



Headteacher: Miss Jenny Birks

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"Let your light shine." Matthew 5:16

Dear Mothers, Fathers and Carers,

Once again, we find ourselves deep in to the dark nights and bright days, heading towards Christmas at what seems an alarming rate! I'm sure it feels quicker each and every year.

Since returning in September, your children have settled in quickly to the year and continue to make us very proud of their achievements and learning. They are behaving well, showing eagerness to learn and have 'stepped up' in September to being the best they can be. School is a hive of activity and the children are soaking up all the excellent learning that is happening around them.

There are lots of exciting things planned for this busy half term and staff are always working as hard as they can to ensure the best for your children. Hopefully you will be able to join us in our Christmas celebrations and festivities as we get there.

I hope you enjoy this newsletter and please don't hesitate to contact school if you have any questions.

Warmest wishes,
Miss Birks

Key Dates this term:

31 st October	INSET DAY 3
1 st November	Children return to school
TBC	Class 1 Firefighters Visit
4 th November	Parent's Newsletter out
11 th November	Remembrance Assembly in Church – parents welcome - 10:45am
w/c 14 th November	Anti-bullying Week - theme 'Reach Out'
14 th November	Odd Socks Day (to begin anti-bullying week)
18 th November	'Children In Need' Day – children dress in spots
18 th November	'We Are Heard' music company in school
23 rd November	Open Morning for Parents 9 – 9:45am
29 th November	Whole School Pantomime Trip
30 th November	'Community Café' 2:30pm – all welcome
1 st December	Family Christingle – Church service at 5pm
2 nd December	Class 1 Christmas Sing Along – parents invited 9:15am
5 th December	After School 'Write a letter to Father Christmas' 3:20-4:10pm
8 th December	Save The Children UK's Christmas Jumper Day
8 th December	Christmas Disco 3:00 – 4:30pm
9 th December	After school clubs end for the term
13 th December	'Community Café' 2:30pm – 'Winterland Tea'
14 th December	Infant Parents Nativity in Church- 9:30am
14 th December	Christmas Dinner Day – Christmas jumpers welcome
15 th December	Junior Parents Nativity in Church - 9:30am
16 th December	Last day of term – Christmas Jumper & Party Day! Break up at 2.30pm

School Terms and Holidays for Academic Year 2022-2023

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 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

Children In Need

This year for Children In Need day, the children are invited to 'dress spotty'. They could colour spots on a t-shirt, stick spotty stickers on their shoes or wear a full spotty outfit if they wish, and make a minimum £1 donation to the charity. Thank you in advance.

New Staff Members

We welcome to our Laughton team two teaching assistants: **Miss Ackroyd** in Class 1 and **Mrs Newman**, in Class 3. **Miss Wilson** has also joined our lunchtime team as Midday Supervisor. We know you will warmly welcome them and they are already loving getting to know your children!

Odd Socks Day

To kick off anti-bullying week, we ask all children to wear odd socks on 14th November. This links to the theme 'Reach Out' which is all about celebrating difference. This is not compulsory and wacky socks are allowed!



Buildings work and school improvements!

We are so thrilled that our buildings works throughout school are now complete - we have brand-new, refurbished toilets throughout school, an extra wall in Class 4, an additional intervention room and an office window in the entrance! School is looking much fresher and is an improved environment for the benefit of our children.

On 14th November, playground improvement works will commence in the main playground and in Class 1's outside area. This means these areas will be coned off in places whilst work is completed, and there be some disruption which we would aim to keep to minimum. Class 1 will use the main playground for playtimes, and times will be staggered to limit numbers on the playground at one time.

We are really excited for the finished improvements and hope they bring much joy and happiness to the children!

Church Christmas Events

Laughton All Saints' Church is holding a number of events:

3rd December 2-4pm - Christmas Fayre (inside Church). Children to sing carols.

10th December 7pm - Carols by candlelight outside Church (wrap up warm!) Refreshments of mulled wine and mince pies, with a live band playing carols for singing along with!



Christmas Celebrations!

Christmas is always such a busy period in our Christian calendar and we look forward to offering lots of opportunities for our children to take part in lots of exciting and memorable traditions:

18th November - Music company 'We are Heard' are visiting us in school to record the children singing Christmas songs (and the staff too!) to then produce a Christmas CD for families to purchase and sing along to.

29th November - Whole School pantomime trip to the Academy Theatre, Barnsley to watch a live performance of Cinderella - we shall go to the ball!

1st December - Please join us for our annual Christingle service at 5pm in Laughton Church. It will be a wonderful service, with plenty of carols and prayers and we hope you can join us!

2nd December - Class 1's annual Christmas sing-along will take place in the school hall at 9:15am. They will sing a delightful set of songs (with actions!) and we ask families to make a donation for Class 1 funds. All Class 1 families are warmly invited to come along.

5th December - 'Write a letter to Father Christmas' after school club 3:20-4:10pm. All children are invited to join us in the hall to write their letter to Santa, which can then be posted in time for him to reply! There is no charge for this event and it was great fun last year.

8th December - Children can wear a Christmas jumper today in support of the charity 'Save the Children'. We ask that they make a donation of £1 which will support this amazing cause. If children do not want to wear a Christmas jumper, they should wear school uniform as normal.

8th December - School Disco 3:00-4:30pm. Children in F2-Y6 are invited to join us at our Christmas disco with plenty of music and dancing. Tickets will be available nearer the time on Arbor for £3, which includes a drink and a packet of crisps.

14th December - Infant Nativity at 9:30am. Children in Class 1 and 2 will perform their nativity in Church and families are welcome to join us.

14th December - Christmas Dinner Day. The whole school will sit together to eat a festive lunch, sing songs and enjoy each other's company. Look out for more details about this nearer the time to order your child's Christmas dinner.

15th December - Junior Nativity at 9:30am. Children in Class 3 and 4 will perform their nativity in Church and families are welcome to join us.

16th December - Christmas Jumper day

16th December - Christmas party afternoon in classes. Children will take part in Christmas-themed games and team activities during the afternoon. Please note, we will not be asking for donations of party food this year.

Read, Read and Read again!

Please, please, please ensure you are reading as much as you can with your children, or encouraging them to read as often as possible. Reading has the biggest impact on a child's abilities and we cannot stress how important it is for your child to read regularly. Please ensure you are proactive in filling out your child's reading record whenever they read to recognize and celebrate their efforts!

A fact about reading that you may or may not know is:

"Reading for just 6 minutes per day reduces stress by 68%"



Parent Opening Morning

On Wednesday 23rd November, we invite all parents in to school to join their child in their reading or phonics lesson.

This is a chance for parents to get to know how their child learns how to read, spend time with them in class and hopefully give a sense of empowerment to then help at home.

It starts at 9am and will finish by 9.30-9:45am. If you have two siblings in different classes, you are welcome to swap classrooms halfway through to spend time with both children.



Mystery Readers and Volunteers!

All parents and family members are invited to be a Mystery Reader for their child's class. This is proving to be very popular so please keep arranging with the class teacher to come in at 3:00pm to read a story to our children. You can either bring your own story or our teachers will choose one for you. It would be great if we had more mystery readers for Class 4 too as they haven't had many and we'd hate for them to miss out!

If you'd like to volunteer some time, even just an hour a week, to listen to some of our children read then please come and speak to Miss Birks or Mrs Hague. We would be so grateful for your time and our children love adults listening to them!

A reason to be proud...

A big 'congratulations' goes to Harriet's Great-Grandma who was awarded with a Pride of Britain award for 'Fundraiser of the Year'. Well done from all at Laughton All Saints!



Parking

We know that parking is difficult around school, but we must continue to stress that illegal or dangerous parking is not acceptable around the school area.

Parking on the yellow school lines is strictly prohibited and causes obstructions, putting our children at risk of injury. Parking on blind bends is also against the Highway Code. A parking enforcement vehicle has begun patrolling the area.

Please also be mindful of our close neighbours and avoid parking over driveways - even if it's just for a few minutes.

We all want to keep our children and community as safe as we can, but we can only do this when we all work together.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Learning this term!

As a brief outline, these are some of the areas of learning that your children will be developing before Christmas:

Class 1 - Our topic is 'Celebrations!'; bonfire night, birthdays, Remembrance Day, Diwali, Christmas, eating delicious foods and learning about different cultures. In English, we are looking at non-fiction books and simple sentences and in Maths, we are counting 1-10. Our author of the half-term is Mick Inkpen, reading the Kipper books.

Class 2 - Our book this half term is 'The Owl Who Was Afraid Of The Dark' and we will be writing a non-chronological report all about owls! This links to our Science, where we are learning about animals in our world and what they eat. In Geography, we are thinking about what things are like where we live and in DT, we are learning about mechanisms including levers and sliders. In RE, we are learning about what Christmas means to Christians and all about staying safe online in Computing. Our two units in PE are dance and target games.

Class 3 - We're starting this year by writing our own winter poems in English, before moving on to studying a new book 'Leon and The Place Between', where we will be transported to the circus! Class 3's class novel is 'The Nothing To See Here Hotel'. We're heading back to the Stone Age and Iron age in History, linking to Science learning about rocks and how we know dinosaurs existed through discovering fossils. In DT, we will be investigating different electrical systems and creating our own electrical system for a vehicle and in PE, we will be doing Yoga and well-being as well as dance (becoming spies and creating dances to the James Bond theme tune!).

Class 4 - In English, we are studying the text "Can we save the Tigers?" and will be exploring explanation and persuasive texts to encourage people to stop and save the tigers. In Science, we are studying the heart and the circulatory system, looking at the fascinating ways that the heart works. In PE, we are dancing repeated rhythms without music, creating our own routines with stamps, claps and slides and also play the high energy game of dodgeball looking at the rules of game play and tactics. In RE, we are learning about Jesus as the Messiah and in Geography, we are exploring how and why the earth and the atmosphere is changing, why we have climate change and what we can do to make a difference for the future citizens of the world.