# Learning @ Lonsdale

## Weekly Newsletter — Thursday 2nd December 2021

# Information and Dates for your Diary

Please see below some diary dates for you:

Occasional Celebration Day Friday 3rd December 2021

In-School Christmas Fair 10th December 2021

In-School Christmas Dinner 16th December 2021

End of Term 17th December 2021

Staff Inset Day 5th January 2022, Pupils return to School 6th January 2022

Please note that all EHCP Annual Reviews will have the option to be conducted remotely via Teams or telephone or can be attended in person. A list of dates for the academic year can be found on the website.



Christmas is approaching fast, and we have decided this year to donate toys instead of writing individual cards. We support 'TOYSHED'. If you would like to join us, please see the flyer on page 7.

Should you fancy a panto from home, please enjoy 'Aladdin'. To access the online panto, go to: <a href="https://www.theatre-online.com/watch-aladdin">https://www.theatre-online.com/watch-aladdin</a> or <a href="https://www.thea

# Whole-School News



Lonsdale was able to host the 'Travelling Crib' from our local church this week. Figures of Mary & Joseph have spent an overnight visit with us, representing their journey to Bethlehem during advent. They will be visiting other homes and schools in our local community in the coming weeks. Pupils have enjoyed seeing the 'Travelling Crib' in school. Next week is our in-school Christmas Fair. All classes have been busy making products to sell. We'd like to remind parents, carers and friends that raffle tickets for our Christmas Fair raffle are also on sale now at £1 for a strip of 5 tickets. We have lots of lovely prizes (see the photos on page 4) such as chocolates, boxes of biscuits, bottles of wine, cookery books, scarves, toiletries, a fish and chips meal, a car wash voucher, Hollywood bowl tickets, 7 day passes for Stevenage Leisure, free car wash, full set of gels and lots more. Lots of local businesses contributed prizes as well as staff. Please send money in a named envelope FAO Mrs Brown.



#### Dolphin Class:

This week in Dolphin Class the children have enjoyed learning about how to brush their teeth. We have read and listened to several different teeth-brushing stories and then used the model teeth and brush to practice. The children bought in their own toothbrush and paste and showed us how they brush their teeth. They have ordered pictures to make brushing-teeth books and enjoyed the 'Hey Duggee' brush teeth song. We have also been getting ready for our Christmas nativity, with lots of practicing going on. Next week, we will move onto Christmas activities, so lots of glitter:-)



#### **Bumblebee Class:**

This week in the Bumblebee Class the children enjoyed getting into the Christmas spirit. We have been practicing our Nativity, learning our songs and have started to record all of our scenes. The Bumblebees decorated the class Christmas tree, wrote letters to Santa in PBL and in RE learnt about Chanukah (the Jewish festival of light). In Art we made salt-dough Christmas ornaments and created our background for our nativity scenes.

## Primary News



#### Owl Class:

Things turned very festive in Owl Class. They decorated the tree and the classroom and worked hard to practise and film the part for the Christmas play. They worked hard in PE to relax and made hot-chocolate in Cooking. The pupils all visited the 'Traveling Crib', which stopped by at Lonsdale this week. The Owl pupils also started to make the products they will sell at the Christmas Fair next week. So watch this space!



**Koala Class:** In Literacy we wrote our postcard detailing our adventures to our planet! In Numeracy we worked on number recognition and time. In Topic we created our own spaceship to take ourselves to our planets. In Cooking we developed our independence skills by making fruit smoothies. We have started preparations to film our Christmas Play, 'A Christmas Carol' - watch the space! We thoroughly enjoyed our Christmas Activity Day on Wednesday, decorating our tree, making paper chains and dancing on Elf Yourself!





# Secondary News







#### Wombat Class:

Last Friday we enjoyed some fun competitive challenges in Task Master with K & S Classes! This week we continue to read 'The Boy who Grew Dragons' and then learnt how o use comas when writing lists. In Science we carried out an experiment which showed how sound waves travel through the air to our ears. We used instruments to make lots of noise so we could see the rice move on the pot lid. In PE we all spent some time in our walkers moving around the hall. Instead of Life Skills this week, we reminded ourselves of the Christmas Story, as it was the first Sunday of Advent at the weekend. In Creative, the students completed the Wombat for the underpass project. It looks fantastic!

#### **Hippopotamus Class:**

As we've been experiencing some below-zero temperatures of late, in Maths, we've been focussing on negative numbers. We had a go at comparing positive and negative numbers using greater and less than symbols, as well as finding the difference between positive and negative numbers. In Science this week, we concluded our work on water resistance by holding a boat race! We found that the pointiest boats travelled the fastest through the water. In Geography this week, we planned a trip to Whitby (just a theoretical trip!) by finding out how long it would take to get there on the train and where we could stay. We also found out what we could do once we got there including a trip to the beach, the Whitby museum, and of course, no trip to Whitby would be complete without visiting the 'Dracula Experience'!

#### Sea Turtle Class:

We ended last week by competing against W and K Classes at some challenges in Task Master—we did very well! This week started with either a swim or reading / work on Education City. In Geography, we continued to do some work on maps, with the class answering questions about a map of a town. In Cooking, the class cooked some lovely-looking pies—I hope you enjoyed them! In Science, we continued to do some work on the '5 Ways to Well-Being', with students sharing the way that they would help their wellbeing using the 5 different elements. In Maths, we did some work on shapes. In Forest School, we brought the forest into our classroom by putting up and decorating our class Christmas tree! We also put some decorations up in the classroom. We ended the week by learning about the Jewish celebration of Hanukah.

#### Vaquita Class:

In English this week, pupils have been practising how to write a balanced argument using good and bad points to list ideas. We have continued with using money in Maths, and pupils have again played 'How rich is Fish today' and added all the notes and coins—mostly correctly:)



These are models that the pupils constructed on Monday. They collaborated in small groups and are clearly master builders. These skills require visual planning as well and use of their fine & gross motor skills. Well done, guys!

Gorilla Class:

In English, the class have continued listening to 'The Boy Who Grew Dragons'. Based on the characters' camping trip, the class has practised list-writing whilst learning about the use of commas. Most have also enjoyed the virtual Christmas Journey experience, resourced by St Hugh & St John—we hope we will be able to visit the church in person again next year. Others have been learning about the seasonal changes we can expect in winter. The class had lots of fun putting up the Christmas tree and Christmas decorations. The classroom looks very Christmassy. We got creative and made Christmas angels, which we hung in the classroom. In Maths we have been comparing amounts, using the words 'more' and 'fewer'.

#### **Tasmanian Devil Class:**

In Science we have been learning about how to look after our teeth and how our teeth can decay if we don't brush them. We have begun to investigate what kinds of drinks can be harmful and why. Next week we will be carrying out a experiment to see which drinks have the most sugar in them. In K&U we have been learning all about different types of clouds and rain, how they are formed and where they come from. We also looked at how much storm damage our weather stations suffered. In Maths we have been working on how to read temperatures and how to record data accurately. We have also been listening to Miss Huddleston present a lesson on 'Deaf Awareness' and how to help those with hearing loss. Lastly, Christmas has arrived in TD Class!!



This week Elephant's have been working hard on their weekend news, extending their work and practising asking and answering questions to each other. In Maths they have been working on number problems and in art they have been finalising their underpass project.

A fantastic week for Elephants!



#### Lynx Class:

**Elephant Class:** 

In English this week we have been practising our writing skills, spelling, punctuation and grammar by sending emails, writing messages and planning how we would send texts to different people. We continue to enjoy our swimming sessions every other week. During our Environmental Awareness topic we have started to look at ways in which we can reuse items rather than recycling and have found some good examples of classes reusing items to make products for the forthcoming Christmas Fair. We have been making reindeer and snowmen out of logs that we collected as our contribution to this event and hope that parents will like them.

# **Upper School** News

#### Panda Class:

This week in English we completed some practice papers to ascertain what we have learned so far. In Science we have been learning about chemical bondage. In ICT we have been completing our coding projects on 'Scratch', 'Our Code' and 'Python'. In 'Parenting Awareness' (PHSCE/RSE) we attended a virtual talk about pregnancy and bringing up young children. Using what we have learned, we will write the demands upon new parents for our coursework. Some of us had 'Driving School', we started to learn about road signs, learning about warning signs. We also practiced some hazard perception tests; we became very competitive.

































# Photo Page — Zoom into Brilliant Bits'







# Take a look at the Christmas

# Fair Raffle prizes!

























# Online Panto throughout December 2021



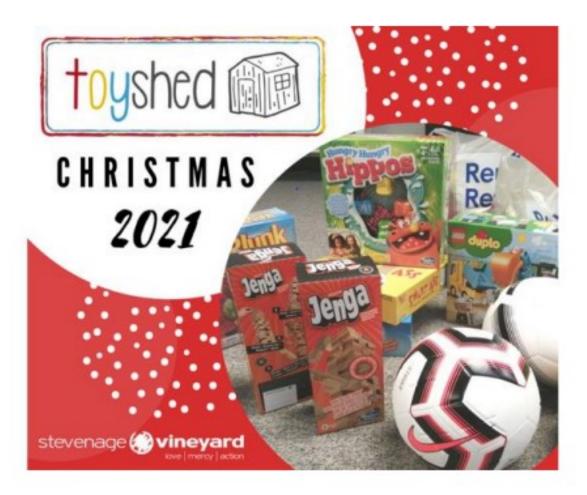
This production is available on more than one platform to make it as accessible as possible for everyone.

Theatre-Online WEBSITE: <a href="https://www.theatre-online.com/watch-aladdin">https://www.theatre-online.com/watch-aladdin</a> or

VIMEO: https://vimeo.com/648593076

Enter the unique password to access: Fes112ALD

# toyshed Donations



This year, as an alternative to exchanging Christmas Cards, Lonsdale School will be supporting toyshed which is in partnership with the Foodbank in Stevenage.

The toyshed enables vulnerable families and children to receive gifts and presents.

The charity requests brand new gifts, up to the value of £10, and not second hand or used gifts.

If you would like to donate, please can you either bring in a toy or cash donation to Leah McGrath in the Admin Office by

Monday 6th December 2021.

Hertfordshire Music Service would like to invite everyone, even if you or your family are not having music lessons, to tell them about your views and experience of music to improve what they offer. Please visit:

https://surveys.hertfordshire.gov.uk/s/ HMSHaveYourSay2021/

Thank you for your time.



# Hertfordshire County Council



**Youth Voice**: Hertfordshire Music Service want to know your views on music making, even if you don't learn an instrument. Visit:

https://surveys.hertfordshire.gov.uk/s/ HMSYouthVoice2021/

Thank you for your time.

# INCLUSIVE ACADEMY

DANCE SCHOOL



Offering inclusive dance sessions to those who rarely get offered the opportunity to dance!

Inclusive academy aims to give people who do not always get the opportunities to enjoy music, movement, and most of all, dance, the time to benefit from all three in an accepting environment.

Location: Community Arts Centre, Roaring Meg, Stevenage, Hertfordshire.

When: Term time Saturdays (timetable and term dates are on our website).





For more information or to show your support, check out our website and social media!

Website: inclusiveacademydanceschool.com

facebook: inclusive.academy

Instagram: @inclusive\_academy

▼ Twitter: @InclusiveAcade1

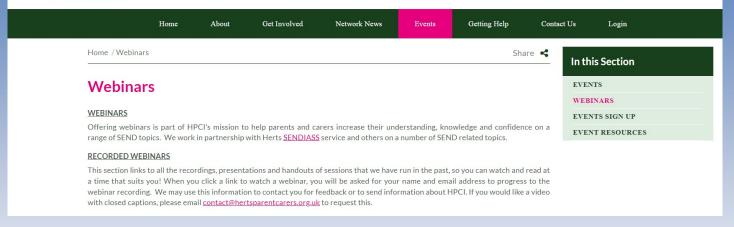
gofundme https://gofund.me/ea00025e

Inclusive Academy: Making Dance Accessible For All









To access the webpage and the recorded webinars, please click the link below:

https://www.hertsparentcarers.org.uk/webinars/

Home Training Parenting DISC Coaching Freebies Contact Shop Schedule



# **Natural Flair Coaching Limited**



Success Empowerment Confidence



# Secrets to Parenting Your Teen/Pre-Teen

There are six core workshops in all focusing on different areas of parenting teenagers. Participants are advised to attend all of the online workshops to achieve maximum benefit.

Areas covered include:

- Identify strategies to raise aspirations and boost self-esteem
- Looking at emotional needs and the development of the teenage brain
- · Temperament and its effect on behaviour
- The parent / young person relationship and why it's tough being a teenager
- Parenting styles and setting house rules/boundaries
- Issues around Teen Culture What to say about sex and sexuality
- Tools for supporting anxiety and building resilience
- · Communication what works and what doesn't

To access the webpage, please click the link below:

https://www.natural-flair.com/understanding-teens



# SEND DROP IN

3<sup>rd</sup> Monday in every month – 10.00 – 11.30am

Bedwell Family Centre, Unit 2-3 Bedwell Park, Stevenage, SG1 1NB

FREE bookable session

### SESSION DETAILS

Are you a Parent of a Child with Special Needs?

If so you will be very welcome to attend our SEND Drop In. You will have an opportunity to discuss any concerns you may have, find out information about local support groups, meet other families. Your child does not need to have had a formal diagnosis

We can provide a friendly ear and a safe space to talk.

Children are welcome to attend with you or you can attend on your own Children are welcome, no diagnosis needed.





### HOW TO BOOK

Log onto our Eventbrite page to book your place https://barnardosstevenage.eventbrite.co.uk

MORE INFORMATION hertsfamilycentres.org Call us on: 0300 123 7572



Believe in children

Barnardo's

# **TALKING ASD & ADHD WORKSHOP:**

## STAYING SAFE ONLINE

For parents and carers of children aged 2-25yrs with suspected or diagnosed Autistic Spectrum Disorder and/or Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder.





**Tuesday** 16th November 2021 9.30 - 11.30am

## We will help you to learn about:

How your child's diagnosis increases vulnerability online.

What you can do to support any difficulties with online behaviour.

Recognising when something is wrong.

Managing difficult conversations with confidence.

Setting and maintaining boundaries for online use.

Teaching your child to develop their own methods of regulating internet use and staying safe.

Where to access further help and support, both locally and nationally.

> "A tricky subject, really well explained. Thank you."

"The best Zoom experience I have had so far!"

An online parenting workshop delivered to your home via Zoom

Full details on how to access and use this will be offered.



**Open to parents and carers** across Hertfordshire Pre-booking essential via **Eventbrite** 

Talking ASD and ADHD: Staying safe online. For parents/carers in Herts. Registration, Tue 16 Nov 2021 at 09:30 | Eventbrite

**Or contact Supporting Links QUOTING REFERENCE SL424** 

01442 300185

info@supportinglinks.co.uk www.supportinglinks.co.uk

Follow on:







This workshop is provided free to parents by Hertfordshire County Council



### HPCI Autumn Term Webinars are free and open to book now!

SEN Support in Mainstream Schools – for families whose child may have a special educational need but does not have an EHCP.

Wednesday 8 September (10:00 - 11:00) or Thursday 9 September (19:30 - 20:30)

EHC Needs Assessments part 1 – What is an Education, Health and Care Needs
Assessment? Does my child need one and how do I request one?
Wednesday 15 September (10:00 – 11:00) or Thursday 16 September (19:30 – 20:30)

SEND Strategy – for parents and carers who are not able to attend one of the SEND Strategy Community events and would like to hear from Herts County Council about their proposals for a new SEND Strategy.

Friday 17 September (10:00 - 11:00) or Wednesday 29 September (19:30 - 20:30)

Understanding the Local Offer – this session will help you understand what the Local Offer is and how to navigate the website.

Friday 24 September (10:00 - 11:00)

Choosing a secondary school Wednesday 6 October (10:00 – 11:00)

Choosing a primary school
Wednesday 13 October (19:30 – 20:30)

EHC Needs Assessments part 2 – weeks 6-12 of the 20-week process Wednesday 20 October (10:00 – 11:00) or Thursday 21 October (19:30 – 20:30)

Tribunals part 1 – How to lodge your appeal
Tuesday 2 November (10:00 – 11:00) or Wednesday 3 November (19:30 – 20:30)

Making Meetings Matter Thursday 11 November (10:00 – 11:00)

#### **EHCP Annual Reviews**

Tuesday 16 November (10:00 – 11:00) or Wednesday 17 November (19:30 – 20:30)

Tribunals part 2 – After you have lodged your appeal

Tuesday 30 November (10:00 – 11:00) or Wednesday 1 December (19:30 – 20:30)

EHC Needs Assessments part 3 - Assessment Feedback / EHCP Planning meeting and beyond

Tuesday 7 December (10:00 - 11:00) or Wednesday 8 December (19:30 - 20:30)

For full details about each webinar, please visit www.hertsparentcarers.org.uk/webinars







# Contactline



A 'quick queries' service for parents, carers, and young people (16-25) in Hertfordshire

Please call if you would like to speak directly to an Educational Psychologist to discuss a child or young person's development, learning or emotional wellbeing, or to find out more about our service.







From September 2020 Contactline will be available Wednesday from 2:00pm to 4:30pm

If you are from an Educational setting and have a query, your school has a link Educational Psychologist with whom any requests for involvement can be raised.





# SEND Advice for Parents/Carers

Helpful SEND advice lines for Parents and Carers

Advice line	Times available (from Sept 2020)
Educational Psychology Contact line % 01992 588574	Weds 2pm - 4:30pm
SEND Specialist Advice and Support Service*  \$\frac{01442}{2} \frac{453920}{2} - \text{term time only}	Specific Learning Difficulties: Mon & Thurs 09:30am - 12pm
	Speech Language, Communication & Autism needs: Tues & Weds 1:30pm - 4pm
	Early Years: Weds 9am - 12pm Thurs 1:30pm - 4pm
	Physical and Neurological Impairment: Mon 1:30pm - 4pm
West team Attendance Duty*  \$ 01442 454778	Mon - Fri 09:30 am - 4pm
East team Attendance Duty*  § 01992 555261	Mon - Fri 09:30 am - 4pm

#### **Lateral Flow Testing at Lonsdale**

Up to one third of people who have coronavirus experience no symptoms. By testing, we will help to stop the virus spread and help to keep our school open as safely as possible. Testing is voluntary, but we as a school would encourage everyone to test regularly.

\* also available to schools, settings and professionals

Households, childcare and/or support bubbles who have children/adults that attend/work at schools can pick up home testing kits from local test sites or request home test kits to be delivered by visiting <a href="https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests">https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests</a>.

Lateral Flow Tests are preferably conducted up to twice a week with a minimum of 3 days and a maximum of 5 days between each test. If you would like to home-test your child, please test Sunday and Wednesday evenings so that results of these tests are ready prior to Monday and Thursday mornings.

All results from LFT need to be reported to the NHS, and this can be done by visiting the following website: <a href="https://www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result">https://www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result</a>.

Reporting results to school is no longer required.

If you need more LFT test kits, have any questions and/or queries related to LFT, please contact Andrew Perrett at aperrett@lonsdale.herts.sch.uk.

# Cyberbullying

# What is Cyberbullying and online Harassment?

- Cyberbullying is any form of bullying which takes place online.
- This can be done over smartphones, tablets, online gaming, chat rooms, social media and more.
- Online harassment is the act of sending offensive, rude and insulting messages and being abusive.
- If someone purposefully keeps sending you offensive messages that make you feel scared, it could be illegal.



- Bullying someone whether online or offline is wrong.
- It can badly affect their mental health.
- Harassing someone and/or sending malicious or threatening messages to someone repeatedly is ILLEGAL.
- If you are found to be cyberbullying someone, there could be criminal consequences.

# How to cope with the effects of Cyberbullying

- You must not blame yourself. Noone deserves to treated cruely by anyone.
- It can make you feel very upset, alone and like noone will understand or help you.
- REMEMBER you are not alone and there are lots of people who can help you. Make sure you tell someone and do not try to deal with this on your own.
- For confidential help and advice: NSPCC <u>nspcc.org.uk</u> or Bullying UK bullying.co.uk



## What to do if you are being cyberbullied

If someone is bullying you, here is what you can do to put a stop to it....get **SMART**.

5 creenshot any nasty messages.

My privacy settings.

Avoid talking to them any further.

Report the incident on whatever site you are using.

Talk to someone (parent, carer, teacher, friend or the police if necessary).

### When to tell the Police

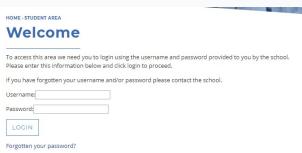
- If you are ever threatened with physical harm, being repeatedly harassed, being sent malicious messages.
- If it's not an immediate emergency, phone 101 or use our online webchat service.
- If it is an immediate emergency phone 999.

www.safe4me. co.uk/portfolio/ cvber-bullving/

safe4me

Visit the Student Area on our website www.lonsdale.herts.sch.uk! You can find lots of activities in the "All Sorts of Things..." tab. Daily Home Learning Plan can be found in your class area for pupils who are not attending school. You will also find weekly homework plans uploaded there.





Log on to find out more!

Then explore your class area and look at 'Ideas Shared by and for Parents'.

Maybe send your feedback?

