

Learning @ Lonsdale



Weekly Newsletter: Issue 5: Friday 9th February 2018

<p>Dates for your Diary</p>	<p>Monday 26th February to Friday 2nd March—Health and Wellbeing Week Friday 23rd March—Parent / Carers Afternoon Tea, 2pm to 3pm Thursday 29th March—End of Spring Term, 1.30pm</p>
<p>Whole School News</p>	<p>Swimmer of the Week is Clau—well done!</p> <p>We are looking forward to celebrating Health and Wellbeing Week next week with a variety of offers to learn about mental health, safety and wellbeing and to engage in physical and relaxing activities. Even our catering company will have some healthy and tasty surprises in store.</p> <p>Houses have started rehearsals for the Dance and Drama House Competition this week. Each House will choreograph and perform a given dance, which will be judged by independent judges at the end of March.</p> <p>World Book Day, 'Share a story', Thursday 1st March. Pupils can dress as a favourite character from a book, and bring £1 to donate to Book Aid. We are looking for volunteers to come to school to share a story, story bag, read a book or talk about a favourite book on 1st March, if you are interested please email lmichael@lonsdale.herts.sch.uk. On Monday 12th March we will be welcoming Matt Dickinson, author, explorer, and filmmaker. He has written the 'Mortal Chaos' series, The Everest Files and many more. He will give a presentation to the whole school and then lead a creative writing workshop for a small group.</p> <p>A plea to our parents—do you have green fingers and do you have a couple of hours a week to spare? As you know we have many indoor plants in school however classes are struggling to care for them and some of our plants are looking in need of some TLC. Please look out for a letter being sent home next week giving more information.</p>
<p>Primary News</p>	<p>Birch Class have begun their new topic 'Save Our Planet' by looking for signs of growing plants around the school environment. The children have decorated pots in preparation for planting seeds to grow their own flower. In Maths they have begun to explore counting in 2's. In Literacy the children worked on making a 'Get Well Soon' card. They had some lovely ideas on what to include. The children have been exploring different types of slime with lots of enthusiasm! In assembly the children learned about the Chinese New Year.</p> <p>Oak Class have been excited to learn about their new topic- 'Save the Environment'! We have looked at how plastic and rubbish are destroying our seas and land and how they effects animals. In Literacy we have started to plan a persuasive letter to change the effects and in Art have learned different ways to make a model to highlight what is happening to our land and seas. In Topic we have been learning about how soil is made up. We had an exciting time seeing a Fire Engine on Wednesday (doing normal checks) and had a go at playing on the walkie talkies and wearing helmets.</p> <p>Ash Class have started their new topic and are reading the story of Jack and the Beanstalk. They have looked at the plants around school and have started painting pictures of leaves to make their own beanstalk.</p>
<p>Secondary News</p>	<p>CF: This week in Creative we have started some drama work, looking at characterisation, sets and the back story to Bugsy Malone. This film examines the themes of friendship, self belief and resolving conflict through humour. In Science we are learning about electrical circuits - their components, diagrams and how they work. In K&U we continue to study 'About Britain' and compare rural and urban living.</p> <p>LM: We started a new topic in Drama, Bugsy Malone. We looked at the context of the film and tried some chair duets. The students really enjoyed interacting</p>

Secondary News

with one another. In English we studied advertising slogans and thought about comparative and superlative adjectives. The class worked hard to come up with their own slogans. In Science pupils investigated the difference between the air we breathe in and the air we breathe out. We used limewater to show the carbon dioxide in breathed-out air.

MBSH: In English this week the class have enjoyed our story 'There's no such thing as a dragon'. They have worked on comprehension, story order and character description. All have worked really hard making a simple film in Computer lesson by moving objects and taking photos. In Science they all did well recalling information about photosynthesis. In Creative pupils have started to design a mosaic and enjoyed joining Post 16 to share what they have learnt about rhythm and beat through drumming. The class were part of a team representing Hertfordshire at the Eastern Region Multisport Final in Harlow. There was strong competition from teams from Essex, Cambridgeshire & Suffolk and we took fourth place after a fun but exciting competition. Participants were presented with their medals and pictures will be shown in assembly.

MW: We had a very enjoyable visit to the Garden Centre on Monday buying surprise gifts and items for our next science lesson. In English we listened to the story of "There's no such thing as a dragon", answered questions and talked about character descriptions. In Maths we created our own patterns to go with our surprise gift! As there was no Funky Pie session this week we used the time in school to practice our instruments and update our journals. We also finished our wall display of a volcano. In PSHCE students have been learning about personal hygiene and why it is important for their health. Students conducted a experiment to see how germs spread their hands are dirty. We will analyse the results next week

SP: In Science students learned about Herbivores, Omnivores and Carnivores, in English students have started to learn persuasive language. In Maths the class continue to work on Entry level papers. Some Students took part in a Drama workshop from the Gordon Craig Theatre, developing Acting Skills, Characterisation and Drama Techniques.

Upper

5LH: Students have started to learn about what new-born babies need as part of their ASDAN unit 'Parenting Awareness'. BTEC Drama students participated in a Drama Workshop by Practitioners from The Gordon Craig Theatre, Stevenage. In Numeracy we had great fun estimating the capacity of containers and then trying various measuring jugs to see which ones we could read most easily. We knew about talking scales, but didn't know that you could get talking measuring jugs too.

5JB: Students were visited by Ross Robinson during their PHSCE lesson. He spoke about his experiences of learning to drive, going to college and getting a job as a person with additional needs. Students looked at his adapted vehicle, which he drives from accessing his vehicle from the rear and driving his chair up to the steering wheel, where it locks into position. Students found Ross' advice very valuable, as he told them key information about processes involved in becoming an adult. In Biology we have been investigating the components of blood and also using our maths skills to analyse data about the effects of lifestyle on development of non-communicable diseases. FS Skills English students have continued to develop comprehension skills; GCSE students have been focusing on exam preparation.

5SN: In Dance, students learned a Hawaiian style dance, learning where Hawaii is and what principles Hawaiian dances are based on. This is continuing to develop students ability to follow directions, keep time and co-ordinate their movements. In English students studied a simple story based on crossing the English Channel, they researched around the topic and completed a series of reading/listening based activities.

REP

This week pupils on the Independent Flat have planned a birthday celebration at TGI on Thursday evening. Together they chose this restaurant taking in to account all pupils likes and dislikes, they then had to contact TGI to book a table and ask for a table for 10 people, 4 of whom will be in wheelchairs. They chose to be at the restaurant for 5pm and were asked to give a name and a contact telephone number to secure the booking. The pupil making the phone call was very courteous ensuring she spoke clearly and gave all the information required.