



DRAGONFLYER



The Newsletter of Lakeside Primary School: December 2022

www.lakesideprimaryschool.co.uk

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to the Christmas Dragonflyer! I hope that you have all enjoyed the lovely Christmas performances your children have been in. It was a delight to welcome you into school and share the children's hard work with you. I don't know about you, but the performances made me feel very Christmassy. As you know, our Year 6s were collecting donations at the Christmas performances to raise money for Crisis South Wales, a homeless charity. I'm delighted to say that these collections raised £812.07! I, therefore, have to thank Lakeside families yet again for your unfailing generosity.

I don't actually remember a time when we have broken up this late for Christmas. I hope that you will enjoy what will feel like an extra week off in January and have a chance to relax and get over the festivities (and all the nasty cold, flu and coughs that are going around!) before returning to school on Monday 9th January.

Remaining INSET DAYS this academic year

We have added our last two Inset Days to the calendar. They will be on:

Friday 3rd Feb

Monday 5th June

Please also note that **Monday 1st May** is the Early May Bank Holiday and there is an **ADDITIONAL Bank Holiday on Monday 8th May to mark King Charles III's coronation**

Clubs

After school clubs restart on Monday 16th Jan as follows:

| | | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------|
| Monday 3-15 to 4-15 | Choir | Years 4, 5 and 6 |
| Tuesday 3-15 to 4-15 3-15 to 4-20 | Football Sport Fit | Years 5 and 6 Years 3 and 4 |
| Wednesday 3-15 to 4-15 | Dance Fit | Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 |
| Thursday 3-30 to 4-30 | Young Lifesavers | Year 5 (5V after Christmas) |

We are hoping to start up a Chess Club in the new year. If you are interested in helping out in this, please let me know.

Universal Free School Meals

The local authority catering department tells us that the date for rolling out Universal Free School Meals to years 1 and 2 has not yet been decided. We will keep parents and carers informed as we receive more news.

Conifer trees edging the Foundation Phase playground

We have been advised by the Health & Safety Department that the conifer trees that run along the far edge of the Foundation Phase playground need to be removed due to concerns around subsidence. We are also concerned that their height may become an issue in high winds. Their removal is scheduled to take place during the Christmas break. We will be looking into alternative sources of shade for the summer months.

Lakeside Citizens Handwashing Poster Competition

Following the success of our Autumn Nature competitions, the Lakeside Citizens have launched a new competition open to all pupils. It is to create a handwashing instruction poster for use throughout the school. This can be done over the Christmas holidays and the deadline is 12th January. Please find below links to Lakeside Citizens pupil group's

video to promote good hand hygiene. <https://lakeside-primary-school-cardiff.primarysite.media/media/hand-hygiene>

Pupil Leadership Team competition: Design a School Mascot that shows the value of respect

One of the ideas that emerged through our Pupil Voice ideas board is a school mascot. The Pupil Leadership Team has launched a competition to create a mascot based on the school values which are:

- Respect Ourselves
- Respect our Community
- Respect our World

The children have been discussing all the different ways that we can respect each other, our community and our world. The attached PowerPoint lists the ideas the children came up with for these values. I'm sure that you'll agree that these are really important values, not just for school, but for life.

The mascots can be designed individually or in pairs, can be created on paper or on a computer and the deadline for entries is Friday January 20th, 2023. Children can use our Lakeside Learners as inspiration, or come up with something completely new. Computer entries can be sent to Mrs Mitchell on MitchellR28@Hwbcymru.net. I'm looking forward to seeing the entries!

Whole-school events this half term

- Anti-bullying Week kicked off with Odd Socks Day and pupils across the school enjoyed Anti-bullying activities throughout the week.
- That same week we marked Children in Need in which pupils and staff were invited to wear spots and/or any Children in Need items that they have at home. This event raised £361.36 for Children in Need.
- The Digital Leaders pupil group received many wonderful entries to their Half Term Autumn competitions. They judged the entries and chose winners early this half term. Winners were given prizes and certificates.
- The School Council launched a poetry competition, inviting pupils to write poems about Nature. They judged these in early December and the winners read their poems out in assembly.
- Pupils and staff were welcomed to school to music on Christmas Jumper Day and everyone wore lovely Christmas jumpers and outfits. We raised £196 for Save the Children.
- Donations collected at the Christmas performances for Crisis South Wales raised £812.07.

PTA

- The PTA Christmas cards, mugs and tea towels were ordered and distributed to families early this half term and raised a fantastic £949.60!
- The PTA Table Top Sale at the end of November was a great success and extremely busy. It raised £100.
- The PTA hosted a Cake Sale with cakes donated by Years 1 and 5 this time. This raised a fantastic £341!
- The PTA Christmas Fayre was a wonderful event, full of happy families enjoying wonderful Christmas activities and a wonderful £1225 was raised.
- The PTA paid for a Christmas pantomime treat for the whole school this week – *oh no they didn't... oh yes they did!* The children and staff really enjoyed it! Thank you PTA 😊

Thanks to the PTA for this and ALL the hard work they do to raise money and run fun events for the children.

Experts from our school community

You may recall in the October Dragonflyer that I asked parents/carers/family members if any of you could help with our Autumn Term Learning Projects, and huge thanks to those who stepped forward. Now I'm asking you to look at our Spring Term Learning Projects to see if there's anything there that you can help with, please. If you have skills, talents or an interesting job or hobby that you think would be useful and engaging for the children to hear about, please contact me on MitchellR28@Hwbcymru.net. This could involve talking to a class or assembly (either face-to-face or remotely), or simply being involved in our learning projects. Our Spring Term Learning Projects are:

| Year Group | Learning Projects |
|------------|---|
| Reception | Dangerous Dinosaurs , all about dinosaurs – their habitats, their food, their bones and anything else to do with these fascinating creatures |
| Year 1 | Rio da Vida , all about carnivals, with the main focus on Brazil |
| Year 2 | Spring 1: Towers, Tunnels & Turrets , a look at the different parts of castles and the knights that used them Spring 2: Tales from Wales , focussing on stories from Cardiff and in particular Vinny the Seal from Victoria Park |
| Year 3 | Contrast and Colour – finishing off our learning project based on artwork that shows colour Predator – all about the food chain and how animals interact and survive in different habitats |
| Year 4 | Road Trip USA , all about travel and the things that go with it: maps, postcards, tourist information. |
| Year 5 | Sow, Grow and Farm is about planting and growing fruit and vegetables, alongside Tints, Tones and Shapes which is about art. |
| Year 6 | The Frozen Kingdom (the creatures of snowy lands and a focus on the story of the Titanic) continues until half term, after which Year 6 will study Darwin . |

Thank you in anticipation of your help and support.

I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Best wishes,

Rachel Mitchell

Upcoming events / Term dates

January 2023

Monday 9th January - back to school

Sunday 22nd January – Chinese New Year

February 2023

Thursday 2nd February – NSPCC Number Day

Friday 3rd February – INSET DAY

Tuesday 7th February – Safer Internet Day

Monday 20th February to Friday 24th February – Half Term break

March 2023

Wednesday 1st March – St David's Day

Thursday 2nd March – World Book Day

10th-19th March – British Science Week

Friday 17th March – Red Nose Day

Wednesday 22nd March – Ramadan begins (exact dates TBC)

Friday 31st March – break up for Easter

April 2023

EASTER BREAK

Sunday 9th April – Easter Day

Monday 17th April – back to school

Friday 21st to Saturday 22nd April – Eid ul-Fitr (exact dates TBC)

May 2023

Monday 1st May – BANK HOLIDAY

Monday 8th May – BANK HOLIDAY for Coronation

Monday 29th May to Friday 2nd June – Half Term break

June 2023

Monday 5th June – INSET DAY

July 2023

Monday 24th July – last day of term

SUMMER BREAK

Term dates

2022-2023 academic year

| | | | |
|--------------------------------|--|--|--|
| Christmas Holiday | | Monday 26 th December, 2022 | Friday 6 th January, 2023 |
| Back to school after Christmas | Monday 9 th January, 2023 | | |
| INSET DAY | Friday 3 rd February, 2023 | | |
| Break up for Spring Half Term | Friday 17 th February, 2023 | | |
| Spring Half Term | | Monday 20 th February, 2023 | Friday 24 th February, 2023 |
| Back to school | Monday 27 th February, 2023 | | |
| Break up for Easter holiday | Friday 31 st March, 2023 | | |
| Easter Holiday | | Monday 3 rd April, 2023 | Friday 14 th April, 2023 |
| Back to school for Summer Term | Monday 17 th April, 2023 | | |
| EARLY MAY BANK HOLIDAY | Monday 1 st May, 2023 | | |
| CORONATION BANK HOLIDAY | Monday 8 th May, 2023 | | |
| Break up for Half Term | Friday 26 th May, 2023 | | |
| Summer Half Term | | Monday 29 th May, 2023 | Friday 2 nd June, 2023 |
| INSET DAY | Monday 5 th June, 2023 | | |
| Return to school | Tuesday, 6 th June, 2023 | | |
| Break up for summer | Monday 24 th July, 2023 | | |
| Summer break | | | |
| INSET DAY | Monday 4 th Sept, 2023 | | |
| Return to school Sept 2023 | Tuesday 5 th Sept, 2023 | | |