

# LODDON PRIMARY SCHOOL

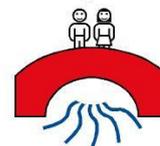
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Loddon  
Primary School



22<sup>nd</sup> January 2016

## NEWSLETTER NO 8

Dear Parents/Carers,



### House Gems

Congratulations to the following children who have received a Values 'House Gem' celebrating their actions in promoting our school values.

Dominic P	Kestrels	Air	A quality presentation in preparing for the House poetry festival
Luke T	Stingrays	Water	Perseverance and courage in the Christmas play
Faith W-B	Kestrels	Water	For positivity shown in her positive can do attitude
Fatima K	Kites	Fire	For resilience and quality in all her work
Izzy W	Kites	Air	For being thoughtful to her friend by sharing resources for School Council competition
Naim A	Phoenix	Earth	Thoughtfulness towards another child
Jake T	Stingrays	Air	Caring shown by being a great friend
Freya M-T	Hawks	Earth	Respect, caring and friendship towards other children in the class
Emily J	Squirrels	Earth	Thoughtfulness when picking up litter
Adam O	Kestrels	Water	Thoughtfulness and responsibility when supporting another child



### Loddon Primary School Football team update

As a result of last term's league matches the Loddon Primary School Year 5-6 football team are now in League 2 (out of 7 leagues). Very well done to all the players! This term our Year 5-6 football team will play home and away matches against St Dominic Savio, Hawthorns, Colleton, Nine Mile Ride, Emmbrook Juniors and Shinfield St Marys. Further details will follow nearer the time. *(Mr Holloway, PE Subject Leader)*

### Gymnastics Competition

On Monday 18<sup>th</sup> January a team of four Year 3-4 children and four Year 5-6 children took part in a Gymnastic competition at Reddam House, Berkshire. The children competed in routines for floor, vault and body management. The children thoroughly enjoyed the experience of competing against other schools and being assessed for their performance. Well done to all the children who participated! *(Mr Holloway, PE Subject Leader)*

### Reading Central Library - Monthly book club

Get Reading Reading are launching a new monthly book group for children aged 8-11 at Reading Central Library on **Saturday 23rd January**. The group are supporting Reading's 2016 Year of Culture and in January everyone is being encouraged to try something new. The first meeting will involve looking at the Federation of Children's Book Group, Top 10 books and is a great opportunity to experience some new reading material. We hope lots of our children join and further develop their love for reading.

*(Mrs Simpson, English Subject Leader)*



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## Support for Children with additional needs

At Loddon, we are proud to support a number of children with additional needs. This is the first of a new monthly section to our newsletter in which we will be providing some basic information on a specific need or condition. (If you would like a particular topic covered or would like to discuss any points mentioned, please email Mrs Didcock: [inclusion@loddon.wokingham.sch.uk](mailto:inclusion@loddon.wokingham.sch.uk).)

**Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD)** This condition affects a child's ability to socialise and to develop speech and language. The main characteristics are now commonly described as a triad of impairments. These impairments affect:

- **Communication** - language impairment, which may include speech, intonation, gesture, body language or facial expression
- **Social interaction** - difficulties such as lack of empathy and perception, inappropriate eye-contact, poor grasp of timing or rejection of physical contact
- **Imaginative thought** - inflexible or over-literal thought-processes, which may include obsessional behaviours or repetitive movements and a resistance to change

Children with Autistic Spectrum Disorder will have a different view of the world and of what is important.

### Children with ASD may:

- ✓ Find it hard or even impossible to look others in the eye
- ✓ Prefer to be solitary, have great difficulty dealing with other children invading their personal space
- ✓ Flap arms or hands, particularly when frustrated or upset
- ✓ Have delayed speech - many autistic children have difficulty with developing spoken language
- ✓ Have difficulty understanding jokes, idioms or figures of speech - everything is taken literally
- ✓ Have difficulties with language, such as parroting what others say, repeating one phrase over and over or speaking in a monotone voice
- ✓ Become upset for no apparent reason although this often may be because someone has moved something or changed a routine
- ✓ Display repetitive behaviours, such as turning lights on and off, opening and closing doors or watching the same programmes over and over

### Strategies we may use in school or at home:

- Ensure that situations have an element of continuity- not too many changes at one time
- Prepare children well in advance for any changes in routine, as this can be very distressing
- Be consistent in behaviour management
- Keep instructions clear and simple, checking understanding by repeating the instructions to the child individually
- Use a child's name if given general instructions
- Use concrete materials to support understanding and conceptual vocabulary
- Children with autism are more likely to be visual learners, so try to present information visually e.g. visual timetables, visual task lists etc.
- Use social stories to support a child in a specific social situation
- Provide a very structured approach to learning, by breaking down tasks into small steps
- Provide children with a designated place to work where they can have their own personal space, with minimal distractions
- Set out tasks in the same, clear manner so that children can aim for independence
- Where children have minimal language PECS (Picture Exchange Communication System) may be used
- Have short breaks throughout the day for physical activity (movement / sensory breaks)
- Reduce the danger of sensory overload e.g. background noises, too much visual stimulus

### Useful websites

National Autistic Society <http://www.autism.org.uk/>

NHS Choices <http://www.nhs.uk/conditions/autistic-spectrum-disorder/Pages/Introduction.aspx>

Information taken from: 'A-Z of Special Needs for every teacher' and Specialist Schools and Academies Trust 'The Schools Network'. (Mrs Didcock, Inclusion Leader)



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## Parent Forum

Early in December a letter was sent out to all parents and carers to generate interest in forming a group of parent representatives to launch a 'Parent Forum'. We are delighted to have received a number of responses. We aim to have two representatives per year group, which allows fewer burdens on one. At this point however, we have no response from Year 4 parents/carers, if you wish to represent Year 4 please let us know.

The first Parent forum meeting will be held in the parent hut on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> February 2016 from 6.30pm and we expect the meeting to last no more than 1 ½ hours. (We hope that evenings will be convenient for you all as this was the most preferred time.) The focus of this first meeting will be to agree the remit, purpose and aims of the Parent forum. We will also compile a list of possible topics for future forums at the initial meeting. It's not too late if you would still like to get involved; all you need to do is e-mail [psa@loddon.wokingham.sch.uk](mailto:psa@loddon.wokingham.sch.uk) to confirm your attendance. Mrs Phillips, the governors and I look forward to welcoming you. (Kam Bhogal, PSA)

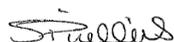
## Parent Information Book

Thank you to all the parents who sent ideas for the Parent Information Book. We are now in the final stages of drafting and agreeing the Information Book and expect to publish the final version soon after February Half term.

## Second Hand Uniform sales - Update

We've been running the second hand uniform sales after school every term and on Wednesday mornings once a month since Summer 2013 and want to thank everyone for all their support; for the donations of school uniform and for your support at each sale. To date we have raised just over £1000, which has been given to the school PTA, to support Loddon Primary. Thanks to the volunteer team and our parent support advisors, past and present for sorting and selling! Our next two sales will be on Wed 27 Jan 9-10am in the parent hut and Tuesday 19 April 3.15-3.45pm on the main playground/shelter. If you have any uniform in good clean condition, which you no longer need, please pop in a bag and hand it in to the school office. If you need any items of uniform between sales, please speak to one of us on the playground or leave a message for Kam (PSA). *Becky Morgan (Y5/Y1 parent), Sarah Pugh (Y6/Y2 parent), Andrea Smith (Y4/Y1 parent) and Kam Bhogal (PSA).*

Yours sincerely



Mrs S Phillips  
Headteacher

## Diary Events List: Spring term 2016

Date	Time	Event
26/01/16	All day	Y1 trip to Milestones Museum
27/01/16	08.30-09.00	PSA second hand uniform sale in the Hut
27/01/16	09.00-10.00	PSA Tea/Coffee morning in The Hut including Sleep Well workshop
27/01/16	18.00-19.00	Governor Environment committee - attendance by invitation from Chair or HT
28/01/16	09.00-11.00	PSP Can Support Group run by parents in the Parent Hut
28/01/16	During day	Governor Day & Full Governing Body meeting by invitation from Chair or HT
02/02/16	13.30-15.00	Y4 REInspired session at Brookside Church on Sacred Texts
03/02/16	09.00-10.00	PSA Tea/Coffee morning in The Hut
03/02/16	18.00-18.45	KS2 Reading Workshop for Parents/Carers
04/02/16	09.00-11.00	PSP Can Support Group run by parents in the Parent Hut



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Date	Time	Event
04/02/16	10.15	F1 tour for prospective parents
04/02/16	15.30-16.30	Harry Potter event
04/02/16	15.30-16.15	No Orchestra due to Harry Potter event
05/02/16	15.45-17.30	Y3-4 boys/girls Bisi Badminton at Bulmershe Leisure Centre, selected children
05/02/16	14.00-15.00	Cycle Smart Foundation Cycle Safety visit to Y6 children
08/02/16	16.00-16.45	KS2 Reading Workshop for Parents/Carers (second opportunity)
09/02/16	9.30-11.00	F2 REInspired session in the FSU Hall on Noah
09/02/16	15.30	Y5/6 Football Team vs Nine Mile Ride to be held at Loddon
10/02/16	09.00-10.00	PSA Tea/Coffee morning in The Hut
11/02/16	09.00-11.00	PSP Can Support Group run by parents in the Parent Hut
11/02/16	15.00-15.20	Y3 class sharing assembly - parents and carers welcome
15/02/16	TBC	Y5/6 Football Team vs Emmbrook Juniors to be held at Loddon
15/02/16	All week	Half term holiday
22-23/02/16	All day	Y4 residential trip to Ufton Court
24/02/16	08.30-09.00	PSA second hand uniform sale in the Hut
24/02/16	09.00-10.00	PSA Tea/Coffee morning in The Hut - Head Teacher Mrs Phillips hosting 'Values' Workshop.
25/02/16	09.00-11.00	PSP Can Support Group run by parents in the Parent Hut
29/02/16	All week	Y5 Bikeability training
29/02/16	16.00-16.45	KS1 Reading Workshop for Parents/Carers in Main Hall
29/02/16	18.00-18.45	KS1 Reading Workshop for Parents/Carers in Kestrels Class (second opportunity)
01/03/16	All day	World Book Day Author visit to school
01/03/16	08.30-09.30	Personnel & Finance Governor Committee meeting: attendance by invitation from Chair or HT
01/03/16	13.00-16.30	Year 5/6 boys and girls netball at Bulmershe
01/03/16	13.30-15.00	Y5 REInspired session on Inspirational Christian Writers at Brookside Church
02/03/16	09.00-10.00	PSA Tea/Coffee morning in The Hut
03/03/16	09.00-11.00	PSP Can Support Group run by parents in the Parent Hut
03/03/16	10.15	F1 tour for prospective parents
03/03/16	15.00-15.20	Y4 class sharing assembly: Parents & carers welcome
04/03/16	TBC	PTA Spring Disco (Years 1-3 in lower, Years 4-6 in upper)
08/03/16	16.00-19.00	Parents' evening
09/03/16	09.00-10.00	PSA Tea/Coffee morning in The Hut
09/03/16	13.30-15.30	Y5 First Aid Training
09/03/16	16.00-19.00	Parents' evening
10/03/16	09.00-11.00	PSP Can Support Group run by parents in the Parent Hut
11/03/16	09.30-14.30	Wokingham Years 5-6 Girls football tournament

Date	Time	Event
15/03/16	13.30-15.00	Y1 REInspired session on Parables at St Nicolas Church
16/03/16	08.30-09.30	Governor Environment Committee meeting by invitation from Chair or HT
16/03/16	09.00-10.00	PSA Tea/Coffee morning in The Hut
16/03/16	18.00-19.30	Governor Curriculum Committee meeting: attendance by invitation from Chair or HT
17/03/16	09.00-11.00	PSP Can Support Group run by parents in the Parent Hut
17/03/16	15.00-15.20	Y2 class sharing assembly: Parents & carers welcome
21/03/16	14.00-15.00	Years 3 & 4 performance for parents & carers
22/03/16	18.00-19.00	Years 3 & 4 performance for parents & carers (x2 allocated tickets per family)
23/03/16	09.00-10.00	PSA Tea/Coffee morning in The Hut
24/03/16	09.30-11.30	Easter services at St Nicolas Church - Exact times TBA.
24/03/16	All day	Last day of Pupil Spring term - all session finish 30 minutes earlier
25/03- 10/04/16		Easter Holiday
11/04/16	All day	First day of Pupil Summer term



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