

LENHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

JULY 2018

*Promise me you'll never forget me ,
because if I thought you would,
I'd never leave.*

A very fond farewell (courtesy of Winnie the Pooh) to Year 6, Ms Howell and Mrs Garlinge. We had a wonderful assembly at Cowboy Church for the teachers who are leaving, during our western themed day. Thank you to all the children who kept the day as a lovely surprise for Ms Howell, and to all the staff and children for their fantastic costumes, and for the letters, gifts and songs for her and Mrs Garlinge. Thanks too to Mrs Price and her team for creating a last minute sausage and chips basket lunch out on the field in glorious sunshine.



The following day it was time to say goodbye to Year 6 after their seven years at Lenham Primary. The picture above is from their amazing show Alice the Musical. Our thanks to St Mary's for sponsoring the Bibles and Secondary School booklets, given out by Revd Millie Hart during Celebration Assembly, and the St Marys Award (formerly known as the Foord Award), presented to Lola and Adam for their outstanding achievement. In the afternoon we said our final emotional goodbyes during Leavers Assembly, before the parents and carers of Year 6 enjoyed a cream tea on the field served by their children.

So Year 6, Ms Howell and Mrs Garlinge—I've started with Pooh and I'll finish with him ...

How lucky I am to have something that makes saying goodbye so hard.

Mrs Hewish



LITERACY WORKSHOP

On the 9th July Rainbow class was treated to a Literacy workshop. We had to shout very loudly to wake up Gerald Giraffe, who then read us two stories - 'The Gruffalo' and 'Room on the Broom'. After that we chose our favourite pages in the books and used ourselves to make freeze frames of them. Lastly we split into two groups and each group made up their own story.

A big thank you to everyone who bought a book during our recent Book Fair. We now have an additional £300 to spend on books in the classrooms, from commission earned.





Last month the school enjoyed a visit from Cats Protection. Jonathan Ramsden and his team worked with the children during an assembly and class workshops. As well as hearing about how the charity cares for unwanted cats, the children learnt how to look after our feline friends and read their body language.



The most popular part of the visit was watching a video about Kozal. The short animation is based on a true story about a sixteen year old cat who spent seven long months at a re-homing centre, overlooked in favour of younger cats.

Henry in Class 3 wrote, "I found the video about Kozal quite touching and sad. He was lucky to find a home in the end, even though it took such a long time. I think the Cats Protection are brilliant looking after so many cats."



The visit inspired Class 2 to make cat faces during their lunchtime origami club and also to create cat themed 'Thank You' cards in their IT lesson.



Staff at the Newnham Court Homing and Information Centre in Maidstone were extremely grateful for your generous food donations and asked us to pass on a BIG THANK YOU.

ATTENDANCE

We celebrate attendance weekly by presenting Attendance Ted to the class with the highest attendance, & Punctuality Pup for the class with the fewest late marks. Ted and Pup visit the children in class for the week. If more than one class has won, Ted and Pup share time between the classes.

| DATE (w/c) | Attendance Ted | Punctuality Pup |
|------------|----------------|------------------|
| 6/7/2018 | Class 6 | Class 2 |
| 13/7/2018 | Class 6 | Class R, 1 and 6 |
| 20/7/2018 | Class 2 | Class 2 |
| 24/7/2018 | Class 6 | Class 1 |

BEREAVEMENT TRAINING

A.W. Court have very kindly sponsored us to undertake online bereavement training to support children and adults who have lost friends and relatives. We will having the training in the Autumn.



THANKS FROM THE OFFICE

The office would like to thank Mrs Porter for the weekly flowers over the summer term, and to Mr Norey for our potted plant. The floral arrangements have been an asset to the reception desk and are much appreciated.



Whose huge feet are these?

You will need to be in Rainbow Class in September to find out!!





Long Distance Challenge 2018



The children did really well to keep going running or walking around the field, on what was a really warm morning. The course this year was narrower and included a few chicanes, in order to make the most of the limited shade around the field!

The pupils who completed the most laps in each class are as follows:

| | | |
|----------|--|---------|
| Rainbow: | Charlie Fleming | 19 laps |
| Class 1: | Elizabeth Costain & Riley Carrano | 25 laps |
| Class 2: | Connor Russell | 39 laps |
| Class 3: | Stanley Crittenden, Henry Mills & Jethro Ashburner | 32 laps |
| Class 4: | Sofia Townsend | 25 laps |
| Class 5: | Archie Blunt | 26 laps |
| Class 6: | Josh Finnis | 39 laps |

We also counted up how many laps we completed as a school:

| | |
|----------|----------|
| Rainbow: | 358 laps |
| Class 1: | 505 laps |
| Class 2: | 587 laps |
| Class 3: | 592 laps |
| Class 4: | 514 laps |
| Class 5: | 550 laps |
| Class 6: | 657 laps |

...which makes a grand total of 3,763 laps! Each lap measures approximately 348m, which means as a school, we ran 1,309,524m, or 1,309.524km, which is over 813 miles! WOW! This is about the same number of air miles as it is between Maidstone and Majorca!

The winning house this year was Peacock, who completed a staggering 1076 laps of the field in total. Well done to everybody in Peacock.

Thank you to everybody who took part – especially those who helped to raise some money for the school too through their sponsors.



Year 6 Exit Interviews: 2018

A couple of weeks into their final term at Lenham Primary School, Year 6 were asked to feedback to us, on their experiences at our school. They completed the form online and anonymously.

We thought you'd like to read some of the results, as they were honest, mature and quite touching at times. Tissues at the ready...

Q1. How would you rate the teaching you have received at Lenham Primary School?

| | |
|-----------|-----------------------|
| Excellent | 12.9% (4/31 pupils) |
| Good | 80.65% (25/31 pupils) |
| OK | 6.45% (2/31 pupils) |
| Poor | 0% |

Q2. How well do you think children at LPS follow the PRIDE values?

| | |
|----------------|-----------------------|
| Extremely well | 3.23% (1/31 pupil) |
| Very well | 41.94% (13/31 pupils) |
| Quite well | 54.84% (17/31 pupils) |
| Not well | 0% |

Q3. If you had one wish to make LPS better, what would it be?

Answers included...

- Fun lessons (x2)
- Nothing (x1)
- Outdoor activities (x1)
- Staff training on dealing with bullying & settling arguments
- More art / more equipment (x2)
- Differentiate work(x3)
- More sport / more equipment (x6)
- Extend the adventure playground
- Better equipment in the classroom, e.g. protractors, rulers etc
- More learning about animals
- Better reading opportunities
- More school trips

Q4. What will you miss the most when you leave LPS?

Answers included...

- Almost all answers referred to teachers / friends / teacher & friends
- "Everything"
- "The fun trips"
- "The field"

Q5. What advice would you give people starting LPS?

Answers included a lot of similar answers. Below is a selection of a few:

“Don’t be nervous, because you will find some friends.”

“Never give up and always be nice to everyone.”

“You should try your best and if you are frightened don’t be.”

“Don’t stress. All the staff are nice and kind.”

Q6. What has been your greatest achievement at LPS?

Answers included a huge range of achievements. In order to demonstrate the breadth, here are some of the answers below;

“Reaching the top of the Learning Ladder.”

“Going on all of the activities on the residential.”

“My progress in English.”

Getting a part in the play (x3)

“Becoming friends with lots of people.”

Sports: tournaments, teams, sports’ day etc (x5)

Q7. What has been your favourite subject at LPS?

Maths (4)

PE (11)

Art (8)

IT (2)

English (5)

DT (1)

Science (1)

Q8. How has LPS helped your learning?

Answers included...

“Very well because now I can do things that I’ve never been able to do.”

“The teachers help if you don’t understand a question.”

“By making me feel confident.”

“LPS has a very positive attitude towards learning and is very encouraging. They make sure we never give up.”

“LPS has supported my learning by always being positive and say, ‘You can do it’ and ‘I know you can’. They have always encouraged me to never give up.”

“It has supported me in a positive way and made sure I would enjoy learning.”

Q9. What is the best thing about LPS?

Answers included...

Nice / funny / kind / encouraging teachers & TAs

Friendly / kind children

Everything!

"When we go on the field."

"I've really enjoyed the science experiments I've done throughout my seven years here. I also like our special day – English Day, World Book Day."

"We have fun at each event (Christmas, Summer, Sports' Day)."

Q10. Is there anything you would like us to know, or you would like to say before you leave?

Answers included...

"Thank you for having me."

"Thank you so much! These have been the best years of my life!"

"I'm going to miss you all!"

"Thank you for putting up with us for 7 years!"

"This is probably the best school I've ever been to."

"My experience [here] has been wonderful."

"I would like you to know that being safe sometimes ruins the fun, but thank you for teaching me - I have had an amazing time."

"Thanks to all the teachers and thanks for being a great head teacher Ms Howell."

"Thank you for everything you've done to help us grow up."

"When we are in the holidays and Lenham Primary isn't, I would love to come and help out! Thanks for everything - we won't forget any of you!"

And finally...

"Coming to this school has greatly changed my life. There is truly no other school like this. It is true that everyone is so kind and amazing and I'm lost for words about this school - in an incredible way! I hope LPS carries on their greatness when we're gone - which I'm sure they will. LPS is like a massive family for me, I love every single thing here. Please remember us in the future. I'd be more than happy to hear from you guys!"

Wow! Thank you so much Year 6! Your responses really help us to reflect on what we do at school and what we need to improve. I'm so pleased you have enjoyed your time here as much as we have enjoyed you being here.

Ms H

School Year 2018-19

September 2018

3rd INSET day. School closed to pupils for staff training

4th Term 1 begins

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

October 2018

19th Term 1 ends

29th INSET day. School closed to pupils for staff training

30th Term 2 begins

December 2018

19th Term 2 ends

January 2019

3rd Term 3 begins

February 2019

15th Term 3 ends

25th Term 4 begins

April 2019

4th Term 4 ends

5th INSET day. School closed to pupils for staff training

23rd Term 5 begins

May 2019

3rd INSET day. School closed to pupils for staff training

6th Bank holiday

24th Term 5 ends

June 2019

3rd Term 6 begins

28th INSET day. School closed to pupils for staff training