

Learning @ Lonsdale



Weekly Newsletter: Friday 14th September 2018

Dates for your Diary

Monday 17th September—Friday 21st September—Upper School Trip to Bendrigg
 Friday 28th September—Macmillan Coffee Morning (time TBC)
 2nd—3rd October—'This Special Moment Photography' in school
 Wednesday 17th October—Parents' Evening
 Monday 29th October—Friday 2nd November—Half Term

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 Donte for fantastic swimming and excellent listening—well done!

We have had a fantastic first full week at school. The children have settled in really well, and our new pupils are finding their way around and making lots of new friends.

May we ask that all items of uniform and equipment are labelled with your child's name so they don't get lost or misplaced? Please also label carrier bags and personal care items which come in with transport in the morning.

On 2nd and 3rd October 'This Special Moment Photography' will be coming in to school to take student photos. We were all very happy with the pictures last year and so have asked them to return again; photographs will be available to purchase following the photo shoot.

Mrs Thiele sent home a letter last week about the International School Award, which Lonsdale has recently joined. The letter explains that we are trying to establish links with other schools across the world and already have pen pals in New Zealand, Grenada, Germany, Finland and the United States. To enable your child to be a part of this project we need to obtain consent to use photos, videos and Skype (or similar) links. If you have not already returned the letter giving this consent, please do so as soon as possible as everybody is looking forward to this very exciting project. Please let Mrs Thiele or your class teacher know if you need a paper copy of the letter.

Primary News

Ash: This week Ash Class have been continuing to develop new friendships inside their classroom and also throughout the whole school. They have experimented with paint and have created some amazing self portraits, they also made delicious fairy cakes. In Maths the children have started to learn about shapes and have looked for different shapes in the sensory room. In English they have listened to lots of different stories and rhymes as well as listening to different sounds and identifying them.

Birch: It has been a busy and fun during the first full week back for Birch Class! The children have settled back into learning really well! All the children have been working hard on their individual targets in Phonics, English and Maths. We have been learning about each other as part of our topic work by communicating our likes and dislikes, choosing friends to share experiences with and talking about friendship. In Art, we used mirrors to paint self portraits. The children worked so hard to make careful choices and painted a beautiful display of pictures for our classroom wall. On Thursday, we joined Ash Class for music and movement, and cooked Theo's cheesy pasta and garlic bread recipe on Friday.



Primary News

Elm: Elm Class have had an apple-themed week. The children began on Monday exploring apples using their senses and created a word bank of describing words linked to each of the senses. Later in the week, the children used these words to support writing their own senses poem about apples. They used apples to make apple prints, then rolled dice to find how many pips to paint on each apple shape. The children threaded wool through holes on an apple shape to help develop their fine motor skills. In RE the children have been learning about celebrating the Jewish New Year. In Music they worked hard to perform a round using a song about a human drum kit. During the week there have been lots of examples of the children helping and supporting each other in class and during playtime.

Oak: Oak Class have been busy in Literacy looking at letters and addresses ready to start planning their own next week. In Numeracy we have looked at capacity and working out missing numbers in sequences. In Life Skills we have tie-dyed bags ready for our first trip in a couple of weeks. In PE we have practised our underarm throw technique ready for a Boccia game in a couple of weeks.

Secondary News

CF: This week pupils have looked at fashions over the decades from the 1960s onwards and listened to some music from different periods- they have been able to spot that styles of today are very similar to previous fashion periods (Creative). In Maths, pupils have been consolidating their knowledge of number place values. In KU, we have recapped the water cycle and looked at the main climate zones around the world and discussed the difference between climate and weather. In Science we have begun to investigate the properties of forces.

JB: Some students have resumed lessons at Marriotts in new classes, which they are enjoying immensely. In Biology they are studying the intricacies of Homeostasis and the nervous system with some fun testing of reaction times on the computer. In Maths they are getting to grips with ordering numbers up to 1,000,000, negative numbers and decimals. This week students have been learning about Christianity in their RE lesson developing their knowledge and understanding of the history of the faith, denominations and key beliefs and practices. Within PSHCE students have started to learn about Sex Education, and within Film Studies students have started to study the history of film and genre.

JW: After a fantastic start to the new school year, the class have continued to make me and the new students feel very welcome. This week we have been learning about our new topic "Clothes" by looking at different musicians from the 1940s up to the present day. In English we've used some imaginative adjectives to describe a giant's clothes, and in Science we have been finding out about different sorts of materials. The class also had their first swimming session of the year, which was enjoyed by everyone.

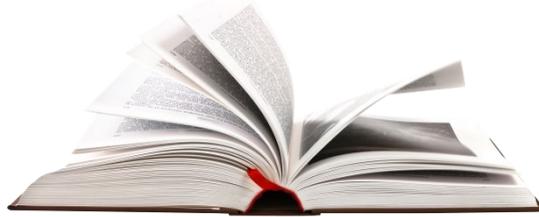
MB/SH: In English the class has been learning about rhyming words in the story "The Smartest Giant in Town." This ties in with our new topic "Clothing". In K&U they have revisited some basic map and globe work, identifying land and sea, terms such as the northern and southern hemisphere and then looked at the climate zones cold, temperate, warm and tropical. This will also have links with appropriate clothing for each zone in future lessons. The Maths, number work started with a counting exercise based on some of the different emoji faces as well as practical counting of items in the classroom. For those pupils focusing on number up to ten or up to twenty, please use any opportunity to count aloud at home to reinforce their learning.

MW: This week 3MW have read "The Smartest Giant in Town" in their English lessons and have identified rhyming words and characteristics of the characters. In Maths we have been developing our number skills, and in Science we have recapped our basic understanding of materials, identifying the different types of material and finding objects around the school. In Cooking we enjoyed making cheese and courgette muffins - we hope they were tasty! Please can you ensure that any voluntary contributions towards our cooking lessons are made on the school Gateway system by Friday 28th September?



Secondary News

SP: In Science this week the students supported another class with a revision of the different types of materials. They also learnt whether the materials were opaque, translucent or transparent. In the second lesson we tested everyday objects for their hardness, magnetism, flexibility and transparency and ranked our results. In Drama this week, students have started to develop their knowledge and understanding of Drama techniques and improvisation focusing on creative, independent thinking and body control. For their Maths lessons, some of the class have been looking at Functional Skills Maths and how to answer written questions or developing their addition skills. In English, we have looked at reading for comprehension and being able to answer questions on what we have read, working towards being able to understand what has been implied. In Drama this week, students have started to develop their knowledge and understanding of Drama techniques and improvisation focusing on creative, independent thinking and body control.



Upper

LH: Have started two different ASDAN topics and in one have started to consider the implications of human effects on the environment, which led to a discussion about the food miles involved in eating a banana. In the other, they are busy researching products that they could buy and customise to make a profit by selling them at the school's Christmas Fair.

SN: In Numeracy this week, students have been developing their understanding of number to 10 and 20, including addition and subtraction with the use of Numicon. Within ASDAN, students have been learning about human rights, their rights and why having rights is important.

In BTEC Drama, students have started Unit 2, 'Performance and Production'. Learners are required to adapt a well-known fairy tale into a modern performance. This week students developed a story line and characters; Prince Charming is not what he seems....

REP

This week in REP, the pupils on the Independent Flat have been planning their 'Greet and Meet' evening for parents, where a sumptuous spread will be provided. For this, the pupils have been looking into what to buy and how to shop economically. Some of the REP students are getting ready for their Bendrigg activity trip next week—please keep an eye on the website for updates and photos of all the fun and activities taking place.

