

# *Laughton All Saints' C of E Primary School*

## Autumn Term 2 Newsletter



Dear Parents, Carers and Friends of Laughton All Saints',

As we begin the second half of the Autumn Term, I'm delighted to reflect on the many achievements and experiences our pupils have enjoyed so far. From enriching visits to community celebrations, our children continue to shine with enthusiasm, kindness and curiosity. Thank you for your continued support in making our school such a vibrant and nurturing place to learn and grow.

### **Learning Beyond the Classroom...**

**Class 4** recently took part in ***Crucial Crew***, a dynamic UK-wide educational initiative that equips Year 6 pupils (ages 101) with vital life skills in safety, responsibility, and citizenship. Through engaging, hands-on workshops led by professionals from the police, fire service, ambulance teams, and local councils, our pupils learned how to navigate real-world challenges from fire safety and first aid to online security and peer pressure. The interactive scenarios not only built their confidence but also empowered them to make informed decisions in potentially risky situations. Pupils returned buzzing with enthusiasm and a toolkit of practical knowledge they'll carry with them into secondary school and beyond.

To complement their learning, Year 6 also visited two iconic institutions: **The Houses of Parliament and The Natural History Museum**. At Parliament, pupils deepened their understanding of democracy, law-making and experienced first-hand where the decisions to effect change, are made. At the museum, they explored the wonders of science and nature by viewing exhibits and investigating interactive activities.

Meanwhile, **Class 3** embarked on a journey of reflection and creativity with visits to **Sheffield Cathedral and the Lyceum Theatre**. At the cathedral, pupils explored themes of spirituality, history, and community, gaining insight into how sacred spaces can foster peace and contemplation. The Lyceum Theatre offered a contrasting but equally enriching experience, where pupils were immersed in the magic of live performance and storytelling. As children had been immersed in the story of the **Lion the Witch and the Wardrobe**, it was a delight to be able to give them the experience of seeing this come alive on stage and a physical representation of the story. All experiences have broadened our pupils' horizons, nurtured their curiosity and strengthened their sense of identity and belonging. We are very proud of how enthusiastically they embraced each of the opportunities and grateful to all the organisations who made these memorable days possible.



## Celebrating Achievements

We are proud to have celebrated all pupils who received a Special Mention or a Homework Award last term. Well done, to all! Special Mentions assemblies will take place at the end of each of the half terms this year. We really enjoyed our first one with this format. We hope, if you attended, that you felt the same.

### Special Mentions Autumn Term 1:

**Class 1 – Ezrae, Nico, Adrian, Myles and Emily**

**Class 2 – Rowan, Chester, Luca, Lucy and Ada**

**Class 3 – Zara, Jack, Hannah and Barnaby**

**Class 3 – Libby, Charley, Elijah, Ethan and Fionn**

### **Bronze Reading Awards** achieved by the end of last term – **50 reads at home!**

- **Reuben W – Class 4**
- **Theo D – Class 3**
- **Ada S – Class 2**
- **Ella – Class 2**

All received certificates during last Thursday's assembly. We are very impressed with the commitment to reading at home. We hope to see more children achieve this in the coming weeks. I wonder who will be the first to get to SILVER!

## What's happening in our classrooms?

One of our key priorities for development this year, is the development of ORACY in school. Within our classrooms, we are including frequent opportunities for children to comment, discuss, debate and present across the curriculum and are providing them with the language to enable them to do this. By learning to speak and listen well and use the appropriate language to communicate their points, children have a greater chance of deepening their understanding of the curriculum.

Things you can do to help support ORACY at home.

### Encourage Everyday Conversations

- **Talk frequently** with your child about their day, interests, and feelings.
- Use **open-ended questions** like “What was the best part of your day?” or “Why do you think that happened?”
- Model **active listening** by responding thoughtfully and showing genuine interest.

### Read Aloud Together

- Choose books appropriate to their age and interests.
- Discuss the story, characters, and vocabulary.
- Encourage your child to **retell the story** or predict what might happen next.

For an overview of the learning in your child's class, please visit our website – [Class 1 - Laughton All Saints' C of E Primary School –](http://Class 1 - Laughton All Saints' C of E Primary School -)



We're very proud to share that our school community continues to show fantastic commitment to learning through strong attendance.

Our overall attendance outcome for **Autumn Term 1** was **97.6 %**. This is above the national average and reflects a commitment from families to ensure children are in school every day.

Every day counts and arriving on time sets the tone for a successful day of learning and growth. Thank you to all our families for your ongoing support in ensuring children are ready and on time for school each morning. Let's keep up the great work—together we can make a real difference!

**Attendance figures: September 1<sup>st</sup> – October 24<sup>th</sup> 2025**

**Whole School – 97.6%.**

**National – 95.4%**

**Class 1 98.7%**  
**Class 2 96.4%**  
**Class 3 97.8%**  
**Class 4 98.0%**  
**FS1 99.4%**

## Discover Our Church's Story

Learn more about the rich history of All Saints' Church here:

<https://allsaintschurchlaughton.co.uk/news/the-history-of-all-saints-film>

## Winter Fair Contributions

We would be very grateful for any contributions to our Winter Fair, including Christmas jumpers that children may have grown out of. If you are able to volunteer your time to help support the fair, please let the school office know. We would be more than grateful.

# Key Dates for Autumn Term 2

## **Tuesday, 11th November**

### **Meet Our Educational Psychologist**

Come along and meet our Educational Psychologist, Nick Fletcher. A great opportunity to ask questions and learn how we support our students' learning and wellbeing.

## **Wednesday, 12th November**

### **FS2 (Reception) Open afternoon for parents who are in the process of choosing a school for their little ones 1.30p.m**

## **Christmas Shoebox Appeal – Deadline Extended!**

### **Now due: Friday, 14th November**

Help us spread some festive cheer! Bring in your filled shoeboxes by the new deadline and bring joy to children in need.

## **Friday, 14th November – Children in Need Day**

Dress up, have fun and help us raise funds for a great cause. Suggested donation of £1

## **Toast Week – Starting Monday 17th November**

A delicious way to start the day! Toast will be available all week – don't miss out! 20p per slice.

## **Winter Fair – Monday 8<sup>th</sup> December**

Get into the festive spirit with games, treats and holiday cheer. Fun for the whole family! If you are available to support with the preparation or running of the event, please get in touch. We would love for you to join us.

## **Christmas Performances**

- **Classes 3 & 4** – Wednesday, 10th December at All Saints' Church 9.30a.m and 2.15 p.m
- **Classes 1 & 2** – Thursday, 11th December in school 9.30a.m and 2. 30p.m  
Come and enjoy the magic of the season and experience our talented pupils.

## **Christmas Jumper Day – Friday, 12<sup>th</sup> December**

Wear your silliest, sparkliest, or snuggliest Christmas jumper and help raise money for charity!

## **Christmas Lunch – Thursday 18th December**

A festive feast for all students. Please remember to book with The Pantry.

## **Elf Dash – Thursday 18th December**

Get your elf hats (provided) ready for a fun and festive dash around the school grounds!

## **Last Day of Term – Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December**

School will finish at 2.30p.m as mentioned in the community calendar.

# Spotlight on...



## (OPAL) Outdoor Play and Learning

We're thrilled to announce our engagement with the OPAL (Outdoor Play and Learning) programme to enhance outdoor play experiences for all pupils. Miss Williams is leading the project and attended our first planning meeting this week. We're excited to begin transforming our outdoor spaces!

Opal Learning (OPAL) is ...

an award-winning school improvement program focused on **transforming primary school playtimes into rich, creative, and physically active learning experiences**. The program is based on the idea that play is a crucial part of a child's development and learning process.

### Key Aspects of the OPAL Program:

- **Mission:** To ensure that every school child has an amazing playtime every day, with no exceptions.
- **Approach:** OPAL provides a mentor-supported, 18 to 24-month program that helps schools embed play into their policies and practices. It involves staff training, action planning, grounds master planning, and parent involvement.
- **Resources:** Instead of relying solely on traditional playground equipment, the program encourages the use of "loose parts" and natural spaces, such as tires, crates, planks, and mud kitchens, allowing children to be creative, collaborative, and independent.
- **Benefits:**
  - **Improved Behaviour & Well-being:** Schools report up to an 80% decrease in the use of behaviour policies and 90% less senior leadership time spent resolving playtime issues. Children are happier, less stressed, and more engaged.
  - **Increased Learning Time:** Happier and well-exercised children settle into classes more quickly, giving teachers an average of 10 minutes more teaching time per day.
  - **Skill Development:** Children develop essential life skills like resilience, risk management, problem-solving, teamwork, and confidence.
  - **Inclusion:** The approach ensures that all children, regardless of their interests or abilities, have quality play opportunities.