



Learning @ Lonsdale

Weekly Newsletter: Friday 15th 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 at 1.30pm

All term dates can be found on our website.

Whole School News

This week's swimmers of the week are Ollie S for great independent swimming, and Ollie T for excellent swimming and giving fantastic demonstrations in the water. Well done to both!

Letters have gone home this week regarding the photo shoot taking place in school on Friday 22nd June. Please can all permission letters be sent back in to school by Wednesday 20th June, alternatively please email jbrush@lonsdale.herts.sch.uk to give—or refuse—permission for your child to be included.

This week some of our pupils went to an English lesson at Marriotts, one of them wrote: *The class was reading 'Our Day Out' and it was a book about the progress of a class of children who had problems reading and writing and were going on a trip. The class were acting out the book, it was very fun, and we enjoyed it a lot. The lesson was fun, and I loved taking part. I found the book very funny (and a bit rude!) and enjoyable.*

We had first email contact from our international partner schools in New Zealand and Germany to let us know that our letters and parcels had arrived. They also reached Finland and the US. The Finnish schools are already on their summer holidays. We are looking forward now to receiving their replies.

A lot of work from all staff is going on behind the scenes to prepare transitions, work on class groups and the timetable for next school year. Teachers and pupils have started working on the end-of-year reports. You will receive more information over the coming weeks, and the reports will be with you from the 10th July

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: This week Ash Class have been practicing their gross and fine motor skills and also their counting and ordering skills. The children have enjoyed talking about which superhero they would like to be and what super powers they would like to have. They have also read another Supertato book and talked about the story. We joined with Birch Class for Cookery and made delicious pea soup and bread. The highlight of our week was the visit to the zoo, which everyone enjoyed very much. We are now writing letters to the Rotary Club to thank them for our trip.

Birch: This week in Birch Class we have continued our superheroes topic through phonics, identifying initial sounds and naming some superheroes. In cooking, we defeated 'Evil Pea' from the Supertato books by making pea soup! The children have worked really hard in PE building core strength and practicing some sensory relaxation and mindfulness. We had a lovely time at Whipsnade on Wednesday and have been painting and writing thank you letters to the Rotary Club. Birch and Ash Classes have been working together for music, theming animal songs with our trip to Whipsnade Zoo.

Primary News

Elm: The children joined with Oak Class for Science. They had lots of fun making beans bounce on a drum. They predicted what would happen to the beans when the drum was played quietly and loudly. The children also experimented with sand on the drum and predicted and tested what they thought would happen when the drum was played. They tested their hearing playing various blindfold guess-who-or-what games. In Literacy the children have been practising their reading joining in the class book 'Floppy the Hero' and 'What a Bad Dog'. They have been developing their segmenting and blending skills to read 'at' and 'ad' word-family words. The children all contributed to a Thank You letter to the Rotary Club for organising the Whipsnade visit. In Number they have been ordering numbers to 20. The children worked with Oak Class for Music, and both classes demonstrated excellent musicianship learning a new song, clapping the rhythm and playing the melody on tuned percussion.

Oak: Oak Class joined with Elm for Science and Music, see above (Elm news). In Creative they looked at their designs for a moving super vehicle and have planned what materials they will need next week. In Maths they have been working on identifying and writing out fractions of shapes. Everyone in Oak Class enjoyed the trip to Whipsnade and had a wonderful time!

CF: Over the last week, pupils have been reviewing their prior learning of the water cycle. We have linked this in both, Geography and Science, as the pupils are learning about rivers and plants respectively. They are examining the processes of changing states (the effects of heat and cold on liquids and solids and how this relates to the water cycle). In Creative, pupils have begun to develop skills in reproducing an art work to scale, e.g. by using a grid to double the size of a picture one square at a time. Pupils continue to use Education City to explore their computing skills in writing and using analogues as well as developing their general digital literacy through targeted exercises.

LM: 3LM have had a great time using the 'Beamz' programme in Music this week. We have talked about how music creates and affects mood. We layered different instruments, beats and melodies together by breaking laser beams with our arms or feet. The students have also taken part in team games to develop accuracy and communication skills.



Secondary News

MB/SH: In Literacy, the class has been using their phonic knowledge to make up names for aliens they have designed and have created some fantastic 'wanted' posters. In Science, they have carried out experiments to test the strength of materials. They used sand and rock as a base for a house and tested to see which was stronger. In Maths, they have been learning about time zones across the world, so if you have family or friends living abroad, you could reinforce this work by discussing this, for example, while we're having dinner, your cousins will be getting ready for bed. The pupils take part in Food Tech every Thursday, either cooking or preparing food. Please could you ensure that finger nails are always short & clean for this lesson. Thanks to those who have already made their payment for the sailing trip on 27th June. For those who haven't yet, please could you log onto 'Gateway' and make your payment soon. Thank you!

MW: In Maths this week we have been learning about time zones around the world and finding out what is happening when, for example when we are having lunch. It would be great if you could reinforce this if you have friends or family living / working abroad. In English we used our phonic knowledge to create names for aliens visiting from outer space. We then designed a wanted poster for the one which got left behind! Thank you to those who have paid for the forthcoming sailing trip; if you haven't paid, please can you do so. In PSHCE learners participated in a first aid workshop, learning and developing their awareness, knowledge and understanding of what do if they or someone they are with becomes injured. Everyone really enjoyed this new experience.



Secondary News

SP: Both, BTEC Drama and Drama Students have started to rehearse for their Showcase performance. The show is a celebration of their voice and movement skills and will comprise of monologues, duologues and group improvised piece. This week the class have continued looking at how to write a diary extract involving emotions with Mr Billam in English. In Science, we have started to look at sound, air movement and sound waves, and learnt how our ears work. With Mrs Brown, the class have been looking at different materials and their uses. For Knowledge and Understanding (K&U), we have begun looking at tourism: What is tourism, why do people like doing different things on holiday and tourist attractions in the UK and around the world.

In PE Mrs Kelly's class worked on athletics, specifically sprinting. They did wheelchair races and races for runners and timed themselves using the ipads. The class also did the relay, and this week the girls team won, Lana bringing home the gold baton! Mrs Kelly's other class did gym, balancing and stretching. Chasya managed to hold her balance really well, and Andres had his first lesson and proved he can access the wall bars, beams and all the gym equipment.



5JB: The Functional Skills group have been finalising individually designed creative and comprehension-based pieces. In addition, students have reviewed their reports and devised their own comments. Two members of 5JB sat their GCSE Biology paper 2 on Monday; we now have to wait until August to find out their results. The other students carried out two pieces of practical work - one to test for starch in a variegated ivy leaf, the other was an investigation into the effects of light intensity on photosynthesis in pondweed. The students were better than the adults at spotting the bubbles of oxygen as they left the leaves.

5LH: This week we will continue to study the opening section of 'Ratburger' by David Walliams. We will extend our character-based comprehension questions, centred on close reading of sections of the text, including group and pair discursive work prior to individual written responses. In addition, one student will practise and revise in preparation for taking a Functional Skills English exam. As part of their ASDAN unit 'Environmental Awareness', learners have been demonstrating that they have learnt thus far in the unit by starting to create a plan of action to help their environment both at school and at home/REP. Learners will complete their actions weekly and keep a photo diary. Learners will also have to analyse how their actions will have had a positive impact on both environments. BTEC Drama Students have started to rehearse for their Showcase performance, the show is a celebration of their develop voice and movement skills and will comprise of monologues, duologues and group improvised piece.

5SN: Students completed comprehension-based reading tasks centred on an explanation of what the World Cup involves. Several drama-based activities were used to support the reading, including a knock out round. Students have been learning about personal safety in their ASDAN 'Keeping Safe' unit; learners were able to correctly identify possible hazards when they go out and about and measures they can take to minimise the risk of these hazards. In Drama, the class have been developing heir improvisation skills and learning how to stay in role. Each learner has been able to improvise without much support which is a great achievement.

Upper

REP

In REP this week, some pupils went out for a birthday celebration. They had chosen bowling followed by a meal at Pizza Hut, they all had a great time. Four pupils went off to Henlow Lake Bridge for their camping expedition as part of their Bronze DofE Award. The weather was great, and all the pupils worked extremely well together putting up the tent and cooking the evening meal as well as breakfast the following morning. For a couple of them, this was their first time camping, and we don't think it will be their last.