

# LENHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

## MARCH 2018

### ALICE IN WONDERLAND

On Tuesday 6th March we were treated to a performance of 'Alice in Wonderland' by M&M Theatre Productions. We were taken on a magical fantasy adventure into Wonderland where we met sixteen characters (played by only four actors!). We thoroughly enjoyed meeting the Mad Hatter and learning about 'unbirthday' days which happen 364 days of the year and are the reason we should all feel good about eating cake whenever we fancy it. Some members of Year 1 participated in the performance helping Alice find her lost key. Who knew it would be behind somebody's ear? We can't wait to welcome M&M back next year for another brilliant performance.



### FROZEN



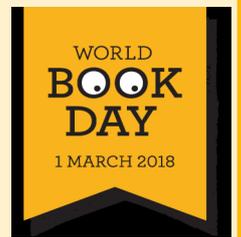
Thank you for your patience during our Snow Week and burst water main problem. We tried to keep you informed as much as possible. In assembly last

week we enjoyed seeing all the photos you sent in of your snowy adventures up on the Downs and elsewhere. Who needs the Swiss Alps when we have Lenham village?!





A big thank you to everyone for a fantastic Book Day! The reason why it was not on 1st March, and had to be postponed, warranted a mini book in itself! However, it was worth waiting for.



The costumes were amazing, and the children (and adults!) thoroughly enjoyed the Grand Parade, and voting for their peers as to who should win the 'Best Costume' certificate for each year group.

The Book Swap, too, was well supported. Every child who wanted to swap left with at least one 'new' book. This activity is something that we will definitely be doing again later in the year.

### JUNIOR SPELLING BEE



At the beginning of Term 3, each KS2 class carried out their own Spelling Bee competition. Winners from each year group were then selected to attend the final held at Hollingbourne Primary School on Wednesday 7th February.

The 3 winners we took along, worked together against the other schools taking part.

The first round asked the children to spell words which were missing from a sentence.

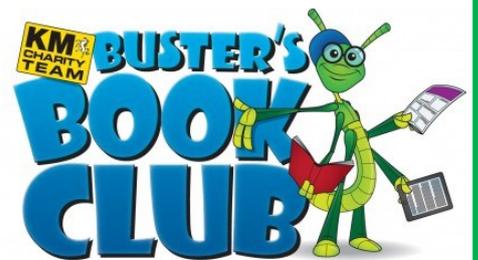
In the second round, the children had to choose the correct homophone and in the final round, they had to 'speed spell' 12 words in 2 minutes. At the end of the 3rd round the scores were added up....and we came joint first alongside Platts Heath!



PTA AGM 6:30pm 15th March at school—All welcome

### CONGRATULATIONS!

Class 6 Class has won the Busters Book Club 1st Spring Challenge Day for Maidstone district, which was held on Wednesday 7th Feb – very well done to them. Two children will be representing the class and going to the Challenge Day photo call where they will be presented with our winners' certificate and prize vouchers. The children will be photographed with the Buster's Book Club mascot and sponsors of the schemes.. The photo call is being held on Tuesday 20th March at Leeds Castle.



We are delighted to tell you that as a school we have hit **two** million minutes of reading This is a brilliant achievement and is a testament of how well the children have done.

## Classical Concert – Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> June at the Tithe Barn

Exciting news! The City of Rochester Symphony Orchestra is returning for a third time on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> June to the beautiful Tithe Barn. Last year's composer Jacob Bride is creating some original pieces for the first half inspired by Benjamin Britten's 'Young Persons' Guide to the Orchestra', followed by a Mozart oboe concerto.



The second half of the concert will be in a light-hearted 'Last night of the Proms' style, which means that it will include some of the patriotic items usually featured in such concerts, with a bit of flag waving and audience participation - Jerusalem, Rule Britannia, Land of Hope and Glory etc.

Our school will again be involved in either displaying artwork, poems and/or dance to continue encouraging young people to be inspired by classical music. If any parents/governors/PTA have any spare time, then it would be very much appreciated by the organisers. The areas of need this year are:

- Creating road signage at a low cost or free.
- Advertising on social media for a low cost or free.
- Help setting up before the day (chairs & decorations).
- Help setting up on the day (food/drink/venue).
- Help putting everything away.
- Counting cash.

If you are able to help please email [office@lenham.kent.sch.uk](mailto:office@lenham.kent.sch.uk) and we will pass your offers on to the organisers.

### SPRING CLEAN

Help make a difference to the village environment by joining the Annual Village Spring Clean

Sat 5th May 9am outside The Red Lion.  
All equipment provided.



### CLEANING OF THE CROSS

Sat 19th May 9am at the Lenham Cross, Pilgrims Way

Bring a spade, hoe or rake

For more details tel Margo on 01622 859682

or email [hello@lenhamparish.org.uk](mailto:hello@lenhamparish.org.uk)

Paralympics GB were keen to hear from us and how we, as a school, support the Paralympics Games



ParalympicsGB  
[@ParalympicsGB](https://twitter.com/ParalympicsGB)

Replying to [@LenhamPrimary](https://twitter.com/LenhamPrimary)

That's fantastic, thanks so much for your support! Well we've got a team of 17 athletes across five sports. You can read their stories and athlete profiles here:

[paralympics.org.uk](https://paralympics.org.uk)

### News from NHS Direct—*Flu immunisation*

You may be interested to know that during the programme, 53,384 children were vaccinated in schools achieving 56.6% of eligible children. The target set for the programme was to vaccinate between 40 and 65% of eligible children; this provides protection to children who are vaccinated and also helps to interrupt the transmission of the flu virus to other children and vulnerable members of the community. From October 2018, the school flu immunisation programme is likely to be extended to include children in year 5 as well as year groups Reception, 1, 2, 3 and 4 at school.

# Governors Corner

It has been a while since we updated you on the work that we have been doing behind the scenes at the school. As a school, we have had to make some hard decisions about how we spend our very small budget, ensuring that what we decide, will provide the most benefit to the children. In line with this, we have been actively seeking a person from the community with a financial background to join our team to help us scrutinise the figures to make sure our money goes as far as possible. We are pleased to announce that Barbara Richards, who owns the accountancy firm in the village, has joined us as our finance governor

Over the last two months we have been holding additional governor focus groups to review the curriculum; concentrating on lessons that inspire the children, broaden their horizons and provide positive life experiences. We invited Miss Crayford to tell us about the rich PSHE curriculum that runs throughout the school, how all the children learn about being healthy; growing up and the new responsibility that this may bring, and how the children can stay safe in the real world as well as the virtual one.

The curriculum group have also been in school listening to local magistrates talking to year 6 about what constitutes criminal behaviour and the consequences of actions. The importance of thinking things through before making a rash decision. Governors also spent the day with trainers from SRTRC, where the children could ask questions about what is okay and what is not okay when talking with people from different cultures.

The finance group has been looking at what necessary changes we need to make to the school building, as well as what assets would enrich the children's education. The focus of this group is not just about making the small amount of money apportioned to us go further, but it is actively looking to write bids to companies and charities to try and actually make our money go further.

You may have noticed that we have a lovely new outdoor classroom on the field. Governors cannot take full credit for this, but this was purchased as a result of a successful bid to the National Lottery – providing fantastic assets for our children that come at no additional cost to the school. Our next project is to look at IT: how we can upgrade our Internet connections to speed up access, and upgrade our very outdated classroom whiteboards. **If anyone knows of any schemes for grant applications for these kind of items, then please let the school know!**

**Looking forward:** The focus this month is on safeguarding.

Governors have been conducting an in-depth analysis of safeguarding practices at the school since Christmas and we will be joining staff before Easter to discuss what we are doing well and what we could be better at. On our return next term, we will also be reviewing our online policies. We would ask for your support in filling in the necessary acceptable use policies that the children will be bringing home. The children know that the school operates safe online practices, they understand the boundaries and how to flag and report inappropriate behaviour and sites. It is vital for the children to know that parents adopt the same stance. Even if you don't understand how "it all works", just spend 15 minutes with them, and let them show you the games they play and the groups they belong to. You will know whether they are playing safely or not.

Ceri Norey

Chair of Governors

## E safety

**Are you unsure how safe the apps are that your children have downloaded? Or are you unsure how to make the apps safe? The following link to the Parentzone website is a really good place to start:**

<https://parentzone.org.uk/advice/parent-guides>

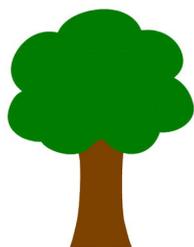
## ATTENDANCE

We celebrate attendance and punctuality weekly by presenting Attendance Ted to the class who has the highest attendance, and Punctuality Pup for the class with the fewest amount of late marks in the register. The bear and dog visit the children in class for the week. If more than one class have won, Ted and Pup share time between the classes.

DATE (w/c)	Attendance Ted	Punctuality Pup
5th February	Class 3	Classes 4 & 6
19th February	Class R	Class 6
26th February	Class 2	Classes R-5

## MINUTES LOST

We have produced a new report to look at punctuality, and record the minutes lost from teaching, by pupils turning up late. In February, the total number of minutes lost for all classes was 358, equating to 5 hours and 58 minutes. Class 4 was the most punctual, with only three minutes lost.



### From Attendance trees to Attendance Bees!

We have a new attendance challenge for all the children to complete in school. For every session they attend in Term 4 the children get to colour in part of their bee. They already have a head start as they will be able to colour in the school days when we were closed.



*At the end of Term 3, we added some new and some familiar names to our 'Stars of The Term' board in the school hall, for pupils who have collected the most PRIDE awards in the term. Well done!*



	Class 1	Class 2	Class 3	Class 4	Class 5	Class 6
Term 1	Hayden	Arthur	Pixii-Lea Bobby Freddie T	Absey-Joe Maisie	Mason S-C	George Katherine
Term 2	Hannah Riley Ca Thomas Maddie Hayden Taylor Isabella	Freya	Sally	Josiah	Mason S-C	Sophie
Term 3	Hannah Hayden	Kaydon	Erin Isaak	Ryan	Archie Victoria	Kacie

## EVENTS 2017-18

### March

- 12-16th Science Week
- 14th Year R Forest School
- 15th PTA AGM 6:30 pm at the school All welcome. RSVP to office@lenham.kent.sch.uk
- 22nd Book Look 2:30pm
- 26th Year 4 Bikeability. Years 1 & 2 Easter Service at St Mary's tbc. Easter Bingo 3:30-4:30pm
- 27th Years 4 & 5 Family Trust Easter Experience
- 28th **Term 4 ends.** KS2 Roller Disco. Time tbc
- 29th INSET day. School closed to pupils

### April

- 16th **Term 5 begins**
- 17th Family Trust Assembly
- 18th Year R Cycle Ready session

### May

- 1st Years 1-6 FitFence tbc
- 4th INSET day. School closed to pupils.
- 5th Village Spring Clean. 9am at The Red Lion
- 7th Bank Holiday
- 8th-11th Year 5 Relationships and sex education week
- 9th Year R Forest School
- 10th Class photos
- 14th-17th KS2 SATs
- 19th Cleaning of the Lenham Cross. 9am at the cross
- 21st Book Look 2:30 pm. PESE (secondary school entry) meeting year 5
- 22nd New Intake Parents meeting 6-7 pm tbc
- 23rd Parent consultations 3:30-7:00 pm
- 25th **Term 5 ends**

## June

- 4th**      **Term 6 begins**
- 4th-8th**    Wellbeing Week tbc
- 6th**      New Intake Stay and Play 1:30-2.30 pm
- 9th**      Lenham Family Festival at the Community Centre
- 13th**     New Intake Stay and Play 1:30-2.30 pm
- 15th**     Year R Forest School
- 20th**     New Intake Stay and Play 1:30-2.30 pm
- 26th**     Family Trust Assembly
- 27th**     New Intake Stay and Play 1:30-2:30 pm
- 29th**     INSET day. School closed to pupils

## July

- 2nd-6th**    Sports Week. Book Fair
  - 4th**      New intake taster lunch 11:45 (tbc) with Stay and Play until 2.30 pm. Year 7 taster day (tbc)
  - 6th**      Sports Day. Kitchen closed—only school packed lunches for those eligible for free meals.  
Book Look 1:15 pm.
  - 11th**     New intake Stay and Play 1:30- 2.30 pm
  - 16th**     KS2 theatrical performance dress rehearsal. Parents and pre-schoolers invited. 1:30-3 pm tbc
  - 17-18th**    Years 3-6 theatrical performance. Parents invited. NO pre-schoolers. 6-7 pm
  - 24th**     Year 6 Leavers Assembly. Parents invited 1:30-3pm followed by a cream tea 3-4:30 pm
- Term 6 ends**

## School Year 2018-19

### September 2018

3rd Term 1 begins

19th-21st Year 6 residential to Grosvenor Hall, Kingswood

### October 2018

19th Term 1 ends

29th Term 2 begins

### December 2018

19th Term 2 ends



## CLUBS IN TERM FOUR

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
<b>Breakfast Club</b> 8-8:45 am £2.50 per child	<b>Breakfast Club</b> 8-8:45 am £2.50 per child	<b>Breakfast Club</b> 8-8:45 am £2.50 per child	<b>Breakfast Club</b> 8-8:45 am £2.50 per child	<b>Breakfast Club</b> 8-8:45 am £2.50 per child
<b>Speedstack</b> Lunchtime Years 3-4 Mrs Middleton		<b>Speedstack</b> Lunchtime Years 5-6 Mrs Middleton	<b>Digging</b> Lunchtime Years R-6 Mrs Martin	
<b>Netball</b> 3:15-4:30 Years 3-6 Miss Parry	<b>Tri Golf</b> 3:15-4:30 Years 3-4 (20 pupils) Ms Howell 6/3-20/3 only. <b>Lacrosse</b> 3:15-4:30 Years 5-6 Mr Brown/Ms Prescott			
<b>Toastie Club</b> 3:15-6:00 pm Fees payable. Advance bookings only	<b>Toastie Club</b> 3:15-6:00 pm Fees payable. Advance bookings only	<b>Toastie Club</b> 3:15-6:00 pm Fees payable. Advance bookings only	<b>Toastie Club</b> 3:15-6:00 pm Fees payable. Advance bookings only	<b>Toastie Club</b> 3:15-6:00 pm Fees payable. Advance bookings only