



Learning@Lonsdale

NEWSLETTER

Monday 11th December 2023

Whole School News

Christmas Fair and Carol Concert

Last week, the whole school joined in a Christmas-themed Day on Friday, with the Christmas Fair in the afternoon. Pupils had the opportunity to do some shopping as well as play some Christmas-themed games. The Fair raised £217, which will go back to the pupils for curriculum opportunities.

Another highlight was the Carol Concert on Thursday evening. About 70 guests enjoyed an evening of carols accompanied by the brass band, who visit Lonsdale every year.



Toyshed and Foodshed Donations

Thank you so much to everybody who kindly donated to our toy appeal and our Reverse Advent. All items have now been delivered to the charity's HQ and will be distributed to those in need shortly. Your kindness will make a big difference to families this Christmas.

Information & Dates for your Diary



14/15th December 2023 –
Primary Christmas Plays

19th December 2023 – Christmas
Dinner at Lonsdale

20th December 2023—End of
Term, Pupils go home at 1.30pm

8th January Inset Day, Pupils
return on 9th January 2024

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.

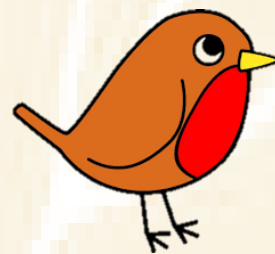


PRIMARY

News



Christmas has been the theme of the week in Robin class. In English we read and joined in with 'Santas busy Christmas eve sensory story'. In maths we have been counting snowballs and measuring Christmas trees. We have been practicing our Christmas play and enjoyed visiting the Christmas fair to play games and spend our money, some of us chose gifts for family. Yoga gave us time to relax and stretch and in music we completed our Christmas gifts while listening to Christmas music.



ROBIN CLASS

This week in Monkey Class we have been very busy practicing our Christmas play, learning lines and songs. We have been completing Christmas Maths activities and listened to the Christmas story. The children enjoyed creating a shadow puppet theatre show with animals. In PE they worked on ball skills and worked well in yoga. The Christmas Fair went well, with everyone choosing presents for family.



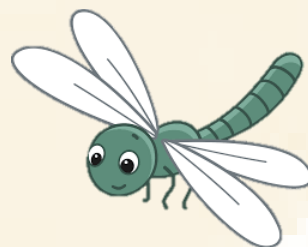
MONKEY CLASS

Alpaca class have had a busy week. We have enjoyed practising our songs and lines for our Christmas performance this week. We have finished our moving Christmas cards in D&T. Everyone had a wonderful time at the Christmas fair and enjoyed all the activities provided. We had fun decorating our room and putting up the Christmas tree. We worked hard in English completing our comprehension work. We also wrote our inserts for our Christmas cards.



ALPACA CLASS

Dragonfly Class have worked hard last week to practise their Christmas play. This week is their special performance on Friday, where they are all looking forward to perform to the whole school in the dress rehearsal and then to parents after their break. They also really enjoyed taking part in the Christmas Fair last Friday. They played the games and completed some of their Christmas shopping.



DRAGONFLY CLASS

In Literacy we have been practicing our Christmas Performance and are looking forward to performing it this week. In Numeracy we developed our understanding of 2D and 3D shape properties and tallies. In Science we looked at transparent, translucent and opaque and which made the best shadow. We enjoyed being a production line and making cards for the Christmas Fair and were excellent in manning the stall and helping other pupils. We enjoyed Taskmaster with Wombats and Sea Turtles completing a Christmas Quiz.



FALCON CLASS





SECONDARY

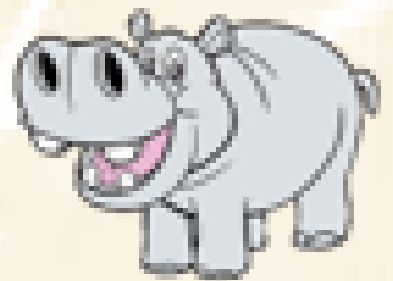
News

The Wombats enjoyed revisiting the Christmas Story and used our set of knitted Nativity figures to arrange the stable scene. This was good preparation for their visit to our local church where they were told the story by Mary & Joseph, the shepherds & the wise men. This included craft activities & singing, and we were presented with a star to hang up in our classroom. We had a sticky but fun morning following instructions to make a melted snowman. The children did a great job in our class assembly last week, all about Advent. We had a great time at the pantomime – Oh, yes we did!!



WOMBAT CLASS

The Hippos have had a great week! On Monday we continued our topic on Whitby, we compared the human geography in Stevenage and Whitby. In PSHCE, we had some discussions about consent, healthy relationships and how babies are made, which led perfectly into our learning in Science and which was related to the male and female reproductive systems. On Thursday we had a really exciting day where we made preparations for our Christmas Fair, we made 'Pin the tail on the Rudolph' and 'Pin the nose on the Rudolph', we watched 'Elf' whilst we made them to get us in a Christmas mood, the Christmas Fair was lots of fun! On Friday we joined with Falcon Class to help them with their Maths.



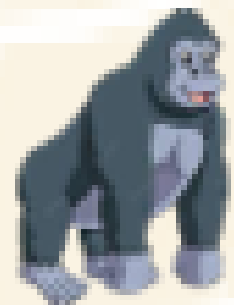
HIPPO CLASS

We began the week last week by putting up our Christmas tree! In Science, the class has been learning about muscles. In Computing, they learnt about stereotypes and the media. In PSHCE, we learnt about helpful and unhelpful thoughts. We talked about how these different thoughts make us feel. The students then designed a 'Thought Superhero', which lives in their head and fights against unhelpful thoughts! In Geography, we learnt about France, and we also learnt some French words. On Thursday, we had a lovely Christmas-themed day making Christmas cards and ornaments as well as enjoying the Christmas Fair.



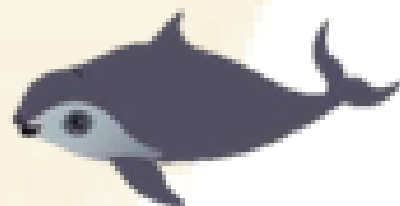
SEA TURTLE CLASS

This week Gorilla Class finished the story, Kensuke's Kingdom, in English. They reviewed the book, and it was good to see what they could remember about the story, which they have heard over the last couple of months. In Science they have been looking at similarities & differences between human and animal bodies. They have also enjoyed some more seasonal activities such as some Christmas Maths challenges, and they had a very sticky morning following instructions to make a melting snowman.



GORILLA CLASS

This week has been very busy with lots of Christmas-themed activities, including making decorations for the school fair. They attended this on Thursday, and lots of gifts were bought and activities were completed. In English, we continued with the next chapters of 'The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas', and the story is making its way to its conclusion. Pupils learned that Father has planned for Bruno, Mother and Gretel to return to Berlin, and Bruno has to contemplate leaving his friend Shmuel behind. The TTRockstar challenge continues to be a success, with pupils competing fiercely.



VAQUITA CLASS



UPPER SCHOOL

News

LONSDALE



This week has flown by with the start of our Christmas activities such as the Christmas Fair, the annual Christmas movie and decorating the classroom, which looks all festive and bright. The highlight this week was Science, where we have been looking and comparing healthy and unhealthy diets and investigating why Olympians need to obtain so many calories for their sport. We discovered a Sumo Wrestler eats 20,000 calories a day and a Chess player burns 6,000 calories in a chess match through mental performance. WOW!

This week in English we delved into persuasive techniques and looked at how they can be used to make an argument or point of view convincing, using the famous Martin Luther King 'I have a dream' speech as an example. In PSHE we looked at gender stereotypes in relation to staying safe in relationships. We worked hard in Maths and Science, but we also had some time enjoying the Christmas Fair on Friday.

This week we looked at relationships in PSHE and decided what similarities and differences are between friendships and romantic relationships. We decorated our classroom and prepared for the Christmas Fair, which we really enjoyed last Friday. We also worked hard in Maths and English last week.

Lynx Class had a fantastic week. This week in Maths, we were focusing on multiplication of 2- and 3-digit numbers by 1-digit numbers. During the VO sessions, we looked at different Greek artists, and we created a fact file about the painter we liked the most. Also, we had lots of fun making Christmas decorations and decorating our classroom. During Science, the class explored the colour spectrum further and started work on puppets so they can be manipulated to create shadows.

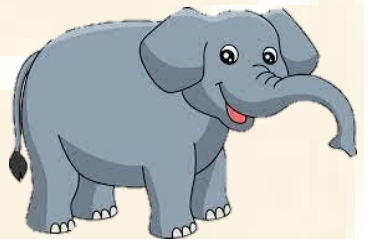
We will use the following page over the next weeks to introduce our Governors to you. Please read on to find out a bit more about a member of our Governing Body this week.



TASMANIAN DEVIL
CLASS



PANDA CLASS



ELEPHANT CLASS



LYNX CLASS



GOVERNORS NEWS

SIMON THOMPSON



Responsibilities/Committees: Parent Governor, Resources Board

In the summer of 2023, I took on the role of a Parent Governor at Lonsdale. I am the proud father of three children, one of whom is currently in the primary years at Lonsdale. Just like any parent with a child who has additional needs, our primary aspiration is to see them achieve their utmost potential. For many of us in this situation, the school our children attend plays an integral role in helping them realise their full potential.

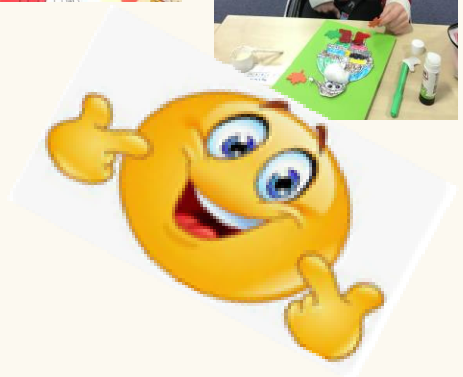
I am enthusiastic about the opportunity to contribute to moulding the school's future and ensuring that the perspectives and ideas of parents are actively acknowledged and heard. I will try my hardest to advocate for all parents, ensuring that each of our children reaps the benefits of the high-quality education that Lonsdale provides.

*Lonsdale Governors
in focus*





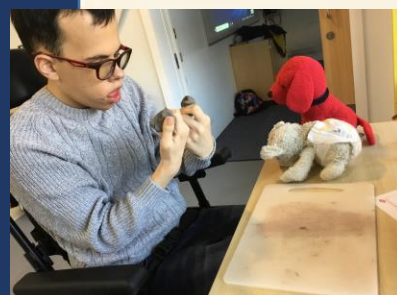
BRILLIANT BITS





BRILLIANT

BITS



zoom

*in for brilliant bits
from this week at
Lonsdale*



BRILLIANT

BITS



zoom

*in for brilliant bits
from this week at
Lonsdale*

MORE INFO

LONSDALE



Lonsdale's Seasonal Events December 2023

7th December - in school Christmas
Fair

7th December - Evening Carol
Concert: 7pm (families welcome)

14th & 15th December - Primary
Christmas Performances (families
welcome)

19th December - Christmas Dinner
Day & Disco

20th December - End of Term:
Pupils finish at 1:30pm





MORE INFO

Get help to buy food and milk

(the Healthy Start scheme)

What is Healthy Start?

If you're more than 10 weeks pregnant or have a child under 4, you may be entitled to get help to buy healthy food and milk.

If you're eligible, you'll be sent a Healthy Start card with money on it that you can use in some UK shops. We'll add your benefit onto this card every 4 weeks.

Visit: <https://www.healthystart.nhs.uk/>

Could you stop brothers and sisters from being separated in care?

We urgently need people to consider fostering sibling groups and would love to speak to you about becoming a foster carer with us. More than half of brothers and sisters in care in Hertfordshire have to be separated, and these siblings face feelings of loneliness and fear. We would particularly welcome applications from teaching staff as we know your experience suits sibling groups.

Watch a clip of our new short film – All Alone – to demonstrate how siblings can give each other comfort and support at a time of uncertainty: <https://youtu.be/MsBR2JR9TAo>

Our foster carers receive generous pay and allowances plus comprehensive training and local support. To find out more about fostering, visit www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/fostersiblings, call us on 0800 917 0925 or email fostering.recruitment@hertfordshire.gov.uk

MORE INFO

LONSDALE



Hertfordshire's
Holiday Activity Programme



FREE kids' fun, food & physical activity through the festive break!



Does your child get benefits-related free school meals?

If so, you can book them into HAPpy camps for free, during school holidays.

Get your child's booking code from their school and either scan the QR code below or book online at bit.ly/3FV6DOD

Winter bookings are live from 12 noon on 22 November 2023.

With limited places at each venue, book your child's place soon to make sure they have a HAPpy school holiday!



Department
for Education



Hertfordshire
Community
Foundation



MORE INFO

Lonsdale School are keen to promote sustainability. If you have any good quality, preloved uniform you no longer need, you can drop it off at the school office in a bag clearly marked 'Second-Hand Uniform Donation'. Thank you!

Neurodiversity Support Hub

For Parents, Carers and Professionals

We can offer support, signposting and guidance about a whole range of things including but not limited to:

- Understanding ADHD/Autism
- Distressed Behaviours
- Anxiety
- School

The phones are answered by our team of parents and carers of neurodivergent children and young people

Are you a Parent, Carer or Professional?



01727 833963 

 supporthub@edh-voice.org

Open Monday-Friday
9 AM - 5PM

How to support, reach out for a listening ear 



Get Support

- One-to-one
- Text-based phone
- Online live
- Community
- Self-help
- Private
- Anonymous

Get the help that fits your family, so you can juggle work and life

Thousands of families could be saving money on their childcare costs. But some simply don't know what support they might be eligible for. The Childcare Choices website brings together all the existing childcare offers in one place, so parents can get the help that fits their family. This could be through Tax-Free Childcare, 30 Hours Childcare, or Universal Credit Childcare. Some families might be eligible to use more than one childcare scheme together and get the most out of it. And from next year even more help is on the way:

- From April 2024, eligible working parents in England with children aged 2 will have access to 15 hours childcare.
- From September 2024, the 15 hours childcare offer will be expanded to eligible working parents in England with children between 9 and 23 months old.
- From September 2025, eligible working parents in England with children between 9 months up to school age will have access to 30 hours childcare.

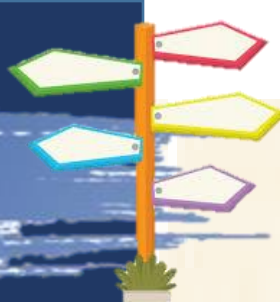
Support is also expanding for primary-school aged children, from September 2024, parents are expected to see an expansion in the availability of childcare in their local area before and after school, between 8am and 6pm, also known as 'wraparound care'. Don't miss out on getting the support you are entitled to.

Visit the Childcare Choices website to check what offer you might be eligible for and sign up to the newsletter to get the latest updates about the childcare support expansion.

Visit: <https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/>

MORE INFO

LONSDALE



JOIN THE **Super 1s**



**All disabilities welcome
Ages 12-25**

CHALLENGE YOURSELF
BE MORE ACTIVE
IMPROVE YOUR SKILLS
MAKE NEW FRIENDS

**Free inclusive
cricket sessions!**

MONDAYS:

Harpenden Hub | 6pm - 7pm*
Harpenden Leisure Centre,
Leyton Rd, Harpenden AL5 2HU

WEDNESDAYS:

Watford Hub | 5pm - 6pm*
Merchant Taylor's School,
Northwood HA26 2HT

*Running weekly from w/c 8 January
2024 until the Easter holidays

CONTACT:

Luke Heskett
luke.heskett@hertscricket.org

www.lordstaverners.org/super1s



LORD'S TAVERNERS
Empowering young people through cricket

Registered Charity No. 306054 | OSCR No. SCO46238



**Hertfordshire
Cricket**

BRINGING CRICKET TO LIFE

MORE INFO

LONSDALE



Could you welcome a foster child into your family?

We need foster carers for children
and young people in Hertfordshire.

Can you offer a nurturing, safe and stable home?
Hertfordshire County Council provide an allowance,
training and unrivalled 24/7 support, every step of the way.

For further information on
Fostering call us on **0800 917 0925**

FOSTERWITHUS

www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/fostering

[@hertfordshirefostering](https://www.facebook.com/hertfordshirefostering) [@HCCFosterAdopt](https://www.twitter.com/HCCFosterAdopt)

In partnership with



Stonewall



Hertfordshire

**Physical and
neurological impairment
advice line**

01442 453 920

**Mondays 1.30pm - 4pm
(term time only)**

MORE INFO

LONSDALE



and families



SEND DROP IN

3rd 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://barnardos-stevenage.eventbrite.co.uk>

MORE INFORMATION

hertsfamilycentres.org Call us on: 0300 123 7572



Hertfordshire
Family Centre
Service

On behalf of



Delivered by



MORE INFO

About Carers in Hertfordshire

We are a leading charity that supports unpaid carers throughout Hertfordshire.

We are partly funded by Hertfordshire County Council and the NHS in Hertfordshire. In partnership with them and other local organisations we provide services to carers to help them with their caring role, improve their health and wellbeing, give them a break from caring and have a voice in shaping services for them.

We support carers of all ages, including children, and our services are free of charge.

Carers in Hertfordshire

The Red House, 119 Fore Street, Hertford, Herts, SG14 1AX

Tel: 01992 58 69 69

Email: contact@carersinherts.org.uk

www.carersinherts.org.uk

Our support for parents and carers.

We have Involvement and Development Workers supporting carers of someone with a mental health condition or who misuses drugs or alcohol, who can provide information relevant to your caring role and can help you to speak up to those providing or planning local services.

We also:

- Give you a chance to meet and talk to other parents, carers and staff who understand;
- Give you the opportunity to represent your views to the authorities that commission and manage CAMHS (Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services) in Hertfordshire;
- Provide training and learning opportunities;
- Offer a Carers' Passport Discount Card that gives savings in shops, restaurants and other venues (contact us to apply for one today!)





ISL Integrated
Services for
Learning

working together locally

SEND Advice for Parents/Carers

*Helpful SEND advice lines
for Parents and Carers*

Advice line	Times available [from Sept 2020]
<i>Educational Psychology Contact line</i>  01992 588574	Weds 2pm – 4:30pm
<i>SEND Specialist Advice and Support Service*</i>  01442 453920 - term time only	<i>Specific Learning Difficulties:</i> Mon & Thurs 09:30am – 12pm
	<i>Speech Language, Communication & Autism needs:</i> Tues & Weds 1:30pm – 4pm
	<i>Early Years:</i> Weds 9am – 12pm Thurs 1:30pm – 4pm
	<i>Physical and Neurological Impairment:</i> Mon 1:30pm – 4pm
<i>West team Attendance Duty*</i>  01442 454778	Mon - Fri 09:30 am – 4pm
<i>East team Attendance Duty*</i>  01992 555261	Mon - Fri 09:30 am – 4pm

* also available to schools, settings and professionals



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.



Cyberbullying is NOT ACCEPTABLE

- 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.

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**.

Screenshot 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).

How to cope with the effects of Cyberbullying

- You must not blame yourself. No one deserves to be treated cruelly by anyone.
- It can make you feel very upset, alone and like no one 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 nspcc.org.uk or Bullying UK bullying.co.uk

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/cyber-bullying/

safe4me



WEBSITE

INFORMATION

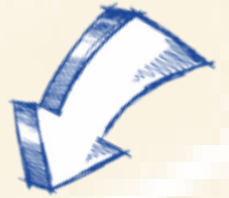
Visit the Student Area on our website

www.lonsdale.herts.sch.uk

You can find lots of activities in the 'All Sorts of Things' section.

Daily Home Learning Plan can be found in your class area for pupils who are not attending school.

Student Area is here!



HOME ABOUT US COVID-19 RETURN TO SCHOOL NEWS AND EVENTS OUR LEARNING PARENTS GOVERNORS COMMUNITY STUDENT AREA CONTACT US



**LONSDALE
SCHOOL**
Learning for life!



www.lonsdale.herts.sch.uk

Login to find out more!



HOME - STUDENT AREA

Welcome

To access this area we need you to login using the username and password provided to you by the school. Please enter this information below and click login to proceed.

If you have forgotten your username and/or password please contact the school.

Username:

Password:

[LOGIN](#)

[Forgotten your password?](#)

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



Maybe send your feedback?



HOME - STUDENT AREA - IDEAS SHARED BY AND FOR PARENTS

Ideas Shared by and for Parents

This page is full of ideas which have been sent to us by parents. Thank you, all!

Keep your ideas and thoughts coming; we will update this page regularly...

To get in touch, please email your child's form tutor or use the 'Home Learning Questions' tab.

Have you seen these?

Free Daily Resources For Children



PE with Joe Wicks On YouTube
Week days at 9am but you can visit any time on youtube to view the workout.



Wildlife With with Steve Backshall On Facebook
Every day at 9:30am for answering all your wildlife, biology, conservation, geography and exploration quest ons.



Science with Maddy Moate on YouTube
Weekdays 11am. Maddy & Greg chat about science and nature!



Dance with Oti Mabuse On Facebook
Every day at 11:30am but children can view the class at any time.



Maths With Carol Vorderman
Free access to the her maths website: www.hermaths.co.uk



Music with Mylene Klass on YouTube
Twice a week. Next one Friday 27 March 10am, but can view any time.



Storytime With David Williams
Free story everyday at 11am on his website: www.worldofdavidwilliams.com

ALL SORTS OF THINGS...

BUMBLEBEES

DOLPHINS

ELEPHANTS

GORILLAS

HIPPES

KOALAS

LYNX

OWLS

PANDAS

SEA TURTLES

TASMANIAN DEVILS

VAQUITAS

WOMBATS

JOIN THE SPRING WATCH!