



Newsletter



November
2017

Recently at Lake Farm...

I cannot believe one half term has already gone and I now feel that if I blink it will be Christmas! I hope all our families had a very happy weeks break and enjoyed their time together. I hope you all made the most of the daylight, as now the clocks have gone back I sometimes feel like I never see daylight! With the colder mornings and darker after schools in mind can I please remind all parents that all children should be coming to school with coats (and hats and gloves in the really cold weather) and ideally those coats would have something reflective on them to stand out in the dark. Our book bags do have reflective strips to try to catch the headlights, but any extra reflection is always helpful. We do ask the children to wear their coats out to play, but sometimes the children get hot and take them off. Could I please ask all families to check that their child's name is written clearly in their coats, and in fact, all items of clothing, so that if items go astray we can easily reunite them with their owners. If something is not named, there is little chance of you getting it back!

Speaking of book bags; these should be coming into school daily now as all children do have their reading books and reading logs so should be doing at least 15 minutes reading every night. Please could you make sure you hear your children read and sign off in their reading log. The children are rewarded in school for every week where they read at least 5 times, and it is a shame that some children are not able to achieve this. Reading is so important – please support your child in helping them reach their full potential.

Letters via book bags are our main form of communicating with you. Please make sure you check them and remove letters, bumped head forms and the like so your child does not have to take them to and from school every day. I know how frustrating it can be, and how easily letters are missed, and so from now on as a school we will only send letters out on the last day of the week – in most cases Friday. Obviously, sometimes there are emergencies and letters will come home, but staff will tell you this at the door when you collect. In addition to this, in order to save paper and costs, letters which are relevant to the whole school will only go home with the eldest child. Any correspondence which is specific to a year group will obviously go out in that year group..

By February half term no letters will be sent home in paper form unless they require a permission slip returned. All letters will be sent out via the App and on the website. If you are unable to access this, please come in and request paper copies which we will provide. This gives everyone plenty of time to download the App. Remember it is free, easy to get via the App store or Google Play, and immediate. I will be available to help any parent organise their setting choices at Parent's Evening so you do not get every notification if you do not want it.

Kate Day

Attendance and Punctuality



Well done Rabbit Class! Our first class to achieve 100% attendance for a week and therefore earn a non uniform day. Many classes have two or three stripes coloured in on their rainbows. I hope to see many more non uniform days very soon. The week before half term contained Eid which does affect our figures. Please try to support us in getting

to a whole school target of 97%; which we are still some way off. As we enter cold season, please remember that a sniffle or a sore throat does not stop learning. Please send your child into school and we will send them home if they really are ill and cannot learn. Congratulations Grasshopper class for the highest attendance this time.

Ladybird	95.8%	Badger	94.6%
Butterfly	95%	Otter	91.8%
Grasshopper	98.7%	Fox	96.6%
Squirrel	98.3%	3MS	92.4%
Rabbit	93.3%	3NP	97.8%
Mole	98.3%	3KW	93.8%
Whole School:		95.6%	

Harvest Giving



I was so pleased with the generosity of all our families who donated goods and food to our Harvest. In the end we were able to donate a whole van full to our local food bank who were also blown away with the amount of produce they collected. The picture really does not do your donations justice as there were at least 15 large boxes full! A huge thank you to everyone for helping make a difference to those less fortunate than ourselves.



Voting Reminder

Parent Governor voting forms have gone out this week. Please make your choice and return your ballot paper in the envelope provided. It is really important as a school that we have a full board helping to guide us and challenge us. I would like to thank all three candidates for stepping forward and offering to do the role. I look forward to working with them. **The closing date for voting is 14th November.** Please ensure you have your ballot papers back to us for counting by then.

Federation Basketball Competition By Faith, 3NP

On Thursday 19th October 2017, eight Year 3 children played in a basketball competition at Godolphin Academy.

Our first match was Lake Farm Park versus James Elliman Academy. We played well as a team and we were really good at shooting. In our next round, we played Godolphin Academy. This match was quite hard but we got through it. Our next game was against West Drayton Academy. We didn't play as well because we didn't mark the other players. However, it was fine because we tried our best. Finally, we played our semi-final and we were against Wood End Park Academy. It was a really good match because we gave everything to it.

At the end we had some drinks and we all got a medal for coming 4th. The winner was West Drayton Academy, they were marking and tackling really well. I felt happy and proud of myself because I tried my best.



Lots of Year 2 Topic Show

At the end of last half term, Year 2 opened their doors to all their parents and family to show off all the wonderful work they had been doing over the six weeks. They were especially proud of their habitat boxes which were made at home.

I made an underwater sea project with my mum. She helped me a little bit. In my project I put seaweed on the bottom and made a seahorse which I drew all by myself. I then stuck it on to my box. It looked like a grown-up had done it. I was really proud, and my mum was too. I really enjoyed learning all about the animals in different continents. The best fact I learnt is that elephants flap their ears to cool themselves down. I wish I could do that because some days I get very hot! Muskaan Otter class

I made a fish project for my homework and my sister helped me. I used wires to attach plastic fish to my project so make them easy to see and so it looked like they were swimming. I liked making my project because I learnt lots about the different types of fishes. In class I have learnt that fish can camouflage themselves to hide themselves so that sharks don't eat them, or sometimes to make it easier for them to eat other fish! Jashanveer Otter class

Lots of parents joined year 2 in celebrating their hard work and the children really enjoyed showing off what they had been up to. Thank you to everyone who came.



Half Term House Points

Fleming	209
Edwards	310
Orwell	258
Seymour	229

Congratulations to Edwards House for winning the Half Term challenge. They have all been rewarded with a non uniform day today. House points are collected weekly, and the lead does change all the time. I wonder who will win this terms' challenge?



Before and After School Club

Just a quick reminder that we are not able to take any children of nursery age in our Before and After School club facility. We are not insured for children of this age and do not employ the staff needed for the ratios required by law in there. Please do not ask staff to take your child if they are in Nursery. They cannot.

If you have any games, puzzles or toys that you no longer want and think may be suitable for use by the school, and are happy to donate them, please speak to Mrs Nair on the front reception.

Menu Choices at Lunch



A reminder that new menus have started this week at Lake Farm. You have all received the menu choices via the Pabulum letter which comes home. I have tried some of the new meals myself, and they were delicious! If your child tells you they have had Poison Noodles – don't panic – they were Hoisin – but it was Halloween!! I am reminding you that the new menu includes beef, so please make sure your child knows what they can and cannot eat.

I have worked with the kitchens to ensure that beef will be handled in a safe, controlled way. I can tell you that only one member of staff will prepare the beef meals with utensils that will only be used for beef. This member of staff will wear a different apron that is only worn for preparing beef. There will continue to be a Halal and Non Halal version of the same dish as well as a vegetarian meal and Jacket or pasta on offer every day. Monday will remain as Meat free Monday, as will Fish on Friday, but one other day in the week will have bolognaise or cottage pie or beef and vegetable pie for example. The other two days will remain a mix of chicken or lamb.

If you have any concerns or feedback on the new menus please do let me know. In 6 weeks I will be making the decision whether the new changes become permanent.

Dates for the Diary...

14.11.17	3.30-6pm	Parents Evening
15.11.17	3.30-6pm	Parents Evening
17.11.17		Children in Need Pajama Day
w/c 11.12.17		Test Week
22.11.17	3.30pm	Film Night Fundraiser – Ticketed
8.12.17		Winter Fair
13.12.17		Reception Nativity
14.12.17		Nursery Concerts
18.12.17		Year 3 Carol Concert
19.12.17		Year 3 Carol Concert Special Christmas Lunch
20.12.17		Class Parties

Children in Need Fundraising



A heads up that on the 17th November we will be having a fundraising non uniform day to raise money for Children in Need. All children are invited to come into school in their pajamas,

sleeping gowns and appropriate footwear. We will be doing some activities in school to raise awareness of the fantastic work Children in Need supports. Please send your child in with a donation of £1 minimum for this event. All money will go to Children in Need.



All children are invited to join us for a night at the movies! On Wednesday 22nd November, we will be showing the film *The Polar Express* to all children who have purchased a ticket to the event. Each ticket comes with a free drink and biscuit for the evening, and sweets and popcorn will also be available to be purchased. Parents are asked to stay on site and will be able to wait in the spare Year 5 classrooms opposite the hall. Teas, Coffees and refreshments will be available to buy for adults. Why not make the most of 90 minutes and have a chat with a friend whilst you wait? Please look out for the letter coming home to buy tickets for your child. They will be £3 per child, £5 for 2 family tickets, or £6 for a family of 3.



It will be here before we know it! The Winter Fair will take place in school on Friday 8th December from 3.15pm – 5.30pm. Stalls are selling out fast – we have over 15 booked already – and it promises to be a lovely occasion. If you would like a stall, are offering to help or need any clarification, please speak to Mrs Jorsling Thomas. If anyone is able to offer any raffle prizes, please let us know! Stalls, crafts for the children to make, games and maybe a special guest might turn up! Looking forward to seeing you there!

Parking – again!

I honestly do not know what else I can say on this. I was so shocked by the behaviour of some of our parents this week that I have telephoned the council and the local police to ask them to start making spot checks on the parking around our school. Local Parking Enforcement Officers have now added us to their rounds and will ticket any offences they see. I simply cannot believe the video I was shown of one parent's behavior, which put multiple children at risk. Under no laws are you entitled to park or drive on the **pavements** around our school. To then be abusive to another parent concerned for the safety of all the children around is also not acceptable. I have the video footage and number plate of the car in question and have handed it over to our school link police.

Another member of the public damaged their car in the staff car park recently. I remind all parents, carers, friends and family that at no time should you be parking in the staff car park. If you ask someone else to collect your children, could you please inform them of this? The accident would not have happened and their car would not have been damaged if they had followed my request.

A reminder that the car park next to school is run by London Borough of Hillingdon and opened and closed by them. We do not have a key. As the nights draw in, it may be that the council lock the gates earlier. Please do not leave your cars in there – we cannot get them out.

Increasing numbers of parents are telling me how bad the parking problem is. Whilst I represent the school, I am only one voice. Please telephone the council on 01895 556408 if you want to complain about the parking, or Parking Enforcement on 01895 271418



Operation Christmas Child

As you may be aware, Lake Farm is supporting Operation Christmas Child this year. This is a charity which send wrapped shoe boxes full of presents to children less fortunate than ourselves all over the world. We would like each child to bring in an item to be sent off in the shoe boxes, and again will have a collection point in the main reception. The items will then be divided up and the shoe boxes compiled by our school council. We also require donations for the shoe boxes as each one requires £5 to be sent off. A special donation tin will be on the front desk for this purpose.

We are asking for:

Toiletries: Toothbrushes, toothpaste, bars of soap, face cloths, comb/hairbrush

Clothing: Gloves, hats

Stationary: pencils, colouring books, colouring pencils, pens, felt tips, notebooks

Small toys for boys and girls

Sweets – NOT CHOCOLATE

We cannot accept: used or damaged items, war related items such as guns, knives or military figures, chocolate or food, liquids, breakable items, aerosol cans or marbles.

If you have any shoe boxes at home which you could wrap so that we can fill them, we would be very grateful.

Hopefully together we can share the magic of Christmas with other children.

All items need to be in school for the 24th November.

Thank you.