



Lessness Heath Primary School

Newsletter

Headteacher

Mrs K O'Connor

Deputy Head

Mrs L Shields

Respect Belonging Co-operation Honesty Perseverance Responsibility

15.12.17

Dear Parents and Carers,

Christmas in schools is always a special occasion and at Lessness Heath it is no different; the welcoming Christmas tree in the reception area, decorations and the children's excitement of forthcoming productions and Christmas celebrations can be seen and felt throughout the school. It is a wonderful time, full of memories for the staff, children and their families.

This year the Governing Body are focusing on the following school priorities;

- Reading and maths at KS2
- Attendance
- Writing across the school
- Disaffected families and the effect on attainment

Every member of the Governing Body is responsible for monitoring the improvement of one of the priorities and meets every term with the school leaders with an area of responsibility. Governors also look at books as evidence of progress and speak to children for their views on their learning. The outcomes of our monitoring are discussed at our termly committee and Full Governing Body meetings; questions are raised with school leaders.

I would like to thank all the parent/carers who took part in the governor survey; the outcomes will be discussed at our next committee meeting and parent/carers will also be informed of the results.

The attendance of children has steadily increased and again thank you to all our parent/carers who have engaged with the school to ensure that their children attend regularly.

The whole school community knows that Ofsted inspected the school last week. Unfortunately, the judgements cannot be passed on to parents/carers until the report and the evidence of the inspectors is quality assured by Ofsted. It was however a very positive inspection and we look forward to sharing the report with you all.

Even though we have had the Ofsted inspection, the Governors will continue to work closely with school leaders to ensure that we work hard at ensuring all of our children personally develop and receive the best education possible.

It has been a very successful term for everyone who is involved in the school which leads me to wish you all, a very Happy Christmas and New Year.

Carolyn Sekulowicz- Barclay

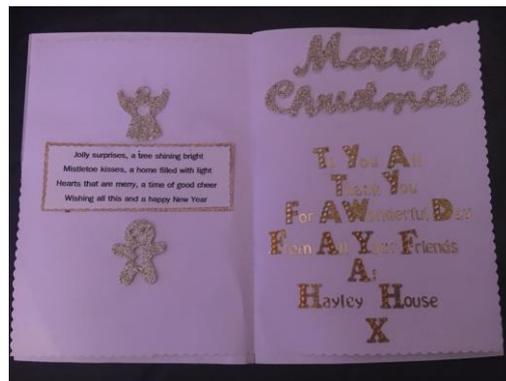
Chair of Governors



Visiting Hayley House

At Lessness Heath we value our local community and we try and get connected with as many people we can in our area. On Wednesday this week, we visited the elderly people at Hayley House. Twenty children from our choir sang their hearts out to the residents and everyone thoroughly enjoyed the experience. Both the children and the adults got a lot out of the visit and the residents were very grateful for our visit. A huge thank you to Mrs Irlam who arranged the visit and to the parents who accompanied us.

Hayley house donated over £200 to the school for our music department and we would like to say thank you to them for this surprise donation. Thank you also for their homemade Christmas card.



Wet play resources

Our children need resources for when it rains and they have to stay indoors during their play and lunchtimes. Our midday leaders request fully functional resources to be donated for the Wet Play boxes. Items that are needed are puzzles/games/dvds/soft toys for the quiet area/dressing up outfits/music cds/magazines/building bricks/colouring and craft materials. What a better time to ask when children will be receiving new gifts at Christmas time!

Many thanks in advance for any items you can donate to school to help support enjoyable play and lunchtimes for our children.



Celebrating good attendance this week

On Monday 11th December we had our first Attendance Celebration Event at Lessness Heath! All of the children whose attendance was 96% or above were treated to a cinema experience. The children in Early Years and Key Stage One watched Stickman, and children in Key Stage Two watch Arthur Christmas. A great time was had by all!



Football news

Lessness Heath played Hillsgrove Primary School at Goals Bexleyheath on Friday 24th November, both teams played brilliantly. Lessness Heath won 3-1 with goals from Sofela x2 and Vass. Lessness Heath are currently placed second in the league and are looking forward to hearing about who their Quarter Final opponents in the cup will be (draw is on Monday 1st January 2018). Good luck to the team!

In other football news, a friend of the school Ryan Sandford has just completed a loan move from Millwall FC to Welling United until January although his debut for Welling was a 3-0 loss, Ryan was voted man of the match and was included in the Kent Online's 'Team of the week!' Everyone from Lessness Heath wishes Ryan the best for the rest of the season.

Parking outside of the school

It has been reported by parents that some families are parking irresponsibly outside of the school, particularly by the back gate on the zig zag yellow lines. Can we remind you that parking on the yellow lines is illegal and particularly unsafe for others. Please find a suitable place to park when you are bringing your children to school.



Website updates

Have you been onto our school website recently? There have been some updates and additions. Please make time to have a look.

Term dates

A reminder to all parents and carers we return after the Christmas break on **Thursday 4th January** at the normal time. The first two days back have been planned as well being days and staff are looking forward to officially introducing children to the 5 Ways of Wellbeing which Mrs Hannaghan has worked extremely hard on.

Special visitors to Lessness Heath

Last week, not only did we have our Ofsted visitors at school, some reindeers visited our youngest children from The Mobile Farm experience. It was a special and magical experience for the children and as you can see from these lovely photos, the children (and adults) thoroughly enjoyed it. A special thank you to our wonderful LSFA who donated £100 towards the cost of this experience.



Out of the classroom learning



Last week, Year 6 went to Greenwich Picture House cinema to watch 'Wonder', featuring Julia Roberts and Owen Wilson. This was a fantastic film which supported our PSHE topic: Everyone is brilliant, Everyone is different. The children learnt a lot from this film, particularly the importance of respecting diversity and recognising people's inner qualities. We recommend you take your children to the cinema and watch this!

Sidney Clarkson, "I thought it was a great movie. I felt inspired and emotional with how Auggie felt."

Weekly attendance

Our whole school attendance this week was 92.0%. Each week we aim for an overall school attendance of 96%.

Congratulations to Ducklings 2 in EYFS, Puffin in KS1, and Falcon 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	78.3
Miss Clarke Duckling 2	80.0
Miss Ransom	77.5
Miss Bennett	77.9
Miss Nkwo	89.3
Mrs Jones	89.6
Miss Reid	96.2
Miss Thorpe	97.2
Miss Vankirk	93.8
Mrs Cross/Miss Vong	95.5
Miss Jayne	95.2
Miss Bulbul/Miss Gawley	94.5
Miss Egan/Miss Bolton	96.4
Mr Jackson	97.6
Miss Harmer	91.1
Mr Liddiard	93.8
Mrs Leach	92.4
Mr Martin-Pitt	96.2
Miss Watt	90.3
Mrs Handley	99.3
Miss Long	97.0
Miss Steele	95.9

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