



11.5.18

Lessness Heath Primary School

Newsletter

Respect Belonging Co-operation Honesty Perseverance Responsibility

Headteacher

Mrs K O'Connor

Deputy Head

Mrs L Shields

Dear Parents and Carers,

Exciting news! Lessness Heath have achieved the Wellbeing Award for Schools award and we are the very first school nationally to do so!

We are very busy planning a celebration date on Wednesday 13th June which will be a fabulous opportunity to thank the people who have been instrumental in making this possible and to celebrate such a magnificent achievement for the school.

This is a remarkable achievement and is testament to the commitment to all the hard work that has been put in place, from the whole school community. I can confirm we were the first school out of 400 to achieve this award and we will always be known as the first ever school to be awarded the Wellbeing Award for Schools.

We have completed a case study for WAS, this will be included in all of their future advertising and resource material. We were also approached by the Anna Freud Centre (the leading young person's mental health charity in London) they asked us to complete a case study on staff wellbeing, which has been submitted and will be used in their annual report and resources.

Our school community have been a huge part of the journey, your encouragement and support has been invaluable to this process, thank you for your commitment and time.

Lessness Heath, a 'Good' 3-form entry primary school, decided to undertake the Wellbeing Award for Schools (WAS) to raise the importance of supporting and protecting mental health and wellbeing of the whole school community.

The Award process helped the school identify:

- A greater importance of releasing stigma around mental health for the whole school community
- That staff wellbeing wasn't a high priority - with a small percentage of staff considering leaving the profession due to a lack of ability to protect their own mental health
- A lack of knowledge and confidence in recognising and responding to mental health issues

As a result, the impact of the Award has helped:

- Decrease staff absences - staff are presenting as being happier and there is more of a community spirit and unity amongst staff
- Recognise symptoms and triggers of emotional issues - teachers are confident in signposting pupils and their families for support and intervention
- Create happy and engaged pupils - they are able to recognise their thoughts and feelings and are able to ask for help

This award will benefit our children and our school community and I look forward to sharing some of the impact and next steps we are planning.

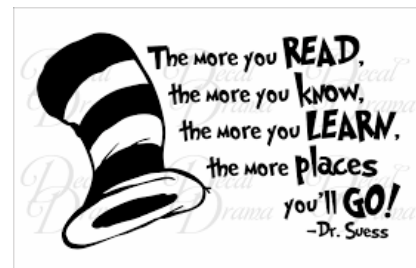


Kate O'Connor
Head teacher

Reading houses

Over the past 2 terms, the children have enjoyed being part of their new reading houses and loved being able to wear their own clothes on rewards morning. A very big well done to Rowling house who were crowned as champions of the spring term! The children can help to contribute towards their houses point total by reading at home as often as possible. In addition, it is proven that children who read regularly at home have significantly higher grades when they get to GCSE level and so it is a crucial part of their development. After reading, a small entry into their reading record needs to be made as evidence - a parent's signature is great as well! Thank you for your ongoing support and help in making our children keen and skilful readers!

Mr Jackson



Can anyone help Mr Jackson with his wedding plans?

In August, Mr Jackson is getting married! If you have any glass jars at home, he would love to help recycle them as part of the decorations to hold candles. If you have any jars that would help, please drop them off at Heron class in the morning or at the end of the day (the classroom nearest to the school gates) Many thanks.

Reminders to all our families and school community

- Dogs are NOT permitted on the school grounds. No dog should be brought through the school gate and into the playground
- Packed lunch boxes need to be labelled, ideally with a sharpie pen to ensure it does not rub off. Many children have the same or similar lunch boxes and we need to identify the correct lunch box for each child

- There are children in our school with a nut allergy therefore no nuts should be packed in lunch boxes or be bought to school in bags

Many thanks for your co-operation in these issues

Y6 SATs tests

All Y6 children are invited to come into school next Monday to Thursday for breakfast. It is a great time to have breakfast with their friends and relax before the start of their day. Breakfast club will start from 8am. Please make sure you do not arrive too late to eat something before the school day starts.



Basketball

Here at Lessness Heath we have been offered a very small quantity of tickets at a huge discounted rate to attend the Basketball Play-off finals at the O2. Letters have gone out.

Sporting achievements

Three of our children have achieved amazing sporting recognition outside of school; well done to Hannah Palmer for her Silver Lifeguarding achievement, Samanta Noeikaite for running a mini marathon and George Blanchard for competing in the Dartfordians Rugby Tour in Great Yarmouth.





Weekly attendance

Our whole school attendance this week was 95.1%. Each week we aim for an overall school attendance of 96%.

Congratulations to Owlet in EYFS, Sparrow and Wren in KS1, and Heron and Hawk in KS2 for getting the highest attendance this week.

Registration Group	Percentage Attendance
Miss Clarke Duckling 1	91.2
Miss Clarke Duckling 2	79.2
Miss Ransom	95.7
Miss Folan/Mrs Brown	98.3
Miss Bennett	90.0
Miss Bolton	96.6
Mrs Jones	99.3
Mrs Mensah	99.3
Miss Thorpe	96.8
Mrs Vankirk	93.8
Mrs Cross/Mrs Claire Clifford	94.8
Mr James	95.9
Mr Chalkely	94.3
Miss Jayne	94.5
Mr Jackson	96.0
Mr Liddiard	94.3
Miss Harmer	95.9
Mr Martin-Pitt	94.8
Miss Watt	94.5
Mrs Leach	94.7
Miss Steele	94.7
Mrs Handley	95.4
Miss Long	96.0