



DRAGONFLY



The Newsletter of Lakeside Primary School: February 2023

www.lakesideprimaryschool.co.uk

Dear Parents/Carers,

Thank you once again for all your kind donations on the gate this morning for Velindre Cancer Care. A wonderful £372.50 was raised thanks to your generosity.

We wish all families who are celebrating tomorrow a very Happy Chinese New Year. It was lovely to see so many children in national dress today and we even had a beautiful dragon's head, all the way from Hong Kong!

World Thinking Day

In celebration of World Thinking Day on Thursday, 22nd February, pupils who attend Guides, Brownies or Rainbows are invited to wear their Guides, Brownies or Rainbows uniforms to school.

News

- Year 2 enjoyed a visit to Cardiff Castle for their Towers, Tunnels and Turrets Learning Project
- Reception were visited by some Dangerous Dinosaurs at the beginning of their Learning Project, and at the end, they visited Cardiff Museum to see the dinosaur skeletons
- The Lakeside Citizens pupil group made a video about the new recycling bins that we have received in school – letting everyone know what can go in which bin.
- The Bronwen's Wish Wellbeing Pod is finished and we are planning its official opening. We are also delighted to share that Bronwen's Wish, the charity that is behind our wonderful new Wellbeing pod, has been selected as their Charity of the Year by Mooneerams Solicitors.



The finished Wellbeing Pod



- Year 5 pupils undertook cycling proficiency training, learning to safely ride bikes – on the road in some cases
- Some members of the Pupil Leadership Team expressed a wish to run a school newsletter and this has evolved into a news vlog in which we look at recent school news and talk to pupils and staff involved. We have now shared two vlogs with the whole school and are looking forward to many more

- Our school football teams played football against Whitchurch Primary, and lost one and drew another game – well done to them
- Year 1 brought their learning project – Rio de Vida – to an end with a wonderful carnival this week

Whole-school events this half term

- NSPCC Number Day took place. Pupils and staff dressed up and – courtesy of our School Council - enjoyed number-themed activities on Number Day. The School Council presented a powerpoint and video on the work of the NSPCC and a wonderful £210 was raised for the charity. Thank you for your generosity Lakeside families
- The Digital Leaders pupil group led an interesting and informative assembly on Safer Internet Day. The results of their Infographic competition will be announced after the half term break
- We held a Wear Red for Velindre Day fundraiser for which pupils and staff wore red. The collection raised a phenomenal £372.50! Thank you yet again for your continuing kindness.
- Mrs Thomas and the Outdoor Learners decorated the Half Aker Wood Garden for Chinese New Year
- Criw Cymraeg shared a quiz and whole-school singing session for Welsh Music Day, with a rousing rendition in Welsh of Heads, Shoulders, Knees and Toes in Friday’s assembly

PTA

- The PTA held the first Cake Sale of 2024 and raised an excellent £284.30!
- The AGM took place and we said goodbye to several committee members and voted in some new ones – as follows

Lakeside Primary PTA

Following the recent AGM we would like to say goodbye and a huge thank you to Teresa and Lisa who are stepping down from their committee roles, and to the other PTA volunteers who are leaving as their children are moving on to high school. Their commitment, time and hard work over the past few years has made such a massive difference in supporting the school, providing fun events for Lakeside families and helping to fund so many different things for the children, from the Christmas pantomime, to the key stage one shade shed and playground markings.

Email: lakesideprimarycardiffpta@gmail.com with any ideas/suggestions and if you'd like to get involved in any way! All help is greatly appreciated.

We'd like to introduce your new PTA committee!!! A big welcome to Caren, Lisa, Rhian, Kate, Charlotte, Catherine, Bethan and Gemma.

The PTA are finalising the calendar of events for the rest of the school year so keep an eye out for information when we return after half term.

Meet your 2024 PTA committee

 Caren Baxter Co-chair	 Lisa Budd Co-chair	 Rhian Boast Secretary	 Kate Morgan Secretary
 Charlotte Taylor Treasurer	 Catherine Parker Treasurer	 Bethan Thomas Communications	 Gemma Thomas Communications

If you have any ideas for the PTA and want to get involved, come and chat to us, or email: lakesideprimarycardiffpta@gmail.com.

Dragonflies Update

Due to Health & Safety reasons, the grey ‘KS2’ gates are closed before the start of school. Dragonflies arrangements are that parents/carers phone Dragonflies from the gate when they arrive, so that a member of the team can collect your child. Parents/carers who do not accompany their child to the gate must phone ahead to Dragonflies to let them know that their child is on their way.

Changes to the school term

The Welsh Government has asked us to share with you a form aimed at gathering views on changes to the school terms in Wales. The following link will take you to the form. Thank you. <https://forms.office.com/e/gSZcSNbH1e>

Chess Club News: Lakeside Chess Championship

Pupils from Years 2 to 6 are invited to meet other Lakeside chess players and learn about their own chess abilities, by joining the **Lakeside Chess Championship on Monday, February 26th**. It starts at 3.30pm and finishes at 5pm. There will be four rounds of 15-minute long games. Please fill the form here to express interest:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdPesQrqaLTkbp_uRYgN58L7DuZDYmO6Gfmrhte_9p8vdRWog/viewform?usp=sf_link

Following this, the World Chess Union is organising a school team championship, planned for March 16th
<https://www.welshchessunion.uk/WCU%20Schools%20RP/index.html>

Parent/Carer Consultations

Tuesday 19th and Wednesday 20th March 2024, between 3.30pm and 6.30pm

Dates for Parent Sharing sessions

Nursery	Easter Bonnet parades Tuesday 19 th March
Reception	Wednesday 24 th April 9.30am
Year 1	Thursday 7 th March 9.30am
Year 2	Thursday 21 st March 9.30am
Year 3	Thursday 2 nd May 9.30am
Year 4	Tuesday 9 th April 9.30am
Year 5	Thursday 14 th March 9.30am
Year 6	TBC

Learning Project Experts

As you know, we love to welcome experts from the school, and wider, community to be 'experts' in our Learning Projects. If you, or someone you know/family member, have knowledge and experience to share with the children connected to any of the following subjects, we would love to hear from you. Thank you.

Year group	Learning Project	Kind of expert we would like
Year 6	'Chwedlau Cymraeg' Welsh Myths and Legends	Anyone with knowledge about the Mabinogion and/or story-building.
Year 5	Alchemy Island (continuation)	A combination of science and creativity, working with riddles, maps, chemistry and learning about the ancient art of alchemy. Pupils will create a video game, compose a soundtrack and go on a magical journey.
Year 4	Here and There	We are comparing Wales and the USA. Experts with knowledge about Welsh castles are most welcome
Year 3	Tremors	Any experts on geology, volcanoes and earthquakes; also any journalists, as we will be writing newspaper reports
Year 2	Tales from Wales	Year 2 would love to meet someone with good knowledge of Welsh History and its landmarks
Year 1	Rio de Vida (continuation)	Anybody with knowledge about carnivals and Brazil (the place, the food, the people) and a dancing expert (e.g. Samba)
Reception	Puppets and Popups	We will be creating a puppet theatre, telling stories with puppets and music, and designing and making our own puppets using levers.
Nursery	Are Eggs Alive?	People who can talk to the Nursery children about eggs and how creatures grow (including insect/butterfly larvae)

Wishing you all a peaceful half term break.

Best wishes,

Rachel Mitchell

Upcoming events / Term dates

February 2024

- Friday 9th Feb - break up for half term
- Monday 19th Feb – return to school
- Wednesday 21st Feb – International Mother Languages Day
- Thursday, 22nd February - World Thinking Day
- Monday 26th Feb – Fair Trade Fortnight begins

March 2024

- Monday 26th February to Friday 1st March – Welsh Week
- Friday 1st March – School Eisteddfodau
- Thursday 7th March – World Book Day
- Year 1 Parent Sharing Session
- Monday 11th March – Year 3 Swimming Week 1
- Thursday 14th March – Year 5 Parent Sharing Session
- Thursday 14th March – Book Fair begins
- Friday 15th March – COMIC RELIEF DAY
- Monday 18th March – Year 3 Swimming Week 2
- Tuesday 19th March – Nursery Easter Bonnet parades
- Tuesday 19th and Wednesday 20th March 2024 – Parent Consultations
- Thursday 21st March – Year 2 Parent Sharing Session

April 2024

- Tuesday 9th April – Year 4 Parent Sharing Session
- Wednesday 10th April – Eid ul-Fitr (exact date TBC)
- Friday 19th April – World Bee Day at Lakeside
- Wednesday 24th April – Reception Parent Sharing Session

May 2024

- Thursday 2nd May – Year 3 Parent Sharing Session
- Monday 6th May – BANK HOLIDAY

June 2024

- Monday 3rd June – INSET DAY

July 2024

- Monday 22nd July – INSET DAY

Term dates

2023-2024 academic year

INSET DAY	Friday 19 th January		
Break up for Half Term	Friday 9 th February, 2024		
Spring Half Term	Monday 12 th February, 2024	Friday 16 th February, 2024	
Break up for Easter	Friday 22 nd March, 2024		
Easter Break		Monday 25 th March, 2024	Friday 5 th April, 2024
Return to school	Monday 8 th April, 2024		

EARLY MAY BANK HOLIDAY	Monday 6 th May, 2024		
Break up for Half Term	Friday 24 th May		
Summer Half Term		Monday 27 th May, 2024	Friday 31 st May, 2024
INSET DAY	Monday 3 rd June		
Last Day of term	Friday 19 th July		
INSET DAY	Monday 22 nd July		