



# Learning @ Lonsdale

Weekly Newsletter: Friday 21st September 2018

<h2>Dates for your Diary</h2>	<p>Monday 17th September—Friday 21st September—Upper School Trip to Bendrigg            Friday 28th September—Macmillan Coffee Morning, 10am—11.30am            Tuesday 2nd and Wednesday 3rd October—'This Special Moment Photography' in school            Wednesday 17th October—Parents' Evening            Monday 29th October to Friday 2nd November—Half Term</p> <p>A list of dates for the academic year can be found on the school website.</p>
<h2>Whole School News</h2>	<p>This week's Swimmer of the Week is Jacob M for his enthusiasm and willingness to learn—well done!</p> <p>The students and staff on the Bendrigg trip have had a great week battling the wind and the rain up in Cumbria! Despite nature's best attempts to spoil the party, they have climbed, swung, paddled, abseiled, had a camp fire and been highly skilled in archery. Please check our school website for pictures in the gallery and the daily write-up.</p> <p>On Friday 28th September we will be holding our annual Macmillan Coffee Morning, in the school dining room from 10am - 11:30am. Everyone is welcome to come and sample some of the amazing cakes baked by each class, and also by our staff. The children can either come into school in non-uniform for the day or wear something green for the day for a donation of £1 each; don't forget your money for coffee and cake and hopefully we will raise some money for Macmillan Cancer Support.</p> <p>On 2nd and 3rd October, 'This Special Moment Photography' will be coming in to school to take student photos. We were all very happy with the pictures last year and so have asked them to return again; photographs will be available to purchase following the photo shoot.</p>
<h2>Primary News</h2>	<p><b>Ash:</b> This week in Ash we have been continuing to work hard on our gross and fine motor skills, using our standers and walkers and having lots of floor time too. The class have been working on recognising the first letters of our names and our friends' names as well as the initial sounds in some words, and we have shared stories as a group and individually and also in new groups with Sadie. This will take place each week on Wednesdays. Our speech and language groups with Julie and Lizzie have now begun, whilst in Cookery we have made cheese straws. In Music we have been listening to fast and slow music and moving quickly and slowly in Music and Movement.</p> <p><b>Birch:</b> This week in Birch Class we have been focusing on listening skills in Phonics. We have played listening games, been on a listening walk, made loud and quiet instruments, and recorded and identified sounds and spellings throughout. In Maths, we have reviewed and learnt some new mathematical language and focused on individual targets. In Topic we have learnt about things you can do to be a good friend and being kind to others. We decided what we thought was most important and put all our ideas into a sensory 'friendship potion'. In Art, the children continued to explore texture and will be cooking a family recipe of shortbread biscuits for you all to taste on Friday. Have a lovely weekend!</p> <p><b>Elm:</b> This week in Science, the children have been investigating their sense of sight. Some of the children were brave enough to wear a blindfold whilst travelling around the school and guess where in the school they were, using their other senses to help. They ate their snack whilst blind-folded and discussed their feelings about not being able to see. They also went on a treasure hunt to see if they could see everything on their prompt sheet. In Cooking the children peeled and baked apple slices, and in Art they made hand and feet prints. Children in Oak and Elm worked incredibly hard in Music, and we had some wonderful performances including solos. We have some very talented children in Primary! Some children from Elm and Oak went to Funky Pie this week and enjoyed exploring different instruments. They are looking forward to making new friends and developing their skills in future Funky Pie sessions.</p>

## Primary News

Oak: Oak Class have been busy this week in Topic developing our knowledge of the organs in our body and their functions. We have been revisiting our understanding of letters and addresses- preparing to write our own letter to ourselves. In Numeracy we have been developing our knowledge of time with o'clock and half past. We have been learning how to be safe in the community in time for when we go out in 2 weeks time in Life Skills. In Cooking we used our senses to try new vegetable and we are in the process of planning our Class Bake-Off ready for the Macmillan Coffee Morning next Friday!

## Secondary News

CF: This week in Creative, pupils have begun to compile a fact file about their favourite decade for hair styles, fashion and music. Some of this work may form a timeline and display... In Science, pupils have continued to investigate forces and completed some measurements using force meters. In Maths, we have developed understand if place value and the effects of multiplying and dividing by factors of 10, including working across decimals and with money. In Literacy pupils have used adjectives to 'advertise' their favourite drinks using the five senses as inspiration.

JB: In RE this week, students learned about the Islamic faith, comparing practices with Christianity. Within PSHCE students studied both, male and female reproductive organs learning about function. Students also learned how a baby develops in the uterus looking at changes through each trimester. I am very proud of the class' maturity during this unit. The class continue to work as a team to produce the school calendar for 2019. This week students will be looking at colour design for the months and communicating with each class on their month and theme. The calendar will be available for purchase at the Christmas Fair and thereafter.

JW: It has been another fun week for 3JW, who have been writing thank you letters to giants and being budding newspaper reporters in their English lessons. We have been learning about place value and comparing numbers in Maths and coding Minecraft characters in Computing. In Science we have investigated materials to find out what would make the best umbrella, and throughout the week we have been planning how to make the most delicious cake for next week's Macmillan Coffee Morning.

MB/SH: This week in English, we have continued to work on the story 'The smartest Giant in Town'. Pupils have worked hard on designing and making a poster, either about the new shop opening or a missing animal from the story. In Science they got a little wet as we carried out an experiment on waterproof materials. We also tested materials to see which objects are magnetic. In Creative the pupils enjoyed recalling hair styles and designing clothes. We looked at traditional clothing for different countries and religions. If you have any traditional clothing you would be happy to send in for us to look at, it would be greatly appreciated. We have Creative on a Tuesday afternoon. In Maths they have been practising sequencing numbers or adding on one or two more, using number lines. In Food Tech this week and next week, we are looking forward to making & decorating a cake for the Macmillan Coffee Morning.

MW: In Dance this week, the class learned 'Circle of Life' from 'The Lion King', developing gross motor skills, moving within shape and developing their fine and gross motor skills to sign parts of the song as they dance. In English the class have continued to work on the book "The Smartest Giant in Town". They have each created a 'missing' poster about one of the animals in the story, thinking carefully about a description of the animal & where it might last have been seen. They have also worked hard on writing a thank-you letter as though from one of the animals in the book. In both cases, the giraffe has proved very popular! In Maths, the class has been practising counting accurately and, for some, thinking about one more or one less than a given number. In K&U, on the theme of clothing, the class have started to find out where many of our items of clothing have been made. They searched for accessible labels on their t shirts, coats and a selection of other clothes and discovered that a majority of items had been made in a range of countries in Asia and very few in Europe.

## Secondary News

SP: In Drama students have been learning how to perform stock characters (Old, Prince, Villain etc.). Students have used these concepts to develop their creative thinking skills to write a script based on a Soap-Opera style. Next lesson, students will develop their characterisation skills through learning how to hot-seat. In Science this week, the class have carried out two experiments to test different materials. They used the terms water resistant, porous & non-porous when testing foil, food wrap, fabric & newspaper for their resistance to water. The second experiment was to test the absorbency of paper towel, cotton, wool, thin fabric & a plastic bag. In both cases, they were careful to ensure that a 'fair test' was carried out. The class have worked well throughout the week. In their Maths lessons, they have been working individually some developing their functional skills, whilst others have been developing their place value skills developing into column addition. For K&U, the class have been looking at the difference between climate and weather and learning about the different climatic zones across the world.

## Upper

LH: Half of the students are out on the Bendrigg trip, so the class has been very quiet. Those in school have focused on leisure time and what facilities are in their local area and around school. In English they have looked at Acrostic poems creating their own versions with some interesting descriptive words being used. In PE they continue to work on their hockey skills. They have also looked at recipes and ingredients needed for the upcoming bake off in preparation for the Macmillan Coffee Morning.

SN: In Numeracy this week, the class learned about time, developing understanding about key times of their day and learning to tell o'clock times. Students have started their Literacy project within English for the term. The project is centred around 'Harry Potter - The Philosopher's Stone'. This week, students learned about the key characters and theme of the book, developing their creative thinking and writing skills, designing their own 'cupboard under the stairs' and explaining their choices. Students continue to work through their environmental unit, they produced a mind-map display of all the words they associate with the environment



On Monday, the resident pupils welcomed our friends from Stevenage Rotary Club for an evening activity session followed by the usual and enjoyable take-away chicken supper, which they kindly and generously provided for both, pupils and staff. The activity session covered some art projects and were followed by a word-association quiz. Pupils were very involved and enjoyed both activities as you can see from the photos below.

## REP

