



Lawn
Primary
School

Issue 6
21st December
2018

NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents and Carers,

I can't quite believe we are at the end of the autumn term and at the end of 2018. What a great year it has been. It doesn't seem like 5 minutes ago that we were welcoming our new reception children into the Lawn family.

As we end this term I would like to reflect on some of the amazing enrichment activities that have taken place since September. Our teaching team work tirelessly to give your children those experiences that help shape our broad and balanced curriculum and give your children those lasting memories.

Over the term children have been involved in many activities including singing at the Lest We Forget concert in Birmingham, World War One commemoration week, Christmas musical and nativity, Brownlee brothers' triathlon, cross country competitions, cycle-cross, fencing, first aid training, and the list goes on.

I must say a big thank you to all the staff for all that they do but especially at this time of year and particularly with all the colds and coughs going round school.

At our last parents evening we asked you all to fill in a survey about how we communicate with you as parents. Thank you for all your comments. The majority of parents (99%) were very positive about the ways we communicate with you.

However, we have changed a couple of things to make it even better such as sending the newsletters as a pdf, sending reminders about events and trying to be paperless. We know that we will not please every parent but we are trying to streamline things and provide more updates through Class dojo. Lots of parents wanted more text messages sent, however this method of communication will cost school more money as it is a service that we have to pay for per message. So we will endeavour to use this only for reminders. Most letters and newsletters will be emailed, as this is free, and we are looking in to system where you can send forms back electronically. A couple of parents put on the forms that they did not receive any communications; could you please pop into school and check we have the correct emails and phone numbers for you as this will be the reason. If you have any other ideas please let us know.

This week you will receive your child's end of term report. For those parents that are new to Lawn, you will receive a report every term about your child's progress. If you are concerned or having trouble understanding the report please pop in to see your child's class teacher so they can run through it with you.

Just a quick reminder that if you have a child, or you know a family who has a child, who is due to start school in September 2019 then the deadline to apply for a place is 15th January 2019.

If you need to contact anyone from school during the holidays due to emergencies or other reasons, please contact myself via my email address or class dojo, and I will try and respond as soon as I can.

Finally, I would like to thank you as parents for all the support that you have again given Lawn this term. It is much appreciated by all of us; we couldn't do our job if it wasn't for the partnership between home and school. Thank you to those parents who always say thank you for the hard work that the staff put in, especially when they go over and above. And thank you to those parents that come into school to volunteer. It is appreciated!

I wish that you and your families have a truly Merry Christmas and a happy New Year and that the festive season really does bring health and happiness to you all. Here's to a wonderful 2019.

Kind regards
Sarah Allison
s.allison@lawn.derby.sch.uk

The Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal

The school raised the fantastic amount of £408.07. Thank you for all your donations.

Diary Dates

9th Jan - YR6 Pizza Making
16th Jan – LSA Meeting
18th Jan - Y4M Class Assembly
23rd Jan - LSA Bags2school
23rd Jan - Y5 visit to Mosque
7th Feb - LSA Discos
13th Feb - Parents Evening
14th Feb - Parents Evening
15th March - Y1A Class Assembly
19th March - YR2 visit Manchester Airport
22nd March - Y2VS Class Assembly
26th March - Y3 Matilda Performance
29th March - Y1HA Class Assembly
10th-12th April - YR4 Residential

11th April - LSA Easter Bingo
12th April - Y2CS Class Assembly
13th – 17th May - KS2 SATs
17th May - YRG Class Assembly
22nd May - LSA Bags2school
14th June - YRL Class Assembly
8th – 12th July -YR6 PGL Residential
11th July – YR3 visit Cresswell Craggs
25th July – LAST DAY OF SCHOOL YEAR

Inset Days 2019

Friday 15th February 2019
Monday 3rd June 2019

Staff in the Spotlight



Hello, my name is Vicky Shepherd. I took up my very first teaching post here at Lawn more than five years ago now after completing my degree as a mature student at the University of Derby. I live in Long Eaton with my husband Paul and our children, Jessica (18) and William (14) although we both originate from South Yorkshire.

As those of you who've been at any school quizzes at the same time as me will know, I do love a good quiz and can be quite competitive. This streak completely disappeared, however, when faced with Anne Robinson on my appearance on 'The Weakest Link' (she was just too scary) but reappeared a few months later when I successfully made it into 'the chair' on "Who Wants To Be A Millionaire?"

I didn't become a millionaire but didn't do too badly either. Every so often, I'll hear that I'm on TV again as the episode is rerun on a challenge-type channel.

During my 30s I took up running and have taken part in a number of 5ks, 10ks, half marathons and the inaugural Nottingham to Derby Kilomathon. My running days came to an end however, after this next one challenge too far, due to the lasting injuries I sustained. For charity, a group of us (husband, friends) decided to walk Hadrian's Wall (84 miles) but not in the six days, as the guide books strongly suggest. No, we challenged ourselves to walk it in 48 hours. Months of planning and training later, we all headed up to Cumbria with our support team who would be meeting us at points along the way to feed us, patch us up and provide encouragement. We started at 11am on the Friday morning and finished at 6am-ish on the Sunday morning. Let me tell you, it was horrendous and yes, we did walk through two nights. We only stopped for half an hour at each meeting point with our support team and it turned out that you had to choose whether to eat, have your feet patched up or lay on the floor and sleep. As we approached Newcastle I did indeed fall asleep on the pavement by the support van (I'd started to see goblins in the bushes). Anyway, the good news was that all twelve of us made the whole 84 miles but managed to do it in 42 hours, raising thousands of pounds for charity.

As I came to teaching later in life I've had quite a few life-experiences including being an air hostess, a civil engineering technician, having my own image consultancy business and being a 'visual merchandiser'. However, none match up to the honour that is being a teacher, to be entrusted with the education of these wonderful little people that I spend my days with. And what days we have!

Global Diversity Project

On 6th December, Y3CW went to Pride Park Stadium to meet children and teachers from the Akaal School. We had a tour of the ground. First we made badges for some children/staff in the Akaal Primary School, then we had lunch. After that we played a game and those were the three activities we did. We really enjoyed the day and we made new friends.

By Chloe Stevens and Jacob Hutchinson (3CW)

Lawn School Governors

2018 has been a fantastic year for Lawn Primary School. There have been a number of great events in the school, including the fabulous Polar Fun Day and the series of activities to mark the centenary of the end of the First World War. There have been a range of wonderful trips that our children have enjoyed to places across the country, including Manchester Airport and the Royal Opera House, London.

The students have demonstrated their musical talents in a wide range of performances and events including the amazing production of *Carmen* and the choir's involvement in the *Lest We Forget* concert.

It is therefore no surprise that the excellence of the school has been recognised externally yet again in 2018. It was wonderful to be named an 'Outstandingly Happy School' and it has just been announced that Lawn tops the primary school league table in Derby.

This is all fantastic, and the governing body sends their warm congratulations to everyone in the school.

It is great to see that the high standards that the school set for itself when achieving its 'outstanding' status have been maintained; well done!

It also time for a rest! In all the busyness of the festive season we do hope that staff, children, parents and carers can also get some time to relax over the Christmas holidays. It is important that everyone gets the opportunity to recharge their batteries before the excitement of the new term.

Christmas, though, is a great time to encourage our children's imagination. The festive stories, tales of winters past, carols and seasonal films are all excellent ways to foster creativity. In the school we have a focus on writing this academic year; a high level of literacy is so important to an individual's long term success and wellbeing. Therefore, if you are looking for an activity for children during this break, encourage them to write a story, create a storyboard, or get them to tell you a tale. This can help them to develop their communication skills and foster their love for writing.

The members of the governing body would like to take this opportunity to wish all parents, carers, children and staff at Lawn a very Merry Christmas and the very best of good fortune for 2019.

Dr Ruth Larsen
Chair of Governors
Governors@lawn.derby.sch.uk

Lawn School Association

Wow! What a wonderful time everyone had at the Christmas Fayre the other Friday - we raised a staggering £3287 in an hour and a half! And that is genuinely down to you.

A huge thank you to everyone who came along and enjoyed the Fayre with family and friends, to those who helped organise or run a stall or who helped to set up on the day. The Fayre wouldn't have been possible without you. To everyone who donated chocolate coins, raffle prizes, and tombola prizes. These were some of the most profitable stalls, so your help is massively appreciated in this and to all the staff who offered their time, or who were busy beavering away behind the scenes, you were great! Seeing Mr Molineux on the beat the teacher stall with tights on his head was a favourite moment for me!

And a personal thank you to my team, Janice, Beccy and Suzanne. I really appreciated all of your help over the last few weeks, and loved the laughs that came along the way!

Many small and local businesses were kind enough to donate prizes for our raffle, including Jack Marriott from Derby County, The Raj, The Painting Parlour, Cutting Hedge Garden Services, Francesco Hair Group, Brackendale Spa, The Quad, Zest Fitness, The Markeaton, Beauty Treatments with Clare McAuliffe and Glamour Beauty Salon, A Little Mooch, Park Farm Greengrocers, Beau Monde Nails, Greedy Pig, Four Seasons Café and Shine Hair and Beauty.

We are always looking for people to join the LSA.

Even if you can't attend the meetings (Our next meeting is on Wednesday 16th January at 6pm), please do keep in touch with what is going on by joining our facebook page - lawn school association (LSA). It is through this page that we can all communicate with each other and share ideas, beg for help!

So, what is next? There are always staple fundraising events throughout the year, school discos in February, Easter Bingo, Summer Fayre etc. But I am keen to add extra events in, not just to fundraise, but to enjoy time together as a family. We are looking to organise a family race night, and potentially an open air cinema event before the end of the school year (watch this space as these are just ideas at the moment!). If you would like to help organise or help out at events, please do let us know. We always have a great laugh in the lead up to events and during them too - honestly!

That's all from me, I wish you all a wonderful Christmas together and look forward to seeing you in the New Year.

Claire Shaw
LSA Chair