



# Newsletter



November  
2017

## Recently at Lake Farm...

I always felt that as I was getting older, the years were passing by quicker, but I can honestly say I have never felt time passing me by so quickly before. How did we get to the end of November already? The last 4 weeks of term are already full to bursting in my diary and the corridors and halls are already full of Christmas songs and festive cheer. We will keep everyone up to date with what is happening via the App. It really is the most effect means of communication for us as it gets messages straight out to you, so please keep your eyes open for updates. If you haven't downloaded it yet, maybe this would be a good time...

It was lovely to see everyone at the Parent's Evenings last week – there were so many smiley, happy parents. Thank you all for coming. If you did not manage to make it, or did not make an appointment, please do catch up with your child's teacher. It really is important that you know how your child has settled and what their early targets are so that you can support them at home.

Whilst all the children are rehearsing for Christmas shows and special assemblies, there is a group of parents and staff working exceptionally hard to get the Winter Fair up and ready for us all to enjoy. A huge thank you to Victoria Sullivan for volunteering to organise this event. I know she has already got over 20 stall holders signed up to sell their wares, and we will have staff running games stalls and a craft cave for the children to make something to share or celebrate with.

Rumour has it the Big Man himself may be dropping in to say hello. Please come and support the event which is happening on the 8<sup>th</sup> December from 3pm until 5.30pm in the main hall and surrounding classrooms. Entrance will be via the Junior playground classrooms. Why not come and have a quick look around child free before pick up time? After school club this night will be in Fox class and collections from the Infant playground. Please remember to support the fair with our non-uniform day on Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> November and send in chocolates for our chocolate tombola or £1 for us to buy prizes in return.

The staff and I have been especially busy this term updating our policies and revising some of the paperwork which governs how the school is run, and these have now been signed off. One of our changed policies is regarding supporting pupils with Medical Conditions and the fact that as a school we now hold emergency inhalers for use. If your child does receive medication in school, you will be sent a letter home allowing us to administer that medication in times of need. Please send this back as soon as possible. If your child gets a prescription from a doctor and you need us to give the medicine, you will also be asked to fill in this form. Should you wish to read the policy in full it is on the school website along with the other updated ones.

*Kate Day*

## Attendance and Punctuality



Our attendance is slowly improving and we have now reached the dizzy percentage of 95.4% as a whole school – just short of our target. As the colder, darker nights and mornings draw in, please continue to ensure that your child comes to school so that they continue to get as much education as they can. There is still a core group of children who are later every day. Please could I ask all those families to really try to leave the house 5 minutes earlier to ensure

they are on time and ensure their child can join their class every morning? Being late can be very unsettling for some! Attendance and Punctuality add together to make progress and results. Congratulations Badger class for the highest attendance - and not for the first time! I hope we can celebrate another class getting 100% for the week soon.

Ladybird	94.9%	Badger	99.7%
Butterfly	96%	Otter	93.4%
Grasshopper	93.3%	Fox	97.9%
Squirrel	98%	3MS	96.8%
Rabbit	94.7%	3NP	94.8%
Mole	92%	3KW	92.4%
Whole School:	95.4%		

## Christmas Lunch

Christmas lunch this year will be on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December and the canteen will be serving halal / non halal turkey with all the trimmings or a vegetarian option. We are all looking forward to welcoming a very special guest to help serve that day! If you are in Year 3, please make sure there is enough money in your account so that the children can enjoy this meal with everyone.



## Parent Elections

Congratulations to our new Parent Governor Zainab Virmani. In a closely fought contest, Zainab won with a clear majority when it came to counting the ballot forms. My thanks go to all three parents who stood: Samantha Pitcher and Naveen Yelkur as well as Zainab.

Firstly, I'd like to say a huge thank you for voting for me to be your Parent Governor, I really appreciate your support and was genuinely surprised to win after running against two other very strong candidates. I'd like to thank them again for stepping forward, it was very encouraging to see parents from the infant year groups willing to partake in such a crucial role. It's been beneficial for the school and the community to see long-term commitment from infancy and I hope I will be working with you both in the future. I'd like to take a more pro-active approach to this role as I feel the Governors should be a visible presence in the school and that we should be openly asking questions and raising concerns on your behalf to the school and the Governing Council. I'm on the school site 3 times a day, every day, usually by the Nursery and Junior School entrance, so please feel free to come over and say hello. I've already had the opportunity of meeting with the Chairman of the Governors of LFPA Mr Ingham and, along with Mrs Day, we had a very productive tour of the school and introduction to the staff and pupils ahead of the first formal meeting of the Council at the end of this month.

I really look forward to this exciting new role and I hope to serve you well over the next four years.

**Mrs Zainab Virmani**

## Dates for the Diary...

30.11.17	Non Uniform Day for Winter Fair
1.12.17	KS1 Singing Festival
8.12.17	Reindeer Dash – sponsored event – during the day  Winter Fair 3pm – 5.30pm School Hall and surrounding classes
w/c 11.12.17	Test Week
13.12.17	Reception Nativity
14.12.17	Nursery Concerts – dress rehearsals Year 2 trip to Museum of Childhood
15.12.17	Nursery Concerts
18.12.17	Year 3 Carol Concert
19.12.17	Year 3 Carol Concert Special Christmas Lunch Last Day of Nursery this year
20.12.17	Class Parties Last Day of Term School Finishes at 2pm
3.1.18	First Day of New Term

## Children in Need Fundraising



A huge thank you to everyone who made their non-uniform donation and came to school in their PJs. The children looked so snug in their onesies and bed clothes – it was like a fashion parade on their way to assembly! I have to say, meetings were interesting that morning! As a school we have donated £248 to Children in Need. That money really will make a difference to children less fortunate and in need. Thank you.

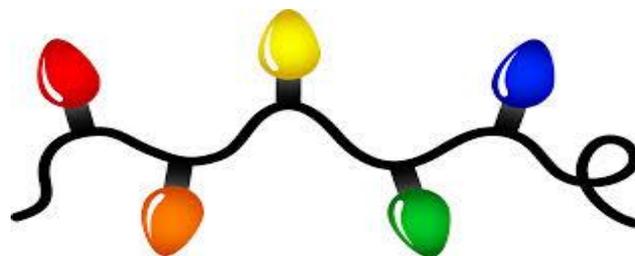


Well this was a great success! We hope all of those who came are now feeling fully festive and ready to cope with the next few weeks. A big thank you to all the staff who stayed and made the evening viable. The money made on sweets, drinks and popcorn will go towards buying prizes for the Winter Fair, which in turn will go towards the planting for the walls of our new outdoor classroom and the purchasing of a trim trail for the playground.

Movie Night was put on at the request of the Parent Forum as they felt it was a great opportunity for the children to join in something together and raise some money for school. Next term we will be running some discos for the children; again requested by the Parent Forum. Please watch out for these dates in newsletters in the New Year.

## Family Lights in London Trip

With this newsletter you should find a letter from Mr Skinner who has organised a family trip to London to see the lights. This is something new and Mr Skinner is very excited about as we are trying to arrange different experiences for the family of Lake Farm to enjoy. Please send back your booking form if you would like to join us on a trip into London to see the fabulous Christmas lights on the 6<sup>th</sup> December. The coach will leave from school and return to school. We will drop off at one end of Regent's Street and allow you to walk down admiring the lights and the window displays to then meet again at another landmark. Staff will be available but not your tour guides!



# reindeer run

This December we will be supporting Harlington Hospice in raising money through a fun activity – a Reindeer Run! On the day of the Winter Fair – the 8<sup>th</sup> December – each class will be going out onto Lake Farm Park and completing a Reindeer Run. All children will receive a pair of reindeer antlers for free to be reindeer.

With this newsletter, you are receiving a sponsorship form for your child. Please do get as many sponsors as you can. All the money raised will go towards providing care for patients and their families over the Christmas period. Please do not send your sponsor money in on the day, but please do send it in the following week so that all sponsor money has been collected by the 15<sup>th</sup> December. I'm really looking forward to seeing all of the children and staff take part!



## Making sure we have the right details

This week our parental contact forms have gone home for you to check through, It is imperative that these are corrected if wrong and sent back into school. If all the details are correct, they still need sending back in. Please ensure you do this as soon as possible. We have needed to ring several parents in the last few weeks and not been able to do so as the numbers we have on file are wrong, so please check carefully.

If you have changed address, we will ask for proof of your new one. Please do not be offended by this, it is just us making sure that we have the correct address and you do live there.

Please hand the forms in to your child's class teacher or bring to the school office directly.

Thank you.

## Panto Season! – Oh yes it is!!!

I was really pleased to take a phone call on Tuesday from the Magic of Theatre Company who were able to offer us a free show as another school had cancelled last minute. So on Wednesday we welcomed Sleeping Beauty to Lake Farm and all the children from Reception to Year 3 enjoyed a magical afternoon. Photos of the show are available on the App and will be put on the website soon to share. This sort of experience is wonderful for the children and normally costs quite an amount, so I really would like to thank the Company for their generosity and for thinking of us. The children (and staff) had a fantastic time and really enjoyed the show.

## Flu vaccination Update

The nasal flu sprays were meant to have been carried out by a team of NHS staff last month. They did come and do some children but as they arrived late, and they need to give the children the time that they need, they have not administered the dose to all of our children. Unfortunately they have not provided us yet with another date when they can return to do the rest. As soon as I have this I will let you know via the App.