



## Weekly Newsletter: Friday 12th October 2018

Dates for  
your Diary

Wednesday 17th October—Parents' Evening  
 Friday 26th October—Halloween Disco, 2pm—3pm in School Hall. Pupils may dress up in non-uniform or wear fancy dress (for £1.00 or chocolates or bottle donation for the Christmas Fair)  
 Monday 29th October to Friday 2nd November—Half Term  
 Friday 16th November 2018—Pyjama/Onesie/Non-Uniform day to raise money for Children in Need for £1.00 or chocolates or bottle donation for the Christmas Fair  
 Saturday 17th November—Lonsdale Christmas Fair, 10am to 1pm

A list of dates for the academic year can be found on the school website.

Whole School  
News

This week's Swimmers of the Week are all of Mr Whitehead's class for superb swimming and effort—well done to you all!

Appeal from Mrs Brown:

Mrs Brown has asked whether parents could send in to school any small empty jam jars, food jars or baby food jars as the students would like to make tea light holders to sell at the Christmas Fair. Please could these be sent into school for Mrs Brown's attention?  
 Many thanks.

Wellbeing: Lonsdale launched its Wellbeing Award project last week. You will have received an email asking you to complete a questionnaire about how you feel Lonsdale supports health and wellbeing. It would be much appreciated if all parents and carers could complete the online questionnaire by Wednesday 17th October. Please find more information on the last page of this newsletter. Thank you!

Our Christmas Fair will be taking place on Saturday 17th November from 10am until 1pm. We are all very excited to welcome Father Christmas back to his grotto and are looking forward to seeing pupils, parents and their families at the Fair. We will be having two non-uniform days prior to the fair, Friday 26th October for Halloween when pupils (and staff) can dress as their favourite ghost or ghoul for £1 or a donation of a bottle or chocolates for the Christmas Fair.



There will also be a Halloween Disco in school from 2pm to 3pm. Pupils can choose to participate in the disco leave for half term. On Friday 16th November we will be holding a pyjama/onesie/non-uniform day for a £1 donation to Children in Need, or a donation of a bottle or chocolates for the Christmas Fair.

Primary  
News

Ash: This week Ash Class have been welcoming some new friends into our class. The children have been busy sharing an Art and Junk Modelling day with Birch Class, as well as making pizza and choosing different toppings. They have all been working hard on their fine-motor skills and in their walkers and standers, as well as working hard on number recognition, counting skills and one-to-one correspondence. The children have enjoyed listening to lots of rhymes and stories, and playing musical instruments and singing.

Birch: This week Birch Class have been learning all about autumn! We have been on an autumn walk, collecting red, brown, orange and yellow leaves, conkers, acorns and pine cones. We have used our collection in Maths to support our individual targets, with lots of

## Primary News

counting and comparing. In English, we have been learning about 'alliteration' and have hunted things that begin with the same letter. We listened to some silly alliteration stories. We enjoyed Music as a whole primary group this week, with lots of singing and dancing. On Friday, we had a special early Christmas for our school calendar.

Elm: This week the children have explored their sense of smell in Science. They have been for a walk around the school grounds looking for signs of autumn. They enjoyed crunching through the fallen leaves in the playground. And we even discovered some horse chestnut trees with lots of conkers to pick up. The children are using their autumn discoveries to explore describing words in preparation for writing autumn poems. In Cooking we continued with our apple theme making apple bread.

Oak: Oak Class have had a very productive week! We have very nearly finished our 'Letters to Ourselves', which we will be proofreading next week. We have started to make some pictograms in Numeracy. In Topic we have excelled in recognising map symbols- the test will be finding them in a map next week. In Cooking we have made a very healthy fruit salad and have all done some fantastic reading this week.

## Secondary News

CF: In Creative, pupils have become fashion designers and are working on creating a collection of clothing for a chosen decade style. In Maths pupils have been finding equivalent fractions and are starting to add fractions of the same denominator. In Science, we are still investigating forces and have designed and made parachutes of various sizes to test air resistance next week. In addition we had to calculate the surface area of the parachutes, making a good cross-curricular link with Maths. In Literacy we have planned storylines and characters to start to write in a genre of our choice.

JB: This week in RE students have been extending their learning by preparing information for a debate about religions' contrasting views on reincarnation. Students were required to work in small groups to examine views of Christianity and Judaism compared with those of Buddhism and Hinduism. The class will actively debate in next week's lesson. In PHSE students very maturely learned about male and female contraception as part of their unit on Sex Education, learning about what forms there are, how each acts as a contraceptive, the advantages and disadvantages of each form. Next week students will be learning about sexual health. 4JB have been learning about the parts of the eye and their functions in Biology, they also studied eye defects and how a lens can be used to correct these. Students were fascinated by videos that looked inside the eye and would like to dissect one. In Maths they have been learning how to identify factors and multiples of numbers, with some students realising the importance of knowing their times tables.

JW: This week, pupils have learned about life in a sweatshop and taken part in an exercise to see what it is like to work on a production line for very little 'pay' or reward. Some pupils asked some excellent questions and realised that poorer families have difficult choice to make when money is scarce (KU). Also this week in 3JW, we have been continuing to look at story-writing in English, in particular how to improve sentences with some incredible adjectives. In Maths we have started investigating, drawing and building shapes, and in Science we have looked at how to separate materials with the aid of a handy sieve and some magnets.

MB/SH: This week in English, we have read 'The Emperor's New Clothes' and answered questions about the story. We started to select words or write sentences about different pictures linked to the story. We continue to explore in Science through different experiments. This week we have focused on separating using different processes. We used a sieve to separate flour and rice, a funnel and filter paper for sand and water mixed, then evaporation to separate a solution of salt and water. Pupils have also enjoyed making a simple rap in our Creative lesson. In K&U the pupils had learnt about factory work and this week had a go at doing a craft activity but in the style of a production line. Each pupil was responsible for a small part of the production, e.g. cutting tissue paper or sticking on eyes. They then discussed the fact that repeating a process could be repetitive and what happened if someone else was working too slowly or too quickly.



## Secondary News

MW: In English this week, we have enjoyed reading 'The Emperor's New Clothes'. The students did really well at recalling the story throughout the week and were able to sequence pictures and add their own words / sentences. In IT we had fun programming the BeeBots, making them visit different parts of the map. In K & U we learnt about production lines and then created our own to make a backdrop for our school calendar picture! This week in Dance/Drama, students finished learning their Waltz and started to develop their accompanying scene from 'Beauty and the Beast' developing voice, facial expression, gesture and movement to show their characters.

SP: Students have started to rehearse their soap-opera-style drama piece called 'Footballers' Lives', which is a cross between 2 well-known northern soaps. Students started to learn entrances and exits, staging and deciding on location choices. This lesson focused on developing their independent communication skills. In Science we have learnt about separating both solids and mixtures and the different processes involved, including filtering, sieving and evaporation. In Maths, the students have been working on individualised work, ranging from looking for missing numbers up to 200, to functional skills Maths worksheets ranging from entry level 1 to 3. In K&U, we have been looking at globalisation and what the quote 'the world is getting smaller' actually means. In ICT, we continued looking at programming and trying to use the correct terminology, algorithms and debugging.

## Upper

BTEC Drama (LH/SP): Students worked very hard and as independently as possible to complete their character research for their urban fairy-tale. Students thought about concept and intention, applying traditional concepts of the well-known characters to the modern brief of their performance; choosing costume and sound.

5LH: Students started their PHSCE/life-skills unit 'Preparing for College and Life Beyond Lonsdale'. Students looked at each of our local colleges and learned about the process of applying for college. Students created a short profile about their future, deciding on courses they would like to study, where they want to live, as well as paid and voluntary employment choices and where they see themselves at the age of 30. 5LH have been researching the current minimum wage for different ages, how much it has increased in the last 7 years, and they have realised that this is not a lot of money to live on. They have continued to work with money to calculate income and outgoings in daily life. In ASDAN they have learnt about the devastating impact that humans have had on the environment in some parts of the world and enjoyed an interesting discussion about the differences between vegetarians and vegans.

5SN: This week in Tutor Time, students extended their learning through 'World News' by discussing the effect that plastics are having on the planet and especially our oceans and wildlife. Students discussed what plastic is, how it harms our environments and what we can do to prevent the use of plastic and promote effective disposal through recycling. Each student extended their knowledge by offering correct and effective answers to this world issue, showing that they have retained and applied their learning of the 'Environment' with Miss Hughes. Fantastic work! In Numeracy this week, the class extended and applied their learning from last week's lesson on Measure by applying learned concepts, knowledge and vocabulary to explain their results of their measuring exercise of pupil heights in the class.

## REP

In REP this week, Paul, our activity organiser, has started an Art and Craft project with some pupils. Currently, they are painting some wooden blocks, which will be used in the model village that the pupils are creating in one of our large planters on the REP balcony. Hannah, our music therapist, has started up the after-school club, which pupils are invited to go along to for a sing-song as well as playing some musical instruments. We may be lucky enough to hear their results at our REP Christmas Concert.



## Wellbeing

As a sign of our commitment to supporting and improving the mental health and emotional wellbeing of our pupils, staff and parents/carers, Lonsdale are currently working to achieve a school improvement award called Wellbeing Award for Schools (WAS).

Working with the whole-school community, we hope to focus on ensuring we have provision in place to support the emotional wellbeing and mental health of our whole-school community embedding the ethos that these two factors are extremely important and the responsibility of all.

In order to evaluate our current provision, we need your input. Your views are important in helping us understand what we are doing well and how we can do even better.

Please follow the link below to complete the survey.

<https://app.awardplace.co.uk/stakeholder-evaluations/user-survey/was-parent-evaluation-form>

Log in using:

Username: [was@lonsdale.herts.sch.uk](mailto:was@lonsdale.herts.sch.uk)

Password: Lonsdale2018

Once logged in, please follow these steps:

1. from the task bar please select 'Stakeholder Evaluations'
2. select 'Parent/Carer Evaluation'
3. select 'input scores and comments'
4. complete the survey
5. click 'submit' at the bottom of the survey page.

**The deadline for the competition of the parent/carer and pupil questionnaires is Wednesday 17th October.**

All responses and suggestions will be carefully considered and used to plan a range of school improvements.

WAS Award Update - Thank you to the 15 parents/carers that have completed the WAS questionnaire. Please can those who have not yet completed the questionnaire, take 5 minutes to log on and complete. We really value your opinion to evaluate the development of Health and Well-being at Lonsdale.

If your young-person is aged 7-18, please log -on to GATEWAY and click the consent button for them to answer the pupil questionnaire during their tutor time at school next week.



When 'i' is replaced By 'we'

Even  
'illness'  
Becomes  
'Wellness'