

Lent Rise School Newsletter

May 2017



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Building Works

I am delighted to share that the building work is now complete. Along with the front entrance areas, we now have a fabulous new servery area within our hall as well as a larger hall, larger classroom for 6M and corridors around much of the hall. I thank Edgar Taylor and Bucks CC for their support and commitment to this project.

The breakfast and after school clubs now have their food prepared in our lovely new kitchenette and the corridor system around the hall has made a huge difference already.

School Value

Our school value this half term is Honesty which is defined as truthful, sincere, upright, straightforward and free of any intention to do wrong.

Sponsored Spell

More than £700 has been raised so far for the School Council through the Sponsored Spell which is run by the pupils for the pupils. This year they have decided to spend the money raised on purchasing resources for the outdoor library.

Communications with Staff

I'm afraid I do need to ask you to think about how staff members are spoken to. There have been several occasions this school year when staff members have been left bereft and upset following aggressive outbursts by parents on the playground. This is now having an impact on the children and is inappropriate. We expect the highest standards of behaviour from our pupils and would hope that parents encourage this by acting as role models.

Reception Year Entry 2017

I have been asked by many of you about September 2017 classes and Reception Year intake and I can confirm that there will be two classes in Early Years (Reception Year) for September 2017 entry.

Updates from Parent Questionnaire Feedback

Several of you commented on the condition of our outside toilets. We would like new toilets and the PTA have agreed to help us to fund this - they are currently gathering ideas for fundraising. We have applied for some funding but need to raise approximately £10,000! If you would like to add to this fund, there is an 'Outside Toilets' donation tab in ParentPay. Maybe you could put a penny in a pot every time you spend a penny and then give us your pennies for the fund!

KS2 Fruit

Our KS1 pupils receive fruit that is funded by the government as part of the NHS Fruit for Schools scheme and we have been asked by some of you through our parent questionnaires to find a way to make fruit available to KS2 pupils as well. Sadly this cannot be funded from the school budget and previous attempts to sell fruit to KS2 pupils resulted in too much wastage making it unviable.

Our PTA have agreed to discuss this and to consider providing fruit to KS2 children for a trial period. If this were to go ahead ahead the children would receive the same fruit as KS1 so it might not be to everyone's taste each day. For example, apples one day, bananas the next as the schedule is not controlled by the school. Do share your thoughts with the PTA reps and we'll keep you updated on the progress of this fruity adventure!

House Point Totals

The end of Spring Term house point totals were 523 for Hitcham, 582 for Lent, 540 for Cliveden and 625 for Huntercombe. Summer house point totals so far this term are 143 for Hitcham, 70 for Lent, 69 for Cliveden and 168 for Huntercombe.

Film Club Award

We are incredibly proud to announce another competition winner - Rowan in Class 6M has won the book review prize for a Film Club review! That's two in two months for Lent Rise!!!

Marie-Curie

We raised £214 for this worthwhile charity by selling daffodils in March. Thank you!

PTA Reps Feedback

We held a meeting on Friday 21st April at which the reps were able to view our fabulous completed building work, including the larger hall and servery. We discussed ways of inviting you as parents to visit as well and will be holding open house sessions later this term so you can come along to see for yourself. The main focus of the feedback from the meeting was a reiteration of the concern previously raised regarding parents crowding around the doorway at collection and drop off times. They requested that all parents should take a step back to support the safety of pupils at this time.

I am delighted to share that the reps have invited a governor to attend the next meeting which is to be held on Friday 16th June with coffee at 9.15am for a 9.30am start.

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Reward Systems

In our recent parent questionnaire and at our PTA reps' meetings, many of you asked for information on reward systems used in school. At Lent Rise we believe in rewarding students who show commitment, enthusiasm and achievement in school. We have a number of different awards and you can find out more about them below.

One child in each class is awarded the following:

Star Student of the Week - This certificate is awarded to a child who has worked particularly hard during the week or excelled in a specific area.

Star Citizen of the Week - This certificate is awarded to a child who has been kind, helpful or offered the hand of friendship to a classmate showing respect towards others and the rules of the school community.

Star Writer of the Week - This certificate is awarded to a child who has excelled in their written work.

Sports Star of the Week - This certificate is awarded to a child who has shown outstanding achievement or effort in sporting activities.

Homework Star of the Week - This certificate is awarded to a child who has shown incredible effort in completing their homework.

Each week one class is awarded the following:

Good manners at Lunchtime - This medal is awarded to the class that shows the best behaviour and manners during the lunch break.

Tidiest Classroom - This medal is awarded to the class who have kept their classroom the tidiest.

Extra Break - The class that gain the most reward shields during assemblies is given four minutes extra break on a Friday.

We also present end of year annual awards in the following categories for each class:

Endeavour Award is presented to a pupil who makes the most conscientious and determined effort.

Achievement Award is presented to a pupil who accomplishes something especially by resolve, persistence or courage.

There are some other awards which are given to children in different key stages for a variety of reasons. For example, an ICT award for KS1 and KS2, a KS2 Mathematician Award (in memory of Simon Ashby) and the Early Years Lenni Award.

Shakespeare Writing Competition

During our time as librarians, we have done many interesting things including opening an outdoor library, but by far one of the most exciting things we have done was starting a writing competition to celebrate Shakespeare week. The idea first came around in a meeting. We first had to get permission from Mrs Watson and Miss Wilson. They both said it was a fabulous idea. Once we had got permission we decided we needed to get the message out, so we made lots of posters to go around the school, open to all years.

We were shocked at how many amazing entries came to the library and we all had a very tough decision to make. In the end we chose to vote on the entries, as we couldn't make up our mind over the brilliant entries. Finally, we managed to pick our winner whose work really stood out against the others. We picked out three winners and one runner up. Then we decided that Dylan from 5J should come first, Kushbu from 5J second and Yuvraj from 1G came third. Then we chose Tilly from 6S as a runner up. We gave Dylan a notebook and a book voucher and Kushbu and Yuvraj a notebook each.

Written by: Anneka, Megan and Sophie of class 6S.



Homework update

In response to feedback from all our stakeholder groups, including parents, teacher and pupils, homework systems will change with the following adjustments from September 2017:

- Holiday homework tasks to be optional projects - these will not be formally marked but they will be shared as a celebration/Show and Tell if a child wishes to do so.
(We do appreciate that although many of you feel holiday homework is a burden on home/life balance, others do value these projects and have followed your request to support your child's learning in these topic areas.)
- There will be a reduction of weekend homework to support daily practice of reading and times tables and individualised homework tasks to support specific areas.
- There will be a more consistent approach to homework being collated, where possible, in books so that feedback can be shared with the pupils and parents and used to support learning.

We will continue with Maths, Topic/Reading, Comprehension and Spellings/Phonics weekday homework systems as directed by the class teachers in September. Changes to this will include more time for tasks to be handed in to support family organisation of this.

What have we been up to? Science Week

During British Science Week Lent Rise pupils had the pleasure of two special visitors 'Boffin John' and 'Biology Boffin Andy'.

Boffin John kicked off Science week by delivering an awe-inspiring assembly. Boffin John began by demonstrating the power of optical illusions and then moved on to making elephant toothpaste. The children were amazed watching the three small quantities of chemical make such a huge amount of toothpaste!

Year 2 and Year 6 then took part in Science workshops focussing on the topic that they are currently learning about in Science. The feedback from the pupils was excellent with one Year 6 child telling us that she didn't realise Science was so much fun. She said she'd never really been into Science but that Boffin John showed her how cool and exciting Science can be. She now wants to get into Chemistry, has bought a book of experiments and a notebook to write her results in.

Boffin Andy visited on Thursday and delivered a range of exciting and equally inspiring workshops to Years 2, 3, 4 and 5. The circulatory system game was great fun for Year 5 and Years 3 and 4 had great fun crunching the contents of a stomach in freezer bags before watching the food journey through the circulatory system.



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Term Dates

Summer Term 2017	Tuesday 18 th April Monday 5 th June Inset Day Early May Bank Holiday	Thursday 25 th May Friday 21 st July Friday 26 th May Monday 1 st May
Autumn Term 2017	Wednesday 6 th September Monday 30 th October Inset Days	Friday 20 th October Tuesday 19 th December Monday 4 th September Tuesday 5 th September
Spring Term 2018	Thursday 4 th January Monday 19 th February Inset Day	Friday 9 th February Thursday 29 th March Wednesday 3 rd January
Summer Term 2018	Monday 16 th April Monday 4 th June Inset Days Early May Bank Holiday	Friday 25 th May Friday 20 th July Monday 23 rd July Tuesday 24 th July Monday 7 th May

April Attendance Our overall whole school attendance figure for last month was 97.2%. The KS1 award went to class 1D who achieved 98.5% attendance and the KS2 award to 3J, who achieved an incredible 100% attendance, for the month of April.

Diary Dates 2017

Y6 SATS Week	Week commencing 8 th May
Y2 SATs Month	Month of May
Inset Day - (staff training day)	Friday 26 th May
Phonics Screening Week	Week commencing 12 th June
Sports Week - details to follow	Week commencing 19 th June
Moving up to Secondary School Meeting for Current Y5 parents	Monday 19 th June at 6.00 pm
Business Week in School - Fairtrade theme	Week commencing 3 rd July
End of Year Pupil Reports Sent Home	Friday 7 th July
Business Enterprise Sales Afternoon	After school on Friday 7 th July
End of Year Celebration Assemblies for Parents	
EY -Friday 14 th July at 9.45 am	Y5 -Wednesday 19 th July at 9.20 am
Y2 - Monday 17 th July at 9.20 am	Y3 - Wednesday 19 th July at 10.00 am
Y1 - Monday 17 th July at 10.00 am	Y6 -Thursday 20 th July at 2.00 pm
Y4 - Tuesday 18 th July at 9.20 am	

2017 Residential Trip Dates

Year 5 to Shortenills	Wednesday 17 th May to Friday 19 th May
Year 6 to PGL Weymouth	Tuesday 27 th June to Friday 30 th June

Please note that all dates are subject to change.

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