



Weekly Newsletter: Friday 8th June 2018

Dates for
your Diary

Monday 25th June to Friday 29th June—Sports Week
 Friday 29th June—Sports Day including Race for Life
 Saturday 7th July—Lonsdale Summer Fest. 12pm—4pm
 Wednesday 11th July—REP BBQ, 5pm
 Thursday 12th July—Transition Day
 Friday 13th July—Parent / Carer Consultation, Summer Progress Meetings 2pm—3pm
 Thursday 19th July—6th Form Prom
 Friday 20th July—Leavers Assembly
 Friday 20th July—End of Term, school finishes 1.30pm

All term dates can be found on our website.

Whole School
News

This week's swimmer of the week is Matthew in Oak Class, for fantastic swimming on his back - Well done!

We have some very exciting news! On Friday 22nd June Lonsdale School will be taking part in a photo shoot arranged by Herts for Learning when photographs will be taken to be used in promotional material over the next two years. Professional photographers will be coming in to school to take photos of our children so please make sure your child is looking even smarter than usual on that day and wearing the correct school uniform. Any additional items of uniform can still be purchased via the school office admin@lonsdale.herts.sch.uk. Permission letters will be emailed home early this week, please sign and return by Wednesday 20th June, or email jbrush@lonsdale.herts.sch.uk to give—or refuse—permission for your child to be included.

On Wednesday evening Mick from Lost Ark brought his games shop to school. Some pupils, parents and staff enjoyed playing Yu-Gi-Oh and board games from 4 to 6pm. Yu-Gi-Oh encourages players to use strategic and mathematical skills to beat their opponent. Believe it or not, Kyra and her mum beat Mick in the first game whilst they were learning it! We are all looking forward to inviting Mick and James, who helps in the Stevenage shop, back for some more games next term. You can see some pictures of the evening on the website in News-Gallery. Students also talked about starting up their own games club at lunchtime. Watch this space!



Tickets are now on sale for this year's Lonsdale Summer Festival, taking place on Saturday 7th July 2018.



A family ticket is £10 (up to a family of five) or £4 per person, please email: sharley@lonsdale.herts.sch.uk to book your tickets now!

Primary
News

Ash: In Ash Class this week the children have been talking and writing about things they did during the half term holiday. They have been learning about our theme for this half term: Superheroes and reading the first Supertato book and also developing their fine motor skills. Pupils enjoyed a special 'Potato' day, doing art using potatoes and cooking different kinds of potatoes such as chips, waffles, mashed potatoes, roast potatoes and curly fries. It was fun eating them, too!

Birch: Miss Gregor is really pleased to be back at Lonsdale and teaching in Birch Class! This week we have been getting to know each other through lots of sensory learning, exploring letters and sounds through slime, gloop, water play and in the sensory room. Our topic this half term is 'Superheroes', so the children have been looking at the

Primary News

books and using potatoes to colour mix in Art, and they have been cooking and tasting lots of different types of potato foods!

Elm: Elm Class have settled into their new classroom and class group and have already shown how well they all get along together. They have begun their 'Superhero' topic with the story "Superworm" by Julia Donaldson. The children have been using adjectives to describe Superworm and helped him find words beginning with 's' in letters and sounds. The children enjoyed learning and joining in the chant from the story about Superworm. In Maths the children have been looking at numbers to 20, and they put them in order before playing the missing numbers game. Our Science topic is 'Sound', and the children have been sorting instruments in music to show how the sound is made. They have been thinking about different sounds - loud and quiet.

Oak: Oak Class have had a busy week and have settled well into their new class and routine. We are very excited to start our new topic of Superheroes and have already started planning ideas. In Literacy we have looked at comic strips and what different parts are needed, and have started to think about the Superhero we are going to create for our own comic strip. In Numeracy we have started to develop our knowledge of fractions. In Art we looked at various cars and what components they have and explored some materials that we could use to make our own Superhero car! We made Batman Nachos in Cooking, and we have learned about the different parts that make up our ear to help us hear.

Secondary News

CF: Pupils have started to study about 'A Sense of Place' in Creative (Art) and have looked at the different styles of composition and perspectives in famous landscape paintings. In Science, pupils are reviewing what they know about where our food come from and which plants or parts of plants are edible - there will be some surprises! To link this with KU (Geography), pupils have learned about one of the food scandals discovered regarding the supply of horsemeat into our supermarkets and fast food outlets and are writing an article as if it just happened (Geography in the news!). To underpin some Numeracy skills, pupils have also been working on rounding numbers and learnt how this helps to estimate totals. They spent an interesting Maths lesson finding out how to calculate percentages and work out how much would be saved in the sales. In Computing, pupils have been working on their digital literacy and exploring the various tools they can use with a PC and online.

LM: This week, the students thoroughly enjoyed and benefited from their swimming lessons. Mrs Michael was able this week to pop in a see a few people in action. It was a joy to see how liberating the water is physically. In English we have been looking at the poem "Island Man" by Grace Nichols. The students were able to identify that the man in the poem is dreaming about his island home and that his heart belongs there, even though he lives in London. Students continued to work hard on their communication skills and how to interact effectively with their peers. This week in Science, 3LM looked at different voltage and why batteries are needed to make a circuit work. We looked at circuits with motors, light bulbs and buzzers and also explored how power cuts happen. Sydney and Ross beat their classmates in a Science quiz followed closely by Jacey.

MB/SH: It was lovely to see everyone back and refreshed after the week off. Our new topic in Basic Skills this half term is 'Outer Space'. In English we learnt about astronauts Neil Armstrong and Tim Peake and were thinking about autobiographies. The children enjoyed writing a diary entry for the night before they go into space. They wrote about how they felt, what they needed to check, what they would eat and drink the night before and what they would pack in their bags. In Science they explored materials and talked about the properties. In Art we continue to work on sculptures and hope to make a robot and other sculptures out of recycled materials. If you could collect, wash and send in items for this it would be greatly appreciated. In Maths we are revisiting telling the time. You can reinforce the work in class with your child by drawing attention to key times of the day, eg. when the taxi arrives or bedtime, on an analogue clock. Letters will be coming home next week about our Sports Week boating trip planned for Weds June 27th.

Secondary News

MW: Welcome back to the final half term of this academic year. I can't quite believe where the time has gone! Thank you to those parents who shared their holiday news in the diaries, the students enjoyed telling their friends where they had been! We have made a start on our new topics this week. In Maths we are revisiting time. Please support your child by using an analogue clock to show them important times of the day when at home. In English we used the diary entries from homework a couple of weeks ago to support the writing of a diary entry of the night before we went into space! We have completed a Funky Pie project finding out all about the arts opportunities in our home towns. In PHSCE this week, students learned about where their appearance comes from, identifying aspects of their appearance and deciding who in their family they look similar too. This is an introduction to 'Growing up', a unit the students will study, which will include Sex Education. Next week students will be learning first aid and what to do if they or someone is hurt.

SP: There were lots of different things going on this week, with some of the class joining Post 16 for their Work Experience Week. Some of the class chose to go to Carpentry, where they helped make a bench for the playground, and—mainly the girls—went to Beauty Therapy. During the rest of the week, in English, students have been looking at diary writing and trying to write about the feelings the characters portrayed in the film "Titanic". Those students doing the AAC qualification went into town and used their communication skills to speak with different people; they all seemed to enjoy it! Please can the letters be returned for sports week asap.

Upper

5SN, 5LH and 5JB participated in Work-Related Learning Week; all learners attended a variety of career talks and workshops from Trades through to Beauty Therapy. Each student completed a journal about their learning over the week. Some students had out-of-school work-experience days at a local farm and car dealership, and others had in-school work experience days, which included working in Marriotts' Gym centre, library and completing admin tasks. This was a fantastic experience for all learners to develop their understanding of the world of work, the requirements for different employment pathways and a chance for personal, social and emotional development. Photos will be on the website shortly.



REP

In REP this week, many pupils shared their news about the half term holiday; some pupils had the opportunity to go away, one pupil went to Center Parcs, and he had a great time being with his family. On Thursday some of our pupils went on a birthday celebration evening which consisted of bowling and a meal at Nandos, which they all enjoyed, as did Mrs Smart and Mrs Thiele, who joined the pupils at Nandos. Another group of REP pupils booked their birthday celebration; they also chose bowling but have decided to go to Pizza Hut instead. Bookings for both outings were done by the pupils who are going, one pupil who booked the bowling used her electronic AAC machine to make the call. She told me this was the first time she had ever used her device to make a phone call and hold a conversation with someone who was unknown to her. She did a fantastic job, maybe "The Lost Voice Guy" has inspired her to step out of her comfort zone with her device.