



Lessness Heath Primary School

Newsletter

Headteacher

Mrs K O'Connor

Deputy Head

Mrs L Shields

17.11.17

Respect Belonging Co-operation Honesty Perseverance Responsibility

Dear Parents and Carers,

As a school we provide a rich and broad and balanced curriculum to all our children. Over the last two years we have developed our curriculum offer which includes a pledge to our families that we give the very best experiences through high quality teaching to ensure all of our children are educated to be successful for the world in the 21st Century.

Over the last half term, some of your children have been part of some really wonderful learning experiences that have enhanced their learning and their understanding of the topic they are focussing on in their classroom.

Here are some examples of these experiences:

Last Friday 10th November, Year 6 went to our local church to pay our respects at the remembrance service. This was part of our topic for WWII last half term: Triumph and Tragedy. Janelle, Henry, Francesca and Joseph all read some readings that the Reverend gave us. We all stood in silence as the bells rang at 11 o'clock, and remembered those who fought for us in WWI, WWII, and those in recent times who still fight to keep us safe. We were honoured to be invited back to our local church and take part in this remembrance service. We laid our clay poppies and tiles that we created too. May we always remember. Lest we forget.



On Wednesday 8th November, Year 4 embarked on a wonderful trip to the Natural History Museum to support our Topic and Science learning for this half term. After a fabulous journey past some of London's amazing landmarks, we arrived at the museum and then took part in a workshop called 'The Variety Show'. During the workshop, we learned about the great diversity of life that our planet has and had a close encounter with a giant squid! During the rest of the day we looked at dinosaurs, blue whale bones and many other exciting exhibits before travelling home. It was a fantastic day and the children got so much out of it that they are now using in class to support their learning.

"I learnt that there were a lot more ways to describe an animal than I thought!" Tavish

"We learnt that a giant squid is bigger than my classroom!" Thomas B

"We can talk about how animals have adapted to their environments in Science and English now."
Lucy

"It was fun to see the dinosaur skeletons." Thomas Clark



Last Friday, Year 3 thoroughly enjoyed their visit from Iron Age Matt. The children were fortunate to see realistic representations of Iron Age weapons, armour and hunting tools and were even able to feel real animal skins. The day has really immersed the children in their new topic and we hope to see their new knowledge shine in their work this term.



We look forward to other experiences outside of the classroom this term.

Kate O'Connor
Head teacher

Parental Questionnaire

As a school we are always happy to take feedback and your feedback helps us understand what is important to you and in turn supports your children's progress in school. Next week a parental questionnaire will be going out to all parents. Please take some time to complete the questionnaire and send it back into school. Your views and opinions matter to us.

Year 6 Junior Leadership team

At Lessness Heath Primary School, we have a group of children called the JLT (Junior Leadership Team). The JLT is a team of children made up from one child out of each class in Years 1 to 6. Their job is to make the school a better place. They do this by gathering the pupils' ideas and thoughts. The JLT use these ideas to make the school's pupils more enthusiastic about their education.

In Year 6, the children apply for special JLT roles by writing a job application in their best handwriting. They then attended a short interview.

Written by Communication Leaders: Summer Bowpitt, Jamie Peters, Lily Slattery and Liam Mitchell.

Junior Leadership Team (JLT) Representatives – 2017-18

Year			
6	Emmanuel Awori	Billy-Rae Whiting	Perazim Sofela
5	Chloe Capon	Maisie Pearce	Grace Conroy
4	Jack Slipper	Darcy Thompson	Freddie James Barrett-Bradley
3	Serena Sandhu	Miracle Ojike	Sola Famusan
2	Maia Amoeteng	Roxie Walker	Ruby Austin
1	Tia-Louise Jack	Edward Florescu	Zara Proctor

Homework

All homework has been given out for the half term this week. We have seen an increase in homework take up again this academic year and we encourage families to undertake as many homework activities as they can to support your child's learning at home.

Attendance and punctuality

There has been an increase in the number of children arriving late to school on a regular basis. The bell rings at 8.50am and all children should be in school by then. Our gates open at 8.30am and the doors open at 8.40am to give all children the opportunity to come into school in a ten-minute window to start the day in a relaxed way. Once they are in school, before the register is taken, they are engaged straight away in learning opportunities.

Families who continue to be late after half term, will have the lost learning minutes added together and this time will be made up before school. If there is a valid reason for your lateness, please see a senior leader on the gate.

A reminder to all families that holiday in term time is not allowed.

Balloons in Nursery

There was great excitement in the Nursery this week. As they arrive, the children have been encouraged to track their attendance on the Winnie the Pooh display in the Nursery garden. Those children who attended for every session this week each received a balloon to take home with them. Good attendance in Nursery will establish good routines and habits for the rest of their school career. Balloons will be delivered every Wednesday and Friday to both Nursery classes.



Is your child's attendance 96% or over?

On Monday 11th December we will be having our first Attendance Celebration!

This will be a reward for all of the children in Year R - 6 who have achieved 96% attendance or above. The children will be having a cinema session in the hall with a drink and a snack. We look forward to sharing the good news with all families whose children have had 96% or above.

News from the local community

You may be aware there have been a couple of muggings in the local community over the last few weeks near to our school. A few parents have spoken to us about the poor lighting along the back alley way and up the drive to our school.

We have been in communication with the local authority about the lighting situation in previous academic years however there are restrictions on the lighting due to the close proximity of residential buildings. As a community we may have to get our heads together to put a response into Bexley Council to ensure we get the best result. If you would like to be involved in supporting the school with the poor lighting please let us know at the office.

Please be careful as the dark nights close in.

Weekly attendance

Our whole school attendance this week was 97.1%. Each week we aim for an overall school attendance of 96%.

Congratulations to Cygnet in EYFS, Wren in KS1 , and Hummingbird and Heron in KS2 for getting the highest attendance this week.

The class who gets the best attendance in EYFS, Key Stage One and Key Stage Two each week will be rewarded by having the attendance mascot in their class.

Registration Group	Percentage Attendance
Miss Clarke Duckling 1	88.4
Miss Clarke Duckling 2	92.0
Miss Ransom	98.4
Miss Bennett	97.0
Miss Nkwo	93.1
Mrs Jones	98.2
Ms Harding/Miss Harmer	99.1
Miss Thorpe	95.0
Mrs Khan	96.6
Mrs Cross	95.0
Miss Jayne	100.0
Miss Bulbul/Miss Gawley	97.8
Miss Egan/Miss Bolton	95.7
Mr Jackson	100.0
Miss Kanu	99.1
Mr Liddiard	97.1
Mrs Leach	96.6
Mr Martin-Pitt	99.0
Miss Watt	98.6
Mrs Handley	95.4
Miss Long	99.1
Miss Steele	95.7

A reminder that Nursery children who attend every session are rewarded with a balloon each to take home on a weekly basis.