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Newsletter Autumn 1 2022



"Let your light shine." Matthew 5:16

Dear Mothers, Fathers and Carers,

This newsletter comes to you following extremely sad news of Queen Elizabeth's death but I do still want to say welcome back to the new school year. It's been an amazing start back with your wonderful children so far. They are refreshed after their summer break, and are in a great mindset to get back in to their learning. I hope they are coming home and telling you about their days - hopefully a sense of routine has been good for them. It's been lovely to see them engaging in learning activities and working together again.

The school has been full of energy and enthusiasm, and the children look particularly smart in their uniforms - thank you for the way you support our school uniform; it all helps to set high standards.

There are lots of exciting plans already taking shape for this half-term and for the year - trips, visitors, learning, sports, clubs and many, many more! We will also be supporting children through the days of national mourning.

I'd like to take this opportunity to welcome our new children and families to our Laughton family, especially our youngest children in Class 1 who have settled in really well and are beginning to get to know the routines of school life.

As always, please come and talk to us if we can ever help with anything. Either myself or Miss Williams are always on the school gate in the morning to welcome children and parents in to school.

Warmest wishes,
Miss Birks

Key Dates this half term: Autumn Term 1

1st September	INSET DAY 1
2nd September	INSET DAY 2
5th September	Children return to school
9th September	Parent's Newsletter & Yearly Calendar out
12th September	FS1 start school
w/c 12th September	After school clubs start
13th September	Roald Dahl Day
15th September	Welcome meeting for FS2 parents - 2:45pm
21st September	Individual Photos (inc sibling photos)
22nd September	Class 2's Trip to National Emergency Services Museum
23rd September	School Council Elections and Heads of House Letters due
30th September	Harvest Festival in Church 9:15am - families welcome
30th September	Macmillan Cancer Coffee Morning 10:30am
7th October	Family Quiz and Pizza Night at 5pm - families welcome
11th October	Parents & Carers SEND Support Group - 2:30pm
12th October	Open Afternoon for prospective families 2:15 - 2:45pm
14th October	Y6 Trip to Crucial Crew
19th October	Community Café 2:30pm - all welcome
19th October	Parents Evening 3:30 - 6:30pm
20th October	Parents Evening 3:30 - 4:30pm
21st October	Flu Vaccinations
21st October	Last day of term for children

School Terms and Holidays for Academic Year 2022-2023

Autumn 1: Thursday 1st September - Friday 21st October 2022 Half-term holiday - Monday 24th October - Friday 28th October 2022
Autumn 2: Monday 31st October - Friday 16th December 2022 Christmas holidays - Monday 19th December - Friday 30th December 2022
Spring 1: Monday 3rd January - Friday 10th February 2023 PLEASE NOTE - BANK HOLIDAY 2nd Jan and INSET day 3rd Jan Half-term holidays - Monday 13th February - Friday 17th February 2023
Spring 2: Monday 20th February - Friday 31st March 2023 Easter holidays - Monday 3rd April - Friday 14th April 2023 PLEASE NOTE - EASTER BANK HOLIDAY IS ON FRIDAY 7th AND MONDAY 10th APRIL
Summer 1: Monday 17th April - Friday 26th May 2023 PLEASE NOTE - MAY BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY 1st MAY Spring Bank holidays - Monday 29th May - Friday 2nd June 2023
Summer 2: Monday 5th June - Friday 21st July 2023 Summer Holidays - Monday 24th July - Friday 1st September 2023

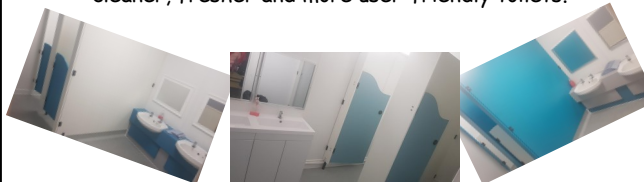
School Photos

Individual school photos will be taking place on 21st September. Siblings can also have their pictures taken together from 8:45am and photos can be purchased afterwards. Say cheese!



Toilet Renovations

We are thrilled that the Infant and Junior toilets have now had all their renovations finished. The children are enjoying the cleaner, fresher and more user-friendly toilets.



How can you help at home?

1. Encourage your child to read EVERY night.
2. Help them complete homework every week.
3. Help them to learn Spellings and new vocab.
4. Help them to learn times tables and practise using TT Rock Stars.
5. Encourage children to show excellent behaviour.
6. Make sure children arrive at school on time.
7. Ensure they wear their uniform.
8. Make sure your child comes to school every day that they are well.
9. Avoid taking any holidays during term time: children miss so much learning!
10. Encourage your child to play after school: Have down time together and have fun!
11. Talk to your child about what they are learning at school and celebrate their successes!
12. Come to school organized!

School Council and Heads of Houses

As last year, we will be asking Class 4 children to apply for the role of Head Boy or Head Girl for their house, which form part of the School Council. In other year groups, children will vote for the child they want to represent them on the school council. Please talk to your child about putting themselves forward! These two avenues give a balance of voting and applying, helping children to understand both democracy and the importance of taking responsibility for independence.

Coffee Mornings

Macmillan Cancer Coffee Morning - On 30th September, we will be hosting our coffee morning in support of Macmillan Cancer, an amazing charity dedicated to supporting those ill with cancer. We invite you ALL to come along and if you are able to make any donations of cakes or buns, that'd be really appreciated! Nurture group will also be showing their support by baking goods and raising funds at a different time.

Community Cafe - Every last Wednesday of the month, we host our famous Community Café - a chance to get together with friends and parents over a cup of tea and a bun. It's a great opportunity to get to know people and supports school funds in the process. Any donations of cakes are welcomed and should be labelled with ingredients. All welcome!

Easy Fundraising App

To raise school funds, we have registered with 'Easy Fundraising' that we encourage you to join. Every purchase that you make online across a range of companies (Just Eat, Amazon, Ebay, Sainsbury's...) gives school a free donation. It is completely free for you to use, doesn't cost anything more on your purchase, but means that the company will make a donation for us to spend as we wish!

Please see Class Dojo for the link to join our cause, or visit easyfundraising.org.uk!

Learning this September!

As a brief outline, these are some of the areas of learning that your children will be developing this Autumn half term:

Class 1 - To settle our new children in, we are learning all about ourselves, our Autumn season and Harvest! In English, we are writing some little books about ourselves and in Science we are learning about our bodies and healthy eating. In Art, we will be mixing different colour paints to create paintings of special family members and Harvest fruit and vegetables.

Class 2 - It's all about World War 2 and the Blitz in Class 2, which the children learn in History. In Science, they'll be finding all about their bodies and what they can do. We will be finding out what Christians believe God is like and in Computing we will be practising our word processing skills.

Class 3 - Science in Class 3 is exploring materials and in History, we will be learning 'From the Stone Age to the Iron Age'. We are developing our drawing skills further in Art and will be doing block coding in Computing!

Class 4 - We are learning all about the Golden Age of Baghdad in History, in Science it's all about animals and living things, 'survival' in English and our class read is Crater Lake. In PE, we are doing tag rugby and fitness and some printing in art!

Parent and Family Events

We have planned, throughout the year, events which bring parents into school more, both linked to learning and as a community. There are workshops, coffee mornings, open mornings, quiz nights and bingo nights planned - take a look at the yearly calendar for dates. We love the engagement we get from parents and always welcome parental involvement.

This half term, we have our **Harvest Festival** and **Macmillan Coffee Morning** on the 30th September, a **Family Quiz and Pizza night** on the 7th October and **Community Café** on the 19th October.

We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible!

Mystery Readers

We are starting something new this year called our 'Mystery Readers'. On any day that suits, parents/grandparents can volunteer 15 minutes to come in and read to their child's class - but of course it has to be kept a secret! You can bring your own book to share or read the class book. We will send out more information about signing up very soon. We hope you can help us in making it a success!

Staffing Update

We would like to inform you that Miss Greaves left the school at the end of term. I am sure you will join us in wishing her well for the future.

Wrap Around Care

This year, we are able to offer Wrap Around Care for your children, 8am - 5:20pm. We are the only school in the area to do so.

Breakfast club starts at 8am and is ran by **Mr Robinson**. The children take part in a variety of activities, in a fun and relaxed environment, with a continental style buffet breakfast to choose from (cereals, toast, brioches, juices, fruits, yogurts etc). A perfect start to the day! The cost for breakfast club is £3, bookable on Arbor.

Extended after school club runs from 3:20-5:20pm and is ran by **Mrs Bridden**. The club is focused on having fun, taking part in an ever-changing selection of activities with time to chill and relax after a busy day too. The children help prepare their own snack (sandwich, veg sticks, toasties etc) and will do activities such as baking, crafts, gardening, sports, computer games, painting and many more! The cost is £7.50 and is bookable on Arbor.

Playground Developments

We have recently invested heavily in new playground equipment for the children and are introducing new aspects gradually, so that the children get used to new items and are not overwhelmed. They have been playing with space hoppers, new skipping ropes and stilts, a 4 in a line game and hoops. Over the course of the next couple of weeks, we will be bringing out basketball hoops, limbo sets and mark making boards to name but a few!



After months of fundraising, applying for grants, meetings with various companies, the design process and Brexit delays, we are thrilled that we can finally tell you that we will be making some significant improvements to our playground! Work is due to begin in November and this may cause some disruption whilst this is happening - please bear with us! More information will follow nearer the time, but here are some pictures to give you a sneaky peek of our new trim trail...



'New 2 U' Uniform Shop

Kelly Mullen, Benjamin's Mum, has launched a 'New 2 U' uniform shop where families can secure quality, pre-loved items that have been washed and ironed. They only need to pay whatever they can afford. Clothes ordered will be dropped off at school on a Friday and payments can be made through Arbor on the 'Clubs' tab. If you have any clothes or items you would like to donate, please bring them in school on a Friday and if you'd like to offer help in washing a load, please see either Miss Birks or Kelly.

Scan the QR code below to order items:



Class 1 EYFS Development

Class 1's playground has been in real need of some TLC and rejuvenation for a long time, and we are excited and thrilled to share with you the plans for its development, starting in November! We have designed to cater for all aspect of young children's development and incorporated the 7 areas of learning into the outdoor provision. We hope that our youngest children will benefit from a better quality outdoors, where their learning inside will be coming outside. Sneaky peek below - it's going to be amazing!

