



Newsletter

The Park Federation

March 2018

## Recently at Lake Farm...

I always love going into nursery to see what the children are up to. It really is a wonderful place, and watching the children learn so much through play is very special. I have said before, that the best way for children to learn is through ways where they do not even realise they are learning! In nursery the children are trying some new things: cooking, colour mixing in puddles, tree climbing and a breakfast café to name but a few. Far too often we think that the children are not big enough to do things, but your children are living proof that at 3 and 4 years old, they can! They can climb trees, they can help cook, they can spread their own butter on some toast. It is amazing to see what children can do when you let them. Our nursery children are testament to that. I cannot wait to see what they can do by July!

This attitude is not just being developed in Nursery, but throughout the whole school. So many groups are now using the cooking room to have a go at creating yummy food, and we have our after school cooking club which is incredibly popular. The children are trying out new sports, new learning and new ideas every day. I do hope you are taking time every night to talk to them about their experiences and what they have been up to. Talking about the experiences and making links to other areas of life is as much a part of the learning as the activity itself. Believe me, if you ask your children what they have done today, the answer will never be, "Nothing".

We are continuing with our term of Reading, and this week have celebrated with not one, but two visiting authors, with a third still to come. The children have been inspired with the stories by authors, but also of the writing process in general, and it was wonderful to see so many of the children engaged in collective writing and sharing ideas with a published author. I particularly liked the idea of a hammer which sucked the colour from the world leaving it grey and lifeless. Who knows if any of them might actually make it into one of their future novels!

It was lovely to see so many of you at Parent's Evening last week, especially the numbers who left smiling and pleased with the progress your children are making. If you did not manage to make an appointment please do- it is not too late. Thank you too for those who donated books for our second hand sale which took place on the Wednesday night. We made just over £100, which will go towards new reading books.

That reminds me; I hope the Shelfie Challenge is alive and well in your house and your children are reading avidly to raise more money for the school through sponsorship. The challenge finishes on the 16<sup>th</sup> April, so still lots of time to make a difference!

*Kate Day*

# Attendance and Punctuality



Attendance this week is much better, but last week we took a real hit, with only one class achieving above 96%. I appreciate the snow made it hard to get to school, so I'm pleased that we have bounced back so well. However, poor attendance does have a lasting impact, and for the first time our whole school running attendance has dipped below 95%. Please make a real effort to get your children into school on time every day, especially as the weather improves. I would love to have a completely green table one week!

Ladybird	96.9%	Badger	95%
Butterfly	98.7%	Otter	96.9%
Grasshopper	90.3%	Fox	99%
Squirrel	87.7%	3MS	93.2%
Rabbit	95.9%	3NP	96.5%
Mole	99%	3KW	94.9%
Whole School to date: W/E 09.03.18		94.9%	

## Dates for the Diary...

19.3.18	Book Fair Week
20.3.18	Asthma Nurse Coffee Morning
21.3.18	Year 1 Church Visit
22.3.18	Career Aspiration Day
28.3.18	Year 1 show Family Easter Treasure Hunt & Quiz
29.3.18	End of Term Easter Assembly
16.4.18	Term Starts End of Shelfie Sponsored Read
26.4.18	Asthma Nurse Coffee Morning
27.4.18	Cricket Festival including staff v parents cricket match
17.5.18	Year 3 trip to Verulanium
24.5.18	Asthma Nurse Coffee Morning
28.5. to 1.6.18	Half Term
19.6.19	LFPA Summer Fair
6.7.18	Lark in the Park – Federation Fundraising Day
20.7.18	Last Day of the Year

## Asthma Nurse Coffee Morning

Our school asthma nurse would like to meet as many people as possible on the 20<sup>th</sup> March, and so is hosting a coffee morning in school to which everybody is invited. Even if your child is not asthmatic, you are more than invited to come along for a cup of tea / coffee and a biscuit.



## Family Easter Egg Hunt and Quiz

Letters are going out today to book your places on this event which promises to be a lot of fun and excitement. After school on the 28<sup>th</sup> March we will be holding an Easter Egg Treasure Hunt followed by a family quiz. Places are limited, so please ensure you pay the fee via ParentPay and get your booking form back into school through your class teachers or drop off at main reception. I look forward to seeing you there!

## Year 1 shows to parents

Letters have gone out regarding tickets for the year 1 end of term Easter Spectacular. As usual there are two shows, one at 9.15am and the other at 2.45pm. Admission will be by ticket only, so please don't miss out and get your tickets today.

## Trip Payments

There are lots of trips currently being arranged for the summer term, but we still have a deficit of just under £1000 from trips so far. Please make sure that when you get your letters you remember to pay for the trip via ParentPay. If we do not have enough money to run the trip we will have no option but to cancel and your children will miss out.

