



Weekly Newsletter: Friday 16th November 2018

Dates for your Diary

Saturday 17th November—Lonsdale Christmas Fair, 10am to 1pm
 Thursday 13th December—REP Christmas Carol Concert
 Friday 14th December—Primary Christmas Performance
 Wednesday 19th December—Christmas Dinner

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

Whole School News

This week's Swimmer of the Week is Harrison for gaining more confidence in the water each week —well done!

Well done to all of those students who entered the house art competition. This year's theme was to design a sign for our Walk a Mile a day challenge. We had lots of entries and Mrs Ottridge found judging very tough!

Final results:

4th Place - Jake P from the Yellow House

3rd Place - Kyra G from the Red House

2nd Place: Aoife K from the Blue House

1st place: Rosie J; William M & Robbie V all from Green house!

The three winning designs will now be sent away to be put onto our sign posts!



Tickets are now on sale for a nity Christmas concert, featuring of Lonsdale pupils. Every-join in the fun, with lots of

fabulous Stevenage-based commu- ing some of the parents and sib- one is welcome to come along and audience participation!

The Halloween Disco raised a total of £166.90 for Children in Need, many thanks to everyone who took part!

We are pleased to announce that we raised just over £2000 at the Christ Fair last Saturday. This would not have possible without your support, not only by donating cakes, chocolates, bottles, teddies; but by giving yours and your families' time to come and attend. you so much to everyone who was able to attend and help with this amazing day. If you have any feedback that you would like to pass on, for example what you thought went well or didn't go well please email me on CGreen1@Lonsdale.herts.sch.uk. Every penny made will go towards ensuring all the students have everything they need to help them with their journey through Lonsdale Photos of the Christmas Fair can be found in the Gallery on our website www.lonsdale.herts.sch.uk
 Many thanks, Chandra Green, Vice Chair of Governors

Primary News

Ash: This week in Ash Class the children have been learning about light and dark, and the sun and the moon. They have been checking rhyming skills and working out what sounds words begin with. In Cookery the children made some delicious cheesy pasta, in Art they designed some Christmas cards and also managed to find time to check on how their bulbs are growing—they are coming along nicely! Ash Class have spent some time counting and learning about positional language, and practising fine and gross motor skills.

Birch: This week Birch class worked hard to create our Christmas card designs, so they are printed and ready to be sent in December. We have also continued to learn about reflections, light, dark and shadows in topic and have enjoyed using mirrors and torches to reflect light. In Maths, we have continued to learn about shape through our individual targets. Our letter of the week has been 'a', so we have looked at lots of initial sounds and incorporated individual targets. We have enjoyed 'music and movement' with Ash class, and PE with Elm, and have begun learning songs for our Christmas play. In cooking we made pizza, but it was so yummy that we ate it for lunch! Have a lovely weekend.

Primary News

Elm: This week our theme was the Sun. The children described the Sun, read a lovely poem about the Sun and where it goes at night and in Cooking made a sunshine omelette with yellow pepper and grated cheese. In Maths the children ordered pictures of a typical daily routine and were encouraged to describe using time related vocabulary. In Music the children in Oak and Elm class learned the second song in our Christmas play. They discussed the effect of long and short sounds and selected instruments to match long and short sounds.

Oak: Oak class have had a good week, merging Sports with Literacy and planning their speeches. In Numeracy we have played around with weights and found out what the heaviest object is in Oak Class. In Topic we have looked at the moon and its phases, and used the Virtual Reality headsets to land and explore the moon. In Life Skills we ventured to REP and made the bed complete with covers. In Cooking we practiced our rubbing-in skills by making moon rocks.

Secondary News

CF: In Creativity this week pupils have begun a planning and design project for Christmas. They have learned about the origins of the Christmas stocking and will be making one of their own over the next few weeks. This will also require measurement skills using patterns and proportion. In Science, pupils have put their theory of how the digestive system works into practice (in the lab!) and re-created how food moves through the body using coco-pops and pop socks, amongst other things (ask them!)...In Maths pupils investigated shapes, position and direction and learned about the difference between translation, reflection and rotation. In English the book study has continued. This week, pupils worked on characterisation and the devices the author has used in his comedy acts. Pupils then created 'wanted posters' for a Pirate and used similes or metaphors to help describe them. In Food Tech fruit kebabs were made using a variety of different fruits, and the pupils had to devise their own patterns or sequences on the skewer (another Maths skill).

JB: On Wednesday 4JB and 5LH spent the day at Marriotts for a 'Get Ready for Work' day. They split up into groups with their peers from Marriotts to attend a Careers Fair and listen to speakers from ELSA, Waitrose and the NHS. Students had to prepare an individual presentation based on interview questions which was well received by their peers. They also spent time in small groups talking through interview techniques and questions with one of the company members and were able to answer several of the questions posed. The Careers Fair in Marriotts Sports Hall was enjoyed by all and it gave individual students the chance to talk to representatives of various companies, colleges and the Youth Connexions Service. In Biology this week 4JB have concluded their study of hormones in the Human Reproductive System and have also discussed the use of hormones in contraception and fertility treatments. In Maths they have been practising their skills in expanding brackets in algebra and, most confusingly, then went on to complete an introduction to factorising (which is putting the brackets back). These are both skills that they will need to complete their GCSE in two years time. In PHSCE pupils have started to learn about personal finance, learning about what are considered essential and non-essential items and why, what are living costs and how much on average monthly living costs add up to. Pupils have started a Film Studies Unit as part of their Creative, this week they learned about the history of film and genre.

JW: This week 3JW have been continuing their poetic pursuits in English, as well as writing letters to send to our new German friends. In Maths we've been learning how to use timetables for buses and trains and in Science we've learned about different kinds of teeth, what they do and why we have them. We also had a very successful trip over to the Marriotts Café on Thursday morning. We've been designing Christmas cards in our Creative lessons – please send forms back in by Monday if you'd like to order some. In K&U this week pupils have continued to build up their research skills and collate their presentations about fashion over the ages. They will be presenting these as a carousel activity next week and sharing their work with each other.

MB/SH: The class has continued to work on the topic of clothing with comprehension activities in English. In Maths they have been recording and comparing the amount of times it takes complete different activities & looking to see which takes longer. They will be consolidating this work with the Maths homework over the next week. All pupils have designed a Christmas card inspired by some ideas from the art department and these need to be returned on Monday (26th) for those who would like to make an order.

Secondary News

MW: This week in Dance/Drama, students started to learn to devise a piece of theatre to 'Do you want to build a Snowman?' from Frozen. Pupils are learning to use voice, movement and gesture to create atmospheres through using Split Scene, a common feature in Musical Theatre. In English this week we have been learning about non-fiction books and how to find out information from them using the contents, index and glossary pages. We have related this to our clothes topic and completed some comprehension activities. In Maths we have been challenging ourselves with completing activities in a set amount of time. We then transferred our results onto a bar chart. We enjoyed designing our Christmas cards - please remember that if you would like to buy your child's they need to be returned to school by MONDAY 26th November. Thank you to those parents who have paid for our forthcoming trips. Please can any outstanding payments be made as soon as possible?

SP: In Science this week some of the students have been recalling their knowledge about the different seasons and producing a poster, whilst others have made a start on investigating the Earth, Moon and Sun to produce an information booklet. In Drama this week, pupils are continuing their work on stock characters and showing different character emotions through their character relationships. Pupils are developing exaggerated acting styles. For Maths, some have been working hard on specimen Entry Level 3 papers, whilst others have been partitioning numbers up to and including 4 digits. In English, we have continued looking at Superheroes and Villains, designing our superheroes on line, moving towards describing them and starting to plan our stories. In K&U, we have continued looking at the 1960's, especially the money people used before decimalisation in 1971, we all became confused about how many pennies there were in a pound (240).

Upper

5LH: In ASDAN 5LH took great delight in counting the money made from the Christmas Fair and then discussing how to market the remainder of their stock before Christmas. They will be producing and sending out flyers to parents who may not have been able to get to the Christmas Fair and selling their products at the REP Christmas Carol concert. Pupils participated in a Work Related Learning Day at Marriotts' this week, learning about the world of work from applications to interviews and learning about the skills and qualities needed for different jobs. In ICT students have continuing connecting the website pages together, moving towards what is a logo and how the can be designed to fit on to their websites.

5SN: This week in Cooking pupils have learned how to make Ratatouille; learning that the dish comes from France and it is vegetarian. In Life Skills and 'Keeping Safe' (ASDAN) pupils learned how to make their own beds and how to keep safe when out and about learning the Green -Cross code and road safety hazards. In Numeracy this week, pupils consolidated their learning on recognising tally numbers, ordinal numbers and addition to 12 from their Cricket match last week. In English, pupils have been learning how to write similes when describing 'Fluffy' from Harry Potter.

REP

As you may know, the Governors at Lonsdale visit REP each term, to get to know our young people and find out how the students are supported. We would like to share with you the comments made by one of our newest Governors following his first visit to Lonsdale REP:

REP is more significant than I realised before my visit. Education is of course important. But what use is it without the tools required to function in day to day life. These also are of limited use, without giving the individual the confidence to think and act for themselves. REP may be viewed by parents as respite, viewed by outside agencies as care, viewed by the school as life education. But my impression of REP is that its viewed by the pupils as freedom and independence.