



17.12.18

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,

This week we say goodbye to Mrs Shields as she takes up the Headship at Barnehurst Primary School in January. Mrs Shields has played a very big part in the successful journey at Lessness Heath and I am sure you will all share in my huge appreciation of all her hard work over the last two and a bit years. Mrs Shields has influenced many changes in the school and has always worked hard to make sure the very best is given to our children. We are all going to miss her very much next term and we all wish her every success in the future. I am sure we will see her in school, as she will work alongside me with all the other head teachers, as part of the Head teacher partnership in the Trust.

I have made the decision to appoint two interim Assistant Head teachers to ensure we have enough capacity when Mrs Shields leaves and to ensure we continue to do the very best we can for our children. Therefore, I am delighted to tell you both Miss Bennett and Mr Jackson have been successfully appointed in these positions and they will be interim Assistant Head teachers after Christmas. Both teachers will continue to teach in their respective classes and they will have additional responsibility across the whole school. The senior leadership team will now be:

Mrs O'Connor	Head teacher
Mrs Freeman	Inclusion Leader
Miss Bolton	Assistant Head teacher
Miss Bennett	Interim Assistant Head teacher
Mr Jackson	Interim Assistant Head teacher
Mrs Cross	Assistant Head teacher (maternity leave)

I am also sad to tell you that Mr Cox will also be leaving us at the end of this term. Mr Cox secured a promotion at a local secondary school and will be taking up this post in January. Mr Cox has been at Lessness Heath for over 4 years and we will miss him when he leaves us. We wish him all the best in his new job.

Kate O'Connor

Head teacher



Parent Governor elections

Voting is still open for the parent governor elections and will close on Wednesday 19th December. All votes to be placed in the post box in the reception area – thank you for your continued support.

Message from the Chair of Governors

Dear Parents and Carers,

As the end of term approaches, I thought it would be useful to tell you all something about the work of the governing body during the Autumn Terms.

Two full governor meetings were held and were well attended. The first of our meetings was a business-planning meeting, while the second full governor's meeting was concerned with standards and resources. The first meeting gave us a chance to review the school's development plan and set dates to monitor its key areas. During the term, a governor or governors responsible for each area's monitoring, visited the school to find out in more details how the plans and initiatives would be implemented. During the Spring Terms the same governor or governors will visit again to assess the impact of the various plans. As well as this monitoring, I have also been involved in monitoring the school's safeguarding procedures to ensure they are both compliant and effective, as this is a statutory duty of the governing body.

The role of a school governor is a very wide one, and to help new governors into this role, we have been working on a new governor induction policy. The aim of the policy is to introduce and support new governors through various stages, from showing an interest in becoming a governor to taking an active part in meetings, monitoring visits and other activities. As well as attending various training provided by The Primary First Trust, the governors of our school were well represented at the recent Trust's Conference. This gave us a chance to meet other governors and senior school leaders involved in the various schools that make up the Trust and to share ideas. So, as you can see, we never stop learning!

Before I close, I would like to thank all the governors for their commitment and hard work in supporting the school during the Autumn Terms. I would especially like to thank Joanna Morris for all her work during her time as parent governor and especially her involvement in the Change Team, who supported the setting up of the Wellbeing Strategy last year. I also would like to thank Louise Shields for all her professional support as a staff governor and wish her all the very best in her new role.

Finally, on behalf of the Governing Body, may I take this opportunity to wish you all a very Happy Christmas and all the very best for the year ahead.

Regards,

Linda Thomas

Chair of Governors.

Christmas Panto!

Children and staff enjoyed the Christmas Panto this year; there was lots of singing and dancing to be had by all! Thank you to the LSFA for making it possible and funding the Panto for the children at Lessness Heath.



Times Table Rock Stars is coming to Lessness Heath

On Monday 7th January we are launching a new and very exciting way to learn times tables. Look out for Times Tables Rock Stars and the launch on the first Monday back!



Can you help our school?

Mrs Ashley, Mrs Spiller and Mr Farrell, all run a very successful sensory circuit intervention every morning and they are desperate for some new equipment. If you have a gym ball that you no longer use, please could you donate it to school. Many thanks in advance.



Miss Steele	91.7
Mr Chalkley	96.6
Miss Vankirk	95.7
Mrs Brown/Miss Begum	92.0
Miss Smith	96.4
Miss Bell	94.8
Mr James	96.4
Miss Thorpe	97.7
Miss Harmer	92.8
Miss Peters	93.9
Miss Watt	96.6
Mrs Leach	97.0
Miss Bolton/Miss Matthias	94.3
Miss Long	96.0
Mr Jackson	95.7