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Term 1 2020-2021 – Week 7

Dear Parents and Carers,

Well done on all achieving such a successful return to school in our first term. We are delighted that we have been able to keep all our classes open and have had no confirmed cases of Covid at either school. We recognise that this may not always be the case and have provided some clarity in this newsletter on our contingency plans.

Please congratulate your children on how well they have done and their patience in taking on the new routines and guidelines. We know that for some of them their hands are feeling very sore from all the hand washing and they have been incredibly brave in dealing with this.

Every class has embraced the whole school topic 'Leaf' and the children have produced some lovely writing, art work and designs from this theme. We have learnt lots about polar bears too!

We wish you all a very happy half term and hope you get to relax over the break.

Please remember that the children **return to school on Tuesday 3rd November** as the Monday is an INSET day.

ATTENDANCE

Congratulations to Underwater class for their attendance of 98.9% last week and to Underwater and High Peaks class for their attendance of 98.9% this week.

REWARDS

Congratulations to the following children who have received their next Pupil Point certificates.

800 Points – Jungle – Jemma

1200 Points – Jungle – Ava -Josh

1300 Points – Jungle - Alice

FLU VACCINATIONS

The flu vaccination nasal spray is on **Tuesday 24th November**. Thank you to everybody who has returned their consent forms already. We still have a few forms still outstanding so please can these be returned by Friday 6th November which is the first Friday back after half term. It is important that you return it even if you are not giving consent and will prevent office staff having to chase.

READING

The infants are bringing home their reading packs again today so that you have some books to share over the half term. We have ensured that the books have been kept separate so that they are quarantined between redistribution. Mrs Coakley was not in today so you may have received a different message from her, she has sent a link to [Oxford Owl](#). Please can all packs return on Tuesday 3rd November, thank you.

HARVEST FESTIVAL

Thank you for your donations to the Hailsham Foodbank. We had an impressive collection of useful items that have now been collected.

The children in all classes had an interesting day finding out about different aspects of harvest:

Diary

October

23rd – End of Term

November

2nd – INSET

3rd – Children return to school

18th - New to EYFS open sessions

24th – Flu Vaccinations

December

18th – End of Term

January

4th – INSET

5th – Children return to school

Underwater Class learned about the local harvest, explored locally sourced vegetables using all their senses, and finally made pumpkin soup.



Bugs Class wrote harvest poems; High Peaks wrote poems and then learned and performed a harvest rap; Jungle Class learned about the variety of harvest celebrations around the world.

BUGS PLAY SHED

Bugs outdoor area is having a revamp with Mrs Coakley coming up with some great ideas. So far the play shed has been the main focus with Mr Herdman giving it a fresh coat of Sweet Pea paint on the interior and he will also be refreshing the green on the exterior. We have also lifted the shed up to stop it getting damp and would to say a massive thank you to Lewes Scaffolding for the kind donation and delivery of the scaffolding boards which we used to do this. Also a huge thankyou to Avco Maintenance and Alfa Electric for the kind donation of the new safety floor which will be going in next week.

To make it even more amazing, we have a list of items we are looking for. If anybody can help please do let the office know. The list includes:

- Net curtains
- Small rug
- Fairy Lights
- Small window boxes
- Small decorations such as figures from story books (no china or breakable items please)

ECO NEWS

As the autumn weather really kicks in we have started to look at how we can set up our eco group this year whilst still keeping everyone safe. We are aware that last year's Eco Warriors only got a small amount of time together so we will be inviting those, who have not moved on to new schools, to a meeting after half term. This meeting will be socially distanced with the children kept in their class bubbles in the hall. We will discuss how we can help transition to a new group of Eco Warriors for this year, then at some point next term I will be going around the classes to speak to them about applying for the job of Eco Warrior and what is involved. Watch this space!

From term 2 Eco Ernie will also be back! Eco Ernie is our elephant mascot and is awarded to the most eco-friendly class each fortnight. Poor Ernie has really missed out on coming into classes and seeing all your eco work.

Unfortunately, he still cannot come into class but will be awarded in the virtual celebration assembly every other Friday and will be announced in newsletters too.

Please don't forget our recycling schemes... please drop off your pens, crisp packets and biscuit wrappers... not only does this save the environment but we also get money for every single one we send for recycling!

Mr Herdman

CONTINGENCY

If we get a confirmed case of Covid in school we will be guided by the DfE helpline as to the steps we need to take. We have a contingency plan for this.

Should your child need to self-isolate we will provide work on the learning platform for them from their first day of isolating. If the whole class needs to self-isolate then this will also be the case and teaching will be carried out online. We are currently arranging accounts for Google G- Suite to enable this to happen.

Should the whole school need to self-isolate we would send home a timetable of lessons so that they didn't overlap with siblings (enabling IT availability at home).

To help us prepare for any individual or group self-isolation please could you let us know if you have access to a laptop, iPad or desktop at home. We will then create a list in school of who would need to borrow equipment should circumstances arise. You can do this by email or phone call to the school office stating if you would need to borrow a laptop, thank you.

OPEN SESSIONS

Our next Open Sessions for parents and carers with children due to start school in September 2021 is on **Wednesday 18th November 2020**. There will be two sessions, the first at 9:15am prompt, and the second at 1:30pm. To ensure we are COVID compliant, only two people are invited from each potential new family. This can be with either your child, or one other adult. There will be a maximum of 5 parties per session so please book your attendance with the school office on 01323 811306 or email office@laughton.e-sussex.sch.uk where you will also need to confirm who will be attending with you. Social distancing will apply throughout your visit. The session will last a maximum of 40 minutes. You will need to bring photo ID for safeguarding purposes and also provide your email and contact number when booking your place for track and trace purposes. Please spread the word if you know anyone who has a child due to start school next year. The other Open Day will be **Friday 8th January 2021**. The ESCC closing date for applications is **15th January 2021**.

SECONDARY SCHOOL APPLICATIONS

A final reminder that the closing date for secondary school applications is **31st October 2020**. More information can also be found on;

https://www.eastsussex.gov.uk/educationandlearning/schools/admissions/secondary_school/

HOLIDAY CAMPS

Please find attached a leaflet from Premier Education with information regarding their holiday camp during the October half term and details of how to book.

LAUGHTON SCHOOL OF WITCHCRAFT AND WIZARDRY

The children (and staff!) have had a wonderful day today learning how to be witches and wizards. They have had a very special yoga session in our haunting hall, many thanks to Nicky and Gemma from the LSA for decorating this last night to give the children a lovely surprise this morning.

Each class has done their own activities and some have made potions, spells, wands e.t.c with all of them embracing the creativity across the curriculum.

All the children passed their witches and wizards training and have received a special individual certificate.



LSA

The children looked amazing today at Laughton School of Witchcraft and Wizardry. Thank you for all your support. Any donations still owing can be paid on return to school in term 2.

The LSA are running a photo competition over this half term for any children that would like to take part. The theme is 'Community and nature in and around Laughton'.

Please email your entries to the school office or bring in a hard copy by Wednesday 4th November. All entries will be posted on the hall windows for everyone to view.

There will be independent judging and we hope to put winning entries on a school calendar.

Please submit your child's name, age and title of photo with their entry. Each child can submit up to 2 entries. Thank you.

Kind Regards
Rachel West, Vicki Brown