



LJS Update

Newsletter No 22 - November 2016

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With Christmas fast approaching the year 3 and 4 children are practising hard to make a wonderful Christmas performance for you to come and watch. A wide variety of sporting events have been happening including football, basketball, swimming in year 4 and indoor athletics. We have had lots of praise about how sporting the children are and about what excellent manners and behaviour the children have shown. This makes all of Team Larkfields very proud.

If you have any spare Lego in your homes that you no longer want we are desperately in need of some – any donations would be very welcome.



We would also like to congratulate Mrs Bowley in the office on completing her Level 4 Diploma School Business Management. Everyone here at Larkfields is a Learner!



We also wish Mrs Scholter lots of luck as she goes on Maternity Leave this week. Mrs Bowen will take her place and has already started working with the Year 3 Team. We will of course update you once Mrs Scholter has had the baby.



Jess Scott

Friends of Larkfields

Friends of Larkfields is signed up to **The Giving Machine** and you can help us raise money just by joining and then shopping online. It is simple and at no cost to you. You can find printed information at the school office or check out <http://www.givingmachine.com>. All you do is register and then when doing your Christmas shopping click through the site first and you are helping raise funds every time. The Friends have been very busy organising school discos, movie night and the upcoming Christmas Fair.

Take Care

This half term linked to Anti Bullying week and we have been looking especially at Taking Care of Each Other. The children have been nominating each other and those members of staff in school who have especially taken care of others. The children have also Taken Care of Others by buying biscuits for Children in Need we raised £141. Thank you.



School Council

The school council wrote to Anna Soubry MP about the state of our pavements, and over half term the pavements have been resurfaced and are much safer and look better. We thank Anna for her help in this matter and are very pleased that our pupil voice is making a difference to our school. We are looking next to source a new outside classroom and the school council will be working with Mrs Poxon to find some funding!

Christmas Dates



1st December – Movie Night

Friday 9th December Christmas Fair- 3-6pm

Wed 14th December Year 3/4 Play 10 AM

Thursday 15th December Year 3/4 Play 6:30pm

Thursday 15th December Christmas dinner Day and Christmas Jumper Day – All donations going to Save the Children.

Monday 19th December Larkfields Got Talent 9:30am

Monday 19th December 2:30pm Carols outside

Tuesday 20th December Panto 1:30 depart from school return 6pm-ish (traffic dependent)

End of Term.

I have a GROWTH MINDSET!



Building Learning Power

This term we are looking at resilience and the muscles you need to use to be a resilient learner.

So far we have looked at managing distractions and perseverance next we will be looking at absorption in learning.

Check out the class dojo video links to find out more about BLP

<https://ideas.classdojo.com/>

Music Lessons: There are still places on the keyboard, woodwind and brass lessons. If your child is interested they can start after Christmas, £5.95 per lesson during school time, pay on ParentPay for the term. Please contact the School Office for more details or to book your child's place.





Focus on... Reading.

This year one of our whole school focuses is reading for pleasure. Why you might ask? Reading is important because it develops the mind. The mind is a muscle. It needs exercise. Understanding the written word is one way the mind grows in its ability. Teaching young children to read helps them develop their language skills. It also helps them learn to listen.

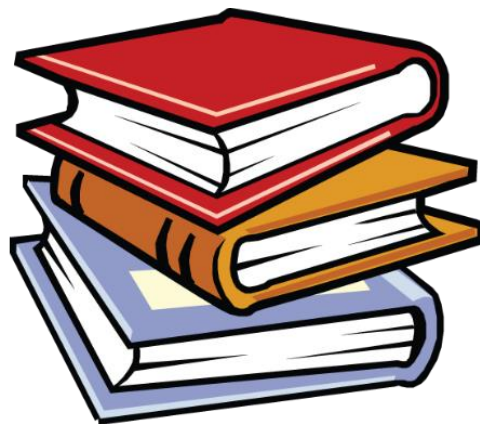
Why is reading important? It is how we discover new things. Books, magazines and even the Internet are great learning tools which require the ability to read and understand what is read. A person who knows how to read can educate themselves in any area of life they are interested in. We live in an age where we overflow with information, but reading is the main way to take advantage of it.

Reading develops the imagination. TV and computer games have their place, but they are more like amusement. With reading, a person can go anywhere in the world...or even out of it! They can be a king, or an adventurer, or a princess, or... The possibilities are endless.

In line with the above, reading develops the creative side of people. When reading to children, stop every once in awhile and ask them what they think is going to happen next. Get them thinking about the story. When it is finished, ask if they could think of a better ending or anything that would have improved it. If they really liked the story, encourage them to illustrate it with their own drawings or to make up a different story with the same characters. Get the creative juices flowing!

Why is reading important? Let's keep going... Good reading skills, especially in a phonics reading program, improve spelling. As students learn to sound out letters and words, spelling comes easier. Also, reading helps to expand the vocabulary. Reading new words puts them in their mind for later use. Seeing how words are used in different contexts can give a better understanding of the word usage and definitions than the cold facts of a dictionary.

Finally, why is reading important? Reading is important because words - spoken and written - are the building blocks of life.



Enjoy Reading Top 10 tips to help children enjoy reading To help make reading enjoyable and fun, we asked experts and authors what they recommend to help get kids reading.

1. Make books part of your family life - Always have books around so that you and your children are ready to read whenever there's a chance.
2. Join your local library - Get your child a library card. You'll find the latest videogames, blu-rays and DVDs, plus tons and tons of fantastic books. Allow them to pick their own books, encouraging their own interests.
3. Match their interests - Help them find the right book - it doesn't matter if it's fiction, poetry, comic books or non-fiction.
4. All reading is good - Don't discount non-fiction, comics, graphic novels, magazines and leaflets. Reading is reading and it is all good.
5. Get comfortable! - Snuggle up somewhere warm and cosy with your child, either in bed, on a beanbag or on the sofa, or make sure they have somewhere comfy when reading alone.
6. Ask questions - To keep them interested in the story, ask your child questions as you read such as, 'What do you think will happen next?' or 'Where did we get to last night? Can you remember what had happened already?'
7. Read whenever you get the chance - Bring along a book or magazine for any time your child has to wait, such as at a doctor's surgery.
8. Read again and again - Encourage your child to re-read favourite books and poems. Re-reading helps to build up fluency and confidence.
9. Bedtime stories - Regularly read with your child or children at bedtime. It's a great way to end the day and to spend valuable time with your child.
10. Rhyme and repetition - Books and poems which include rhyme and repetition are great for encouraging your child or children to join in and remember the words.