

Lent Rise School Newsletter

February 2019

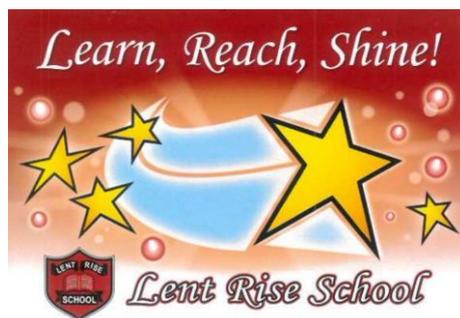
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Learn, Reach, Shine

As the Spring term continues we have been focusing on embodying our school vision to Learn, Reach and Shine. Shining has been a little difficult with the chilly weather, but inside the school has been such a hub of creative energy as the children embrace their new topics with positivity and enthusiasm.

I had some lovely feedback from parents about the seeds sent home last month. I am delighted that due to support from a local company we will also be sending a tomato plant and a pumpkin plant home with every child later in the year.



Learn, Reach, Shine awards

As part of sharing our values we now have Learn, Reach, Shine postcards to send home to parents. These are to celebrate when individuals have really demonstrated something linked to these core values. I look forward to writing out lots of these in the future!

Parent feedback questionnaire

We would also like to continue to learn from your feedback to reach our school goals and shine. Our governors will be at school during parent consultation evenings to answer questions, gather ideas and meet as many parents as possible. There will be refreshments and a book stall in the hall. We will also ask you to complete our annual parent questionnaire. Our aim is to gather your views and also your ideas about how as a school we can reach even further.

Crossing safety visit

The Rt Hon Dominic Grieve and Cllr Dev Dhillon joined Mrs Watson on Friday 25th January to look at the dangers families face when crossing Stomp Road. The school would like to see a crossing placed on this stretch to help ensure everyone's safety. We will keep you posted on any future developments.

Parent Volunteer

We would like to extend a big thank you to Mrs Dunk, Mrs Thacker, Mrs Koppala and Mr Weaver; all parents who are running a club this term. The support of these parents has helped increase the number of afterschool opportunities we can offer to our children and we have had excellent feedback from both parents and children. If you have a skill or talent you would like to share through running an afterschool club, please speak to Mrs Barnard.

Luchtime activities

Mr Littleboy from Get Active has been running some organised games and activities for children in the playground at lunchtimes. The children have responded very positively and are enjoying having new games and equipment to play with. We also have our outdoor library and access to board games for children who enjoy spending a quieter lunchtime.

Lent Rise School, Coulson Way, Burnham, Bucks, SL1 7NP 01628 662913
office@lentrise.bucks.sch.uk www.lentriseschool.co.uk

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January's Attendance

Overall school attendance for January is 95%. The KS1 award goes to 2G at 98% KS2 award goes to 3H at 99.5%. 109 pupils have had late marks in the register this month, meaning 243 school sessions were disturbed. Please do try and get your child in to their line in the morning as being even a few minutes late can have a knock on effect for their whole day.

New benches

Visitors to the school might have spotted some colourful additions to our outside space. We would like to say a big thank you to the PTA for funding the lovely new benches in our playground. The rainbow colours are enough to brighten up even the drizzliest of playtimes.



Real PE

Teachers have recently been working with the organisation Create Development as a part of a national pilot project to help develop our PE curriculum. Staff took part in Real PE training and worked with a trainer to support PE provision to develop the whole child. The school will be supported with further teacher training, school based support, family engaging strategies, enrichment and competitive opportunities and supporting resources help develop children's physical, personal, social and emotional skills.

Would you like to play the violin?

Playing an instrument can improve academic studies, coordination, confidence, memory, attention span, creativity and sensory development. Mrs Felstead, the violin teacher is already visiting our school and would love to take on more pupils. For details, costs of lessons and to sign up please visit www.bucksmusic.org. Children must be in Key Stage 2 to begin lessons.

Music Jam

Music jam sessions will be starting on Monday lunchtimes in the green room for any musicians who would like to come along and enjoy playing music with peers. We may even try and get some of our staff to share their hidden musical talents!

Book Week

Book week 4th-8th March is always a magical time at Lent Rise with lots of literary activities taking place. Mrs Springford will be taking a group of Year 4 children on a creative writing day in Cookham. There will be book filled assemblies and of course it is never too early to start planning that all important Book Day Dress up costume for Friday 8th March. We would also encourage parents to share their favourite childhood books with your children and talk enthusiastically about reading at home - encouraging children to love reading when they are young gives a lifelong boost to their education! We are also delighted that the Book People will once again be providing us with a book fayre. This was very popular last year as it enables parents to purchase discounted books and also helps raise funds for the school.

BBC 500 Words competition

The BBC is running its annual short story competition and we would like as many Lent Rise pupils as possible to enter. Entrants write an original story on any subject or theme in 500 Words or fewer and submit it online. If they win, their story will be read live on the radio by a superstar celebrity. You can find out more about how to enter at:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/articles/50pnqLfDywb9CFxjNvth5l0/about-500-words>

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Head lice - never a nice subject to tackle but within most schools at any one time, there will be a small number of children with head lice. We understand parent's frustrations so here are some key points:-

- It is a parent's responsibility to detect and administer treatment for head lice
- Although head lice are unpleasant, we **do not** exclude children with head lice from school and would not expect children to be kept at home to be treated or because they have head lice.
- We follow health trust guidance and **do not** send out letters if a child in class has head lice. 'Alert' letters can lead parents to treat children preventatively. This is neither effective nor advised. Head lice infection cannot be prevented, and over using treatments leads to resistance.
- If your child is suspected of having head lice we will request that you check and treat if necessary. If you still find live lice after treatment either it has failed or there has been a re-infestation, most likely from a family member or household item like a hair brush or bedding. If the lice appear to be unaffected by the product (some lice may have developed resistance to a particular insecticide) or if the problem persists, take advice from a pharmacist or GP.

E-Safety Update

Screen Time

There has been a lot of news in the press recently giving parents conflicting information when it comes to screen time. Parentzone have produced an excellent article for parents that helps to answer many of the most common questions:

https://parentzone.org.uk/article/5-things-parents-should-know-about-screen-time?utm_source=Mailing%20Jan&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=PZ%20screen%20time%20article. It is also worth us all thinking about our own screen time and how our use of devices impacts and influences our children. We are all guilty of being too absorbed whether it is work, social media, news or gaming so why not try a device free weekend and see the possibilities in connecting face-to-face.

Social Media



Most social media platforms have a minimum age limit of 13, but research shows a growing number of children aged under 13 are using social media, with 3 in 4 children aged 10-12 having their own accounts. The Children's Commissioner has produced a report from research exploring the social media lives of children before they reach the teenage years. The findings make eye-opening reading for parents, particularly in light of recent news stories linking social media use to feelings of negativity and suicidal thoughts in children. You can read the full report at:

<https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/Childrens-Commissioner-for-England-Life-in-Likes-3.pdf> or for more information on keeping children using social media safe visit <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/share-aware/>

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Term Dates

Spring Term 2019

Thursday 3rd January
Monday 25th February
Inset Day: Wednesday 2nd January

Friday 15th February
Friday 5th April

Summer Term 2019

Wednesday 24th April
Monday 3rd June
Inset Days: Tuesday 23rd April, Friday 24th May
Monday 22nd July, Tuesday 23rd July, Wednesday 24th July
May Bank Holiday: Monday 6th May

Thursday 23rd May
Tuesday 23rd July

Future Term Date 2019-20

Autumn Term 2019

Wednesday 4th September
HT- Monday 28th October
Monday 4th November
Inset days 2nd and 3rd September

Friday 25th October
Friday 1st November
Thursday 19th December

Spring Term 2020

Tuesday 7th January
HT- Monday 17th February
Monday 24th February
Inset day 6th January

Friday 14th February
Friday 21st February
Friday 3rd April

Summer Term 2020

Monday 20th April
HT- Monday 25th May
Monday 1st June
Inset day 20th and 21st July

Friday 22nd May
Friday 29th May
Friday 17th July

Diary Dates

Tuesday 5th February
Friday 15th February
18th - 22nd February
26th - 27th February
4th - 8th March
Wednesday 6th March
Friday 8th March
12th - 18th March
11th and 13th March
Friday 15th March

Internet Awareness Day
PTA non-uniform day
Get Active Holiday Club
Parent Consultation week
World Book Week
Tempest class and group photographs
World Book Dress-up day
Book People Book Fayre
Year 3 visit to Chiltern Open Air Museum
Red Nose Day

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2019 Residential Trip Dates

Year 5 to Shortenills: Wednesday 2nd - Friday 5th April

Year 6 to PGL Weymouth: Tuesday 25th - Friday 28th June