



Headteacher: Miss Jenny Birks

Email: office@las.dsat.education



"Let your light shine." Matthew 5:16

Dear Mothers, Fathers and Carers,

Happy New Year to all children, parents and wider family members! I wish you a very happy, healthy and successful 2022 and hope you enjoyed a merry Christmas together.

In school, we are staying as positive as ever - even with the ongoing challenges we face - to give your children a happy and excellent education. Though restrictions may be back in place, we are still determined to be the best school we can be for your child and striding ahead with improvements and incentives to give the best experiences. This term, we have bought all children a new reading diary to encourage and celebrate reading and we will be introducing a new behaviour policy throughout school, as well as new approaches to teaching Maths and Writing... Phew!

As always, come and speak to us if we can help with anything at all. We're here for you as much as we are the children.

Warmest wishes,
Miss Birks

Key Dates this term:

3rd January	Bank Holiday
4th January	INSET DAY 4
5th January	Children return to school
7th January	Parent's Newsletter out
14th January	1st Good work Assembly
19th January	Open Morning for Parents 9 - 10am (Maths)
26th January	'Community Café' 2:30pm
w/c 31st January	Storytelling Week
9th February	Parent's Evening 3:30 - 6:30pm
14th February	International Book Giving Day - children swap books
16th February	Eucharist in Church at 9:15am
16th February	'Community Café' 2:30pm
18th February	Last day of term for children

School Terms and Holidays for Academic Year 2021-2022

Spring 1: Monday 3rd January - Friday 18th February 2022
PLEASE NOTE - BANK HOLIDAY 3RD Jan and INSET day 4th Jan
Half-term holidays - Monday 21st February - Friday 25th February 2022
Spring 2: Monday 28th February - Friday 8th April 2022
Easter holidays - Monday 11th April - Friday 22nd April 2022
EASTER BANK HOLIDAY IS ON FRIDAY 15th AND MONDAY 18th APRIL
Summer 1: Monday 25th April - Friday 27th May 2022
PLEASE NOTE - MAY BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY 2nd MAY
Spring Bank holidays - Monday 30th May - Friday 3rd June 2022
Summer 2: Queen's Jubilee Bank Holiday - Monday 6th June
Monday 6th June - Thursday 21st July 2022
Break up 20th July - INSET DAY 21st July
Summer Holidays - Friday 22nd July - Monday 31st August 2022

Be Ready, Be Respectful, Be Safe!

Over the next few weeks, we will be introducing our shorter set of Golden Rules to the children - 'Be Ready', 'Be Respectful', 'Be Safe'. These will encompass everyone's behaviour around school and we are hoping will be easier for the children to remember being a shorter amount of rules.

Parent's Evening (9th Feb)

We are hoping to invite parents in person to this, but will advise nearer the time if it is in school or virtual. Thank you.

COVID Postponements

You may notice that we have postponed non-essential visits in to school for the duration of January, following Trust and Local Authority advice. This includes the Open Morning on the 19th Jan, and Community Café on the 26th Jan.

I know you may find this disappointing, but it is done to reduce risk to all in the school community whilst both local and national cases are increasing and at worrying amounts. Thank you for your understanding.

We will continue working with Public Health and other agencies to remain compliant with advice and so these postponements may continue after January. We will keep you updated on Dojo regarding this.

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. Coming to school organized!

Fundraising

A huge thank you to all of your who helped support with our Winterland Market - especially those who organised and ran the event! We collectively raised an outstanding £1800 and still counting, which will be spent on new playground equipment - we just need to decide what to buy now! Thank you.

Cold or Covid?

Sore Throat? Headache? Fever? Runny nose? Sneezing? Loss of smell?

It may not 'just be a cold!' Many of the new symptoms of Covid are similar to those of a cold. If you or your child has these symptoms, please get a PCR test, just to make sure. We want to keep everyone safe!



Storytelling Week (w/c 31st January)

31st January marks the start of storytelling week, a national week dedicated to the art and pleasure of telling and listening to stories. There will be lots of activities happening around school and within lessons, and there will be a storytelling competition for the children to take part in...
More info to follow!

Learning this term!

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

Class 1 - Class 1 will be learning all about the Arctic and the Antarctic - brrr! We will be changing materials, finding continents, naming animals from this habitat and making comparisons with Laughton. Our Author is Nick Butterworth and his Percy Parkkeeper collection!

Class 2 - It's all about 'Nurture with Nurses' in class 2! We will be exploring famous nurses and their jobs, making collages in Art, coding in computing and experiments in Science. Our text this half-term is Matilda and we will be learning multiplication, division and money in Maths.

Class 3 - We will be reading The Iron Man by Ted Hughes and writing newspaper reports about this character. In Maths, we are exploring multiplying and dividing, and in other subjects we are looking at hazard zones, volcanoes and earthquakes, rocks and soils, rapping, gymnastics and dance!

Class 4 - We will be reading The Explorer by Katherine Rundell and writing information texts and letters about the Amazon Rainforest and deforestation. Maths will involve a lot more fractions and problem-solving work. In other subjects, we will be learning about animal classification, biomes and Ancient Greece, and developing techniques in painting, dance and athletics.

Parking

We know that parking is difficult around school, but we must stress that illegal or dangerous parking is not acceptable around the school area. Parking on the yellow lines outside school is strictly prohibited and causes obstructions, putting our children at risk of injury, even if "it's just for a few minutes". A parking enforcement vehicle is patrolling the area at regular times and those caught will be issued a fine.

Please ensure you park in a way that doesn't cause danger or obstruction to others, even if it does mean parking further away from school and walking that bit further. 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.

Cool Milk!

If your child would like milk in school, please register and pay directly on coolmilk.com.

Milk is free for under five year old children and children who have Free School Meals.

You have control over how long you want to pay for milk. It is offered to any pupils

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. We ask that they try to read at least 5 times per week at home with as many of these as possible to an adult. 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 new reading diary whenever they read to recognize and celebrate their efforts! The more reads they do, the more certificates they'll earn!

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

"Read 20 minutes per day and a child will read 1,800,000 words a year."



Staff Changes

We have a couple of changes within our staff team which we'd like to make you aware of.

Mrs O'Connor will be leaving us at February half term to go on to pastures new and spend more time with her family. We will miss her very much and wish her all the best! We thank Mrs O'Connor for her years of dedication to the school and its' families and we know you will share this sentiment. The recruitment process has begun to find a replacement teacher working alongside Mrs Whittaker in Class 2.

Mr Morley, following a period of absence, has unfortunately decided to leave Laughton All Saints' and sends his very best wishes to the children and their families. He will be missed by so many and we thank him for all the work he has done.

We have recruited 2 new teaching assistants to join us at Team Laughton and are very excited to welcome them to our community! **Ms Walton** is joining us in Class 1 and **Mr Robinson** will be working across Class 2 and Class 4. They will both provide extra support to our children and help move their learning forward, working alongside the teachers and teaching assistants to offer the children a full breadth of education.

Census Day - Thursday 20th January

We need your support in helping us keep hold of our budget! The most children who purchase a school dinner means more money we get from the Government to spend on them. This includes those on Free School Meals and Universal FSM if they take a dinner.

A special menu for this day is provided is a Brunch Bap.

After School Clubs

Available for Classes 2,3 and 4:

Mondays - Multi-skills and games

Tuesdays - Craft Club

Hopefully a boxing after school club will start very soon - we will keep you updated!

All clubs are payable on Arbor with limited spaces available - £15 per pupil per half term. Starts next week, Monday 10th January!