



Headteacher: Miss Jenny Birks

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"Let your light shine." Matthew 5:16

Dear Mothers, Fathers and Carers,

At last - the days are getting longer, the weather is getting warmer and it finally feels as though a sense of 'normality' has begun to spread through school life. There certainly have been difficult and confusing times for everyone, especially the children, but we hope that more positive and settled times are ahead. In school, things have been very busy and your children have been working incredibly hard in their learning. We had a great number of story tellers in our competition for story-telling week, Class 4 have been taking part in a number of science experiments and things have been quite frozen in Class 1 as they've learnt about winter and the frozen lands of Antarctica!

There are lots of exciting things happening as we move towards our Easter celebrations, so I hope you find this newsletter informative and helpful. As always, please contact us if you would like to ask anything at all.

Warmest wishes,  
Miss Birks

#### Key Dates this term:

28th February	Children return to school
3rd March	Book fair arrives in school
3rd March	World Book Day - children dress as favourite book character
4th March	Parents' Newsletter out
18th March	Red Nose Day - dress in spots or red!
28th March	Mother's Day Breakfast (Mum's and children welcome)
30th March	'Community Café' 2:30pm
w/c 4th April	Easter Activity Week (inc. KS1 Easter Bonnet Competition and KS2 Egg decorating competition)
7th April	Easter Service Infants 9am and Juniors 10am (parents welcome)
8th April	Easter Egg Raffle
8th April	'Celebration of Behaviour' - letters to parents
8th April	Last day of term - break up at 2.30pm

#### School Terms and Holidays for Academic Year 2021-2022

**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

#### New Teacher

We welcome Mrs Fielding to our school team this week, who will be teaching the children in Class 2, 3 days a week. She is already hard at work getting to know the children, planning exciting learning activities and even digging out the garden for the children to plant seeds later in the term!

#### Winning Story-Tellers!

A huge well done to Ethan (Class 2) and Olu (Class 4) who won our story telling competition - they both wrote amazing stories full of imagination and excitement!  
Enjoy your £5 book vouchers.

#### Book Fair

The Book Fair has arrived in school and will be here until **Wednesday 9th March**. There will be hundreds of quality children's books to browse and buy! Every book purchased through the book fair raises funds for school to buy more books, so please do support us as much as you can.  
Come and join us in the hall on Monday 7th, Tuesday 8th or Wednesday 10th at 3:15pm to make your purchases, alternatively you can order and pay using the Travelling Book website.

#### 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!

#### Read, Write, Inc

I wrote to you recently about new books children who are on our phonics programme will be bringing home. We would ask that they are preciously looked after as they cost school thousands of pounds and we hope them to last for many years, so all children have the chance to read as many books as possible!  
Please help us :-)

#### Red Nose Day!

We are having a non-uniform day on **Friday 18th March** to raise funds for Comic Relief. We ask for a donation of £1 towards the charity. Children will be able to wear anything red or spotty (or both!) on this day - we look forward to seeing their outfits!



#### Mother's Day Breakfast

As a way of us saying 'thank you' to all you Mum's who do an amazing job all year around, we would welcome you and your child in to join us on **Monday 28th March** from 8:15am for a special Mother's Day breakfast. There will be teas, coffees and breakfast items available. Nearer the time, we will ask you to register your interest so we can provide enough items. Thank you!



### Building Renovations and Improvements!

Over the Easter holidays, we will be having a number of different renovations completed around school. All the children's toilets (both juniors and infants) will be completely replaced and refurbished, Class 4 are having a new wall built, Classes 1 and 3 are having new blinds and a large cupboard is being converted in to an intervention room. Very exciting plans to help improve and modernise our school - we look forward to sharing pictures!

### Teaching Improvements

We are totally dedicated to trying to provide the best, highest quality education we can for your children here at Laughton All Saints' and are constantly refining and improving our practice to ensure this is possible. We aim to keep you as informed as possible about these. This term, we have:

- ◇ Introduced a new spelling scheme for KS2, including home practice
- ◇ Re-designed our Science and Geography curriculum to provide long-term and exciting learning units from FS2 - Y6
- ◇ Retrained on and refined the way we teach Early Reading and Phonics
- ◇ Started using the White Rose scheme for teaching Maths and mastery

### 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** - It's all about growing and hunting for minibeasts this half term!

We will be growing sunflowers and learning how they grow, watching caterpillars and frogspawn grow, hunting for minibeasts outside and starting to learn about life cycles. In RE, we will learn about Easter celebrations and in Art we will be painting. Our author of the term is Sheridan Cain and we'll be writing 'What am I?' poems.

**Class 2** - In DT, we are learning about preparing fruit and vegetables to create our own dip whilst in Science we will study plants and how they grow - we're even going to plant some seeds outside! We will be learning word processing skills and reading stories about Moses in RE. There'll be 'round and round' music being listened to and practiced, and in Maths we are learning about length, height and division.

**Class 3** - We are going back in time to the industrial revolution and how the Steel City became famous, and finding out in Science at how humans have explored space! We are learning more about Easter in RE and tasting, designing and making our own salad in DT. Our book this term is 'The Lost Words' so we will be reading and writing poetry, whilst in Maths we are multiplying and dividing using formal methods. There'll be plenty of fitness and dodgeball in PE!

**Class 4** - This half term's learning is learning about rocks and the rock cycle in Science and migration and why people move in Geography. In DT, we are investigating, tasting, designing and making some seasonal soups (yum yum!) whilst in RE we will be exploring salvation, along with our own hopes and dreams in PSHE. In English, we are continuing with our book 'The Explorer' and writing narratives and biographies. Maths will be lots of reasoning and applying of our knowledge, with a focus on time and percentages, all finished off with some dodgeball and orienteering in PE!

### 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. It is so important that they re-read books as well. 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 recognise 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:

"Reading exercises our brain. It's a much more complex task for the human brain than watching TV. Reading strengthens brains connections and builds NEW connections."



### Y3/4 Swimming Lessons

Lessons for Class 3 start on Wednesday 30th March. Please read letter for more information.

### Easter Celebrations

#### Easter Church Service

Thursday 7th April 9:15am

Parents and families are invited to join us in our celebrations which will be led by Rev Mike. We look forward to seeing you there!

**Easter Bonnet Competition (Classes 1 and 2)**

Friday 8th April

All infant children are invited to decorate an Easter bonnet / hat with the most creativity they can. We will then host a parade and winners will be chosen for the best bonnet, with prizes of chocolate eggs!

**Egg Decorating Competition (Classes 3 and 4)**

For Junior children, we will be holding a competition for the best decorated egg. Therefore, we invite children to bring in a decorated, hard-boiled egg from Monday 4th April - Thursday 7th April. The entries will be judged and 2 winners per year group will win a chocolatey prize on Friday 8th April!

**Easter Egg Raffle - Friday 8th April**

Raffle tickets to win Easter Eggs will be available for purchase w/c Monday 4th April. The children can buy as many tickets as they like, and on the last day of term, there will be an assembly where tickets will be drawn out and winners can collect their chocolate goody!

Tickets are priced at 20p and proceeds will go towards school funds.

Donations of Easter Eggs would be gratefully received - every time an egg is handed in to the office, the child will receive a free raffle ticket and a mini-egg! Thank you for your support.



### Parking

We thank all parents who have helped us keep our children safe by parking safely and in areas that doesn't cause obstruction. There has been a noticeable improvement in parking around school which could not be achieved without the commitment of families.

Unfortunately, there are still a very small minority of parents who still park on the yellow zig-zag lines outside school. The Parking Enforcement Vehicle is still visiting school regularly, who will send fines to those caught parked there. Where cars are now seen parking on the yellow lines, school will be referring their details to the local council for a letter to be sent. Please ensure you are parked legally!

When the Y3/4's start swimming lessons this term, the front of school will have cones marked for the parking of the coach - please help us by parking elsewhere when you see those cones. Thank you!