

Learning @ Lonsdale

Weekly Newsletter: Friday 7th December 2018



Dates for your Diary

Thursday 13th December—REP Christmas Carol Concert, 6.30pm for 7pm
 Friday 14th December—Primary Christmas Performance and Christmas Jumper Day
 Wednesday 19th December—Christmas Dinner and Christmas Disco
 Thursday 20th December—End of Term, school finishes at 1.30pm

Whole School News

This week's Swimmers of the Week is Shay for not being afraid to try new things in the pool —Well done!

Please see the information on the last page of this Newsletter regarding support for funding for specialist trikes and wheelchairs. Should you wish to apply, more information can be found on www.my-afk.org.

The Christmas Post Box will be open from Monday 3rd December to Tuesday 18th December, please could pupils complete the full name on the cards to be delivered, and also the name of the class if possible? Many thanks.

Please support us in raising money for the National Aids Trust by sending in copper or silver coins to fill our Freddie Mercury poster. Every pupil who adds a coin or two to the poster will receive a red ribbon as a thank you. Your support is much appreciated!

Our two Boccia teams represented Stevenage schools on Tuesday at the County Boccia tournament. Each team had to play 4 matches which involved a lot of concentration and skill as each match lasted for approximately 30 minutes. Both teams did exceptionally well with the "Lonsdale team", consisting of Jesse, Oli and Andreas, coming 3rd, and the "Stevenage team", Bradley, Jasmine and Jemma, coming 1st! These three will now go onto represent Hertfordshire in the Regional finals next term. All students behaved impeccably throughout the day and were a real credit to our school!

All are invited to the REP Carol Concert on Thursday 13th December. Doors open 6:30pm ready for a 7:00pm start. We are pleased to welcome Allan Robinson and his brass band to accompany carols. There will be performances by the Lonsdale choir, REP Music Therapy Group and the Thursday REP students. Hot chocolate and mince pies will be served after. Please email csumner@lonsdale.herts.sch.uk or dlancaster@lonsdale.herts.sch.uk to confirm numbers so we can ensure we have enough seating available. We look forward to seeing you!

Primary News

Ash: Ash Class visited Mead Open Farm this week to see Father Christmas and make food for his reindeer so they don't get hungry in the weeks ahead. We have started to decorate our classroom and made lots of decorations using different shapes. We have learned about the letter 'l', read lots of Christmas stories, also decorated gingerbread men and counted the buttons. Rehearsals for our Christmas play have been going really well, we are looking forward to everyone coming along to watch.

Birch: Birch Class have been busy preparing more props and learning songs for our Christmas play this week. The children are doing so well, and have some great dance moves for you all to see! In English we have worked towards our individual targets for letters and sounds, and Miss Gregor has been very impressed with our phonic skills. In Maths, we have been experimenting with shapes and went on a 2D and 3D shape hunt! In Topic, we investigated rainbows and their connection to light. We then made our own rainbows. We have also begun planning our design for the Christmas table centrepiece competition! We hope you had a great weekend, and we look forward to seeing lots of you for our Christmas performance later this week!

Elm: This week the children have been in full swing rehearsing for this week's Primary Nativity play. The children are very excited and are looking forward to sharing the story with their parents and carers. In RE the children have been learning about the Jewish festival Hanukkah. They enjoyed making chocolate coins in Cooking and playing the dreidel game. The children have been counting Hanukkah candles. The children have written their letters to Father Christmas which have been posted via the Royal Mail. We hope to get a



Primary News

reply from Father Christmas. The Funky Pie group have been working on their inspirations project identifying someone who inspires them.

Oak: In Literacy, Oak Class have finished their persuasive speeches and delivered a very strong and well-spoken speech- so much so that Miss Rose has decided that all pupils should have the chance to visit Space. In Numeracy, children developed their knowledge of tallies and bar graphs by asking the school what they are most looking forward to in the holidays- presents and sleeping came out top! In Topic, we made a moon slider to monitor the moon at night. In Cooking, we made biscuits and decorated them with raisins to make a star constellation. In Art and Life Skills, we have planned and started to make our table decoration ready for the Christmas Dinner.

Secondary News

CF: In Science, pupils have started to conduct some food tests to find out the food groups they contain, e.g. starch, glucose, protein etc. In Creative they have begun to prepare their own place mats for the Christmas lunch and table decoration competition. The book study (Grandpa's Great Escape) has continued. All pupils have contributed to the class reading, and it has been a real pleasure to see their confidence with reading aloud grow and improve over the weeks. They have also learned some FACTS, FACTS, FACTS! about WWII aeroplanes and begun to write an article or missing poster to help find Grandpa. In Maths, pupils have developed their knowledge and skills with different types of graphs and charts and are developing their skills in understanding continuous or discreet data.

JB: In BTEC ICT, the students are working on completing their Task 1 coursework, looking at websites and how they work. Once completed, they continued design and making their own website to sell mobile phones and their accessories, as stipulated by the examination board. In Tuesday's Art session, 4JB began studying Perspective, the work of 15th Century architect Filippo Brunelleschi (founder of perspective theory in Art), and started creating a One-Point Perspective view on paper. Outside, they observed some effects of perspective: that things look appear smaller the further away they are, that things look lighter in the distance and do not seem so clear, and that things sometimes have a bluish appearance, the further away they are. With their drawings, they made a promising technical start to the exploration of this essential idea in Art and Design, that will later be employed with more creative applications. This week in PHSCE, pupils learned about money advice, different types of accounts and interests rates; pupils had to advise lottery winners of the best way to spend and save their winnings. Students have been calculating averages in Maths and determining when mean, median or mode are the most appropriate calculation to make. In Biology they have been learning how to tell the difference between mitosis and meiosis and the characteristics of each.

JW: Pupils learned about some dress rules and customs across a variety of different faith groups and cultures. They found some common themes, for example modesty of dress to avoid gaining attention. They have then chosen a group to research and create a fact file presentation on in their working groups. This week, 3JW have been exploring all things Grinch-y by looking at the Dr Seuss classic 'How the Grinch Stole Christmas' and exploring its themes and characters. In our ICT lessons, we have been creating some interactive advent calendars, and in our Creative lessons, we have made some festive decorations. We have also had a go at using Roman numerals in Maths and have continued to look at the human body in Science by exploring the heart as well as something very important to us all – getting a good night's sleep.

MB/SH: Last week pupils made a fantastic non-fiction book about uniforms for people who help us. This week, they have listened to several chapters of the Roald Dahl favourite 'Charlie and the Chocolate Factory'. They have discussed the family, setting and designed a new chocolate bar. Next week, we will read more. In Science, they continued work on Seasons and made their own weather forecast, which they then presented. In Creative, they have been painting trees and making a snowman for our table decorations for Christmas Dinner Day. Reminder: If you have any decorations you would like to donate, they would be much appreciated. In Maths, we have been learning about money in preparation for our Christmas shopping trip to the Howard Centre in Welwyn Garden City.



Secondary News

MW: This week, the students completed their non-fiction books in English. In Maths we have made a start on refreshing our money skills, and in K & U we have learnt about wedding outfits in different cultures. We all thoroughly enjoyed our Christmas shopping trip on Monday. The children had great pleasure choosing your gifts - we hope you all like them! In Science we looked for pictures that represent the four different seasons, and then looked at the five senses. In Dance this week, pupils finalised their learning of 'Do You Want to Build A Snowman?' using props and costumes to bring the dance alive. Pupils learned how to use acting within a dance to tell a story and really enjoyed their cotton wool ball snowball fight as part of the dance.

SP: In Science students have been working on individual projects and have spent time this week completing them. They have continued to develop and extend their knowledge about Seasons and the Sun, Moon and Earth. We have enjoyed learning about life on the International Space Station. In Maths, we have been looking at addition using partitioned numbers. During our ICT lessons, we have continued looking at databases, most notably paper-based databases, using the books in our school library. During our English lessons, we have been trying to develop our imaginations and develop our superhero/villain characters giving them a back story. Those students participating in the BTEC Drama qualification sampled a full day of dress rehearsals, in preparation for their examination.

Upper

5LH: This week, the students continued developing their websites, placing buttons, banners and ensuring the website works, ready for information to be placed upon it. In BTEC Drama, pupils completed a day of dress rehearsals for their exam next week. Pupils worked really hard to develop movement, gesture and facial expressions to create a naturalistic character. In Maths, 5LH have been revising their understanding of odd and even numbers and looking at how and why we might need to find the difference between two numbers. In ASDAN they have been considering how human beings can help the environment and undo some of the damage we have caused.

5SN: In Cooking this week, we learned how to make Sweet Potato and Chorizo soup, learning how to blend the chopped ingredients to make the soup. It was yummy! As part of ASDAN 'Out and About', pupils went to Marriotts' Café to have their break, pupils developed their understanding of safety when going out and using money skills. As part of our sporting links, some of our class went to the Boccia tournament. The team came 1st!

REP

On Monday in REP, the Rotary Club visited us, they decorated some Christmas ornaments for our tree with the pupils. We then had a special guest, "Father Christmas", who delivered some lovely toys and gifts for REP, all pupils were very excited and had fun opening the presents. We were then treated to a chicken dinner from the Rotary Club; a great time was had by all! On Thursday, a group of Cubs visited and entertained the pupils with a song from 'The Greatest Showman', but rather than singing, they were all signing the words, they had obviously been practising extremely hard. Afterwards, the Cubs had the opportunity to spend time with the pupils in REP playing different games, some were on the Xbox, some on the air-hockey and pool table, and as you can see in the picture some enjoyed being creative with the playdoh. The pupils in REP thoroughly enjoyed their visit, and are looking forward to seeing them again.





Christmas is coming, and we want to give big!

Thanks to our generous supporters and the hard work of our mobility team, *wait times are shorter than ever before*, allowing my AFK to provide even more life-changing mobility equipment for under 25's.

Now is the perfect time to apply for a specialist trike or wheelchair!

To apply, all you need is:

1. Completed application form
2. Supporting letter from your Occupational Therapist or physiotherapist
3. A quote for the equipment you need (your OT or physiotherapist can help arrange this)

For more information, visit our website www.my-afk.org or contact us at mobilityservices@my-afk.org or call 0208 347 8111.



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