciting learning, the Sea Turtles also had their social time, during which they played games and did other activities together.

Vanquitas: After a good week settling into the new timetables/classes/school, pupils have been working hard at their learning. So far...in English, pupils have started a book study on 'Private Peaceful' and read/listened to the first chapter to find out about Tommo's early life. In Science, they have recapped their understanding of why we have seasons and the relationship of the Earth's position to the Sun as it orbits and rotates. In Maths, they have practiced how to draw 2D shapes (good for fine-motor skills) and learned about parallel and perpendicular lines. Pupils made lemon-drizzle cake in Food Tech, and in Creative they listened to Vivaldi's Spring segment from 'The Four Seasons', to inspire some seasonal art activities.

Wombats: Welcome back to the 2019/20 academic year and the Wombat Class! Many thanks to all those who sent in some holiday news, it sounds like you all had a fabulous break! We would like to welcome the new families to our class and ask that on a Monday we have some news in the diaries about your weekend so that your child can share these with their friends. Our topic for this term is 'Places'. In K&U we are starting off with Stevenage, whilst in English we are reading some myths and legends. This week we have looked at the Greek myth Icarus. In Science we are revisiting seasons. In our Creative lesson on a Wednesday, we are exploring the book "The Dot", and for this half term in Cooking, we will be baking. Just to let you know that Mrs Woolley is not in school on a Wednesday as she is doing some outreach work with the County PNI team this year. This is timetabled in, and Mrs Woolley will still pick up her emails on the day, but anything less urgent can go into the home-school diaries.

Tigers: This week in English with Ms Ward, the class have been looking at Myths and Legends, which included making their very own arrows. In Science, with Mr. Perrett, the topic was 'The Seasons', and months of the year, recapping on what happens in each distinctive season. For K&U, we have started the topic of 'Glaciation', looking at the difference between glaciers, ice sheets and ice fields, and where they can be found in the world. During our Maths lessons, we have been looking at using calculators to calculate money using the decimal point correctly to indicate pounds and pence. In Creative the class have been making colour wheels as well as lemon-drizzle cake.

Upper /P16

Elephants: Welcome to a new year in P16! This week has been a very busy one, and pupils have settled in well. The class has a new teacher for Maths and PSHCE this year, Mr Perrett. The class introduced themselves to him and discussed their likes and dislikes. In English pupils were learning about Roald Dahl, recognising words that begin with 'cr', linking to the story 'The Enormous Crocodile'. This term's ASDAN unit with Mrs North looks at Work-Related Learning. Pupils learned about different jobs, identifying a variety of jobs from uniform and thinking about their 'Dream Job'. In Drama, pupils starting learning about the origins of Pantomime and how to perform using Freeze Frame and Thought Track.

Lynx: This week we have started our Functional Skills English course and have been looking at alphabetical order. We collected cards with words from around the school and tested our knowledge of alphabetical order by trying to put them in order as a class. We are also putting our knowledge to the test in the library! On Friday, we put away all of the loose books that were collected at the end of last year on the shelves in order. In Drama this week, pupils have been learning how to perform Improvisations, using Freeze Frame and Thought Track, from the a stimulus. Next week pupils will be starting a series of lessons learning about and developing the voice in performance. In Maths 5L have been considering the value of digits in numbers up to 1,000,000 and also in decimals to be able to order and compare them. They have helped to set up the tuck shop by restocking it and completing a shopping list of the items that are missing. We have also started the topic of 'The World of Work' in PSHCE, and we talked about the kinds of clothes you might wear to work and why.

Pandas: In Biology this week, some students of 5P learnt about the advantages and disadvantages of light and electron microscopes. They had the opportunity to use the light microscopes that we have in school to observe a number of commercial slides in preparation for making their own. Whilst they were learning about this, other members of 5P were starting their new ASDAN course by researching the skills and qualities needed for various jobs. In Maths 5P have all been recapping how to calculate the perimeter of compound shapes and have been learning how to calculate the area of rectangles, triangles, parallelograms, trapeziums and compound shapes made up from these. In English, together as a class, we have been looking at famous speeches in preparation for our Speaking and Listening assessments and discussed potential topics we would like to write our own speeches about, researching and studying them online.

REP

This week in REP, we have been welcoming everyone back from their summer holidays. Everyone has been sharing what fun activities they got up to over the break. We have been decorating our bedrooms making new bedroom signs and printing / drawing pictures for our walls whilst we settle into our flats / new flats. We have also had a few tea visits welcoming new pupils to REP.

To find out more about the Belgium Trip last weekend, Visit our website "News and Events" and "Gallery".



Have you noticed that all class groups have new names this year? To make it easier to remember which class is which, each class choose an animal to present their class-name letter:

D—Dolphin (Mrs Tanton/Mrs Baker)
K—Koala (Miss Rose)
H—Hippopotamus (Mr Whitehead)
E—Elephant (Mrs North)
P—Panda (Mrs Brown)

B—Bumble Bee (Miss Gregor)
W—Wombat (Mrs Woolley)
S—Sea Turtle (Mrs Read)
T—Tiger (Mr Page)
G—Gorilla (Mrs Herbert and Mr Perrett)

O—Owl (Mrs Sumner)
V—Vanquita (Mrs Fisher)
L—Lynx (Miss Ward)

