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Term 1 2024- Week 3

Dear Parents and Carers,

The term is now in full swing and it has been great to see the children settling in to their new classes. We recognise that this is a lot of change, and for some children it has been more difficult, so we are working with families to help with transition. If you have any concerns about your child then please arrange to meet with their class teacher to discuss further.

Next Friday we have our MacMillan Coffee afternoon at 2:15p.m, which you are all welcome to. The staff will be making cakes but all donations are very welcome too. Many of our families and staff have benefitted from the work that Macmillan do so in buying a cake or coffee we hope to raise as much as we can.

ATTENDANCE

Congratulations to **Jungle class** who achieved the highest attendance of **99.1%** last week and again for the highest attendance of **97.8%** this week. Well done.

Our target for this year is **96.5%** and our current whole school attendance is **96.6%**

REWARDS

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

400 Points **Underwater:** Cassius **Bugs:** Abbie, Wilf
600 Points **Bugs:** Jessica, Maddison
800 Points **Jungle:** Ruby
1000 Points **High Peaks:** Dolly **Jungle:** Franklin, Isla



POETRY COMPETITION

We are currently running a poetry reading competition for years 1-6. The children have chosen from a selection of poems in the categories, KSI, Lower KS2, and Upper KS2. All the children will learn at least a part of one of the poems but if they want to be in the competition they will need to be able to recite the whole poem as a performance.

They will share what they can recite in class. If they do not want to recite it in front of the class, they can share it in smaller groups or with a member of staff. Those that want to enter the competition will compete in class and then the finalists from each class will be heard in our whole school assembly on Monday 30th September. From this, a finalist will be selected to go to the finals at Kings Academy Ringmer on the afternoon of **Thursday 3rd October**. This competition is between the local primary schools and is to promote the reading of poetry and develop skills in memorising text.

Diary

September 2024

Tuesday 24th LSA AGM
Thursday 26th Y1 Woodland Wellbeing
Friday 27th EYFS & Y2 Welly Walk
Friday 27th Macmillan Coffee Afternoon

October 2024

Thursday 3rd Individual School Photos
Thursday 3rd School Census Day
Thursday 3rd Y1 Woodland Wellbeing
Friday 4th **INSET**
Wednesday 9th Year 6 Safety in Action (pm)
Thursday 10th Y1 Woodland Wellbeing
Friday 11th EYFS & Y2 Welly Walk
Monday 14th Harvest Festival
Thursday 17th Flu Vaccinations
Thursday 17th Y1 Woodland Wellbeing
Friday 18th EYFS & Y2 Welly Walk
Tuesday 22nd Parent Consultations
Thursday 24th Y1 Woodland Wellbeing
Thursday 24th Parent Consultations
Friday 25th EYFS & Y2 Welly Walk
Friday 25th Last day of term

November 2024

Monday 4th Children return to school



CENSUS

On **Thursday 3rd October** it is national School Census Day and, in an effort, to increase the uptake of the Universal Infant Free School Meal (UIFS) on that day, there will be a special themed menu of a BBQ chicken burger or veggie Quorn hotdog. There will also be a jacket potato on offer on this day. Please see the menu attached.

Census Day is when the Local Authorities collect information electronically from every school in their area, partly to guide them in planning and funding. They collect details such as pupil numbers, numbers of pupils with Special Educational Needs, entitled to Pupil Premium funding, entitled to Free School Meals, attendance information and so forth. One thing in particular they are looking at this term is the number of children taking the Universal Infant Free School Meal (UIFS), to provide schools with appropriate funding for this service such as utility costs.

To maximise our potential funding, we would encourage all families with children entitled to UIFS to enjoy their free meal on Thursday 3rd October rather than bringing a packed lunch that day. It is the number of children in Key Stage One eating the free meal on the actual day's lunchtime that informs our funding, rather than meals ordered for that day or children attending school. Pupils who bring a packed lunch from home unfortunately are not able to be included, nor are children who normally take UIFS, but who are absent on Thursday 3rd October. Once again, we encourage as many as possible to commit to eating the UIFS on Thursday that week; this will record those children as having eaten on Census Day and therefore count towards the total Government funding that will be allocated to our school for UIFS for a whole year. We hope that it will also create some enthusiasm amongst the children who don't normally take the meals and lead to more of them eating over the rest of the school year.

SAFEGUARDING

At Laughton Primary School, safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is everyone's responsibility and our top priority. All professionals who come in to contact with children and their families have a role to play. Within school, we have a number of staff members who are responsible or leading on child protection and welfare. We would like take this opportunity to remind you of who to contact if you have a welfare concern about a child. If you are worried about a child's safety, please do not hesitate to contact any of the Designated Safeguarding Lead staff members straight away.

The following members of staff are Designated Safeguarding Leads for Laughton School:

Mrs Vicki Brown – Lead DSL

Mrs Rachel West- Lead DSL

Mrs Lisa Geer - Deputy DSL

Mrs Natalie Bayliss is our safeguarding governor.

These members of staff can be contacted via the school office- laughtonoffice@oaktreefederation.co.uk or by telephone on 01323 811306.

SCHOOL PHOTOS

There is a slight change to when the photographer is in school. The individual school photos will now take place on **Thursday 3rd October** and the order forms will be sent home shortly afterwards. We are allowing sibling photos again this year, which will be done before school from 8:15am, in the school library. Please wait outside the office and you will be called in to the library when the photographer is ready for you.

SUPPORT AND FREE SCHOOL MEALS

We are aware that the rising cost of living may have affected many of our families in terms of jobs and money coming in. We are here to offer support if anyone needs anything so please just ask. You can contact the school office and any help or advice can be given in confidence.

Some of you may be eligible for free school meals. This means that your child can receive a free meal at school. You can do this if you receive any of the following benefits:

- [Universal Credit - GOV.UK](#) (with an annual household income below £7,400 after tax, not including other benefits).
- [Income Support - GOV.UK](#)
- [Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance \(JSA\) - GOV.UK](#)
- [Income-based Employment and Support Allowance \(ESA\) - GOV.UK](#)
- [Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999 - GOV.UK](#)
- [The Guaranteed element of State Pension Credit - GOV.UK](#)
- [Child Tax Credit - GOV.UK](#) (with an annual household income less than £16,190).
- [Working Tax Credit run-on](#) (paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit). Anyone who gets Working Tax Credit itself, won't get free school meals.

In addition, to minimise the impact of the rollout of Universal Credit, pupils are currently protected against losing their benefits-related free school meals. This applies when the parental earnings rise above the threshold of £7400 per year.

Once Universal Credit is fully rolled out (planned for March 2025) any existing pupil whose parent no longer meets the eligibility criteria at that point will continue to receive free school meals until the end of their current phase of education, i.e. primary or secondary.

Children must be in school both before and after lunchtime to qualify for free school meals.

The school also receives additional Pupil Premium funding to support your child in their learning and this can be used to help with resources, uniform, trips etc.

See link for further information and the application form.

<https://www.eastsussex.gov.uk/educationandlearning/schools/school-life/meals/free/>

Please also use the following link which contain information on cost of living support.

<https://www.eastsussex.gov.uk/community/cost-of-living-support>

SPORTS COURT CONSULTATION

Laughton Parish Council is currently looking into the feasibility of building a single tennis and multisport court on Pelham Field. We have been in contact with the Earl of Chichester and have his full support for the project.

The court, which would be primarily sized and set up for tennis, would also be marked out for basketball and five-a-side football. It would be for the benefit of the community and owned by the Parish Council. The court would be made available for Laughton Community Primary school to use on set weekdays.

The Parish Council intends to raise the capital funds to build the court by fundraising, grant applications to Sport England, Wealden DC and others, and by appealing to local businesses.

A small annual fee and booking charge would be necessary to run an online booking facility and to ensure the ongoing maintenance of the court. It would be run on a not-for-profit basis and any surplus funds would be put back into the community.

The Parish Council would like to know what residents think of the idea. Are you in support? Do you have any comments on the multi-use nature of the court? Would you like to see any other facility on the Pelham Field – for example a pétanque pitch – so that a wider range of ages are catered for?

Please let us know what you think by emailing our clerk, Lyn Kemp on clerk@laughton-parish-council.co.uk

EAST SUSSEX FAMILY HUB

The new East Sussex Family Hub offers a physical and a virtual space so that everyone in the family has access to support for a wide range of issues, enabling them to take part in new activities, to ask questions and to meet other families from the community.

There are details of a wide range of free support on offer, including 3P parenting workshops and a number of different parent and carer support groups, details of free activities and what's on in your local area.

<https://familyhubs.eastsussex.gov.uk/>

CHANGING WEATHER

Now that the weather is changing, please can we remind you that all children should have a coat in school every day.

OPEN SESSIONS

We are having the first of our Open Sessions for parents and carers with children due to start school in September 2025 on **Tuesday 8th October 2024 at 9.15am**. So that we can monitor numbers, please can you book with the school office on 01323 811306 or email laughtonoffice@oaktreefederation.co.uk where you will also need to confirm who will be attending with you. The session will last a maximum of 45 minutes, and you will have the opportunity to meet with the Executive Headteacher, Rachel West.



Please spread the word if you know anyone who has a child due to start school next year. The other Open Day dates are on **Tuesday 12th November 2024 (pm)** and **Thursday 9th January 2025 (am)**.

The ESCC closing date for applications is **15th January 2025**.

SECONDARY SCHOOL ADMISSIONS

If your child is due to start secondary school in September 2025 you will soon receive a leaflet about how to apply. Information can also be found on;

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

The closing date for secondary school admissions close on **Thursday 31st October**.

FLU VACCINATIONS

The Immunisation Service are coming into school on **Thursday 17th October** to offer your child the **Flu vaccination**. The **Flu parent letter** which contains information about the upcoming vaccination session and instructions on how to complete the online consent form was emailed home last week.

If you are unable to open the links within the attached document, please follow the links below:

For information about the Flu vaccine and frequently asked questions:

<https://www.sussexcommunity.nhs.uk/patients-and-visitors/resources/patient-resources/flu-vaccinations>

To complete a consent form:

<https://www.susseximmunisations.co.uk/Forms/Flu>

You will need the school code found within the attached parent letter to complete a consent form.

Please could you complete the form even if you do not give permission to prevent the team have to chase. Many thanks.



MACMILLAN COFFEE AFTERNOON

We will be raising funds for Macmillan on **Friday 27th September at 2:15p.m** in the school hall. Staff will provide some cakes and we would also be very grateful for donations too. Please pop along for a chat, cake and cuppa from 2:15p.m on this day.



ASDA CASHPOT FUNDRAISING REMINDER

If you shop at ASDA and have an ASDA Rewards App, you can now raise funds for our school every time you scan. All you need to do is the following:

1. Download and sign up to the Asda Rewards App
2. Opt into the Cashpot for Schools campaign and select 'Laughton Community Primary School'
3. Shop in Store across Asda and George, or online at Asda.com
4. Asda will donate a percentage of your shop total to our school each time you shop and scan
5. Asda does the rest!

The money raised will be donated through Parentkind to our school to spend on what we need the most. This won't affect your own cash pot you earn. Once opted in and selected a school, ASDA will add £1 to our school Cashpot to help us get started, and an additional £50 after at least one customer shops and scans their Rewards app!

FRIENDS OF LAUGHTON SCHOOL NEWS

A little reminder that our AGM will be held on Tuesday 24th September, at the Roebuck. Please see the poster and nominations form attached. Everybody is welcome to attend.

Thank you for all your support.

Kind regards

Mrs Rachel West and Mrs Vicki Brown