

Dear Parents/Carers

The last day of September and the first month of the school year complete – it doesn't seem long since we were welcoming everyone back to school at the end of August.

We have had such a good start to the year with the children showing a positive attitude to all their learning and the good weather has meant we have made good use of our amazing school grounds – there has been a bumper crop of conkers this year!

We welcome our new Foundation Stage children and their families to our school community and we look forward to seeing them grow and develop on their journey with us. Thank you to all those who were able to visit their child's classroom last week – we look forward to further opportunities when you can be involved in their learning.

Parents and family members of our Year 5 children were also invited in last week for our Harvest Assembly led by the children. This launched our Harvest Appeal – we are collecting items to support Loughborough Food Bank. Please can any items be brought to the school office.

This half term we have been embedding our new vision and values, and getting used to the new class names!

As you may know our school library has been transformed into an amazing place for our children to enjoy and there will be an opportunity for parents to see this wonderful space at our parent/teacher meetings in a couple of weeks. Please find the time to see it!

Thank you
Iona Mock



Diary Dates

Parent/Teacher Meetings

Tuesday 14th and Thursday 16th October

End of Term Productions

Foundation Stage

Monday 8th December 2pm

Tuesday 9th December 2pm

Year 2

Wednesday 10th December 6pm

Thursday 11th December 2pm

Year 4

Wednesday 10th December 2pm

Thursday 11th December 6pm

House Points for this month

Badgers 1116

Deer 981

Foxes 993

Hedgehogs 1118

Well done to this month's winners!



Hedgehogs

Children's Responsibilities

Each year there are opportunities for children to have a position of responsibility in school. Each class has an Eco Warrior and a School Councillor both of whom are elected by the class following a democratic election. Our Year 6 children also take on additional responsibilities with staff in school nominating children for the positions.

Congratulations to the children below for being selected for the various roles.

House Captains

Badgers	Deer	Foxes	Hedgehogs
Daniel F	Amalia B	Alfred P	Maisie W
George H	Hana N	Klayah D	Hammad Q

Sports Ambassadors

Jack R	Arlo H	Seb F	Ralph G	Arthur E
Abbia L	Fearne S	Esme O	Ben M	Orly M



Librarians

Ernie A	Hadley J	Edie W
Della S	Lillian C	Rory T



Class Name	Eco Warrior	School Councillor
Ash	Spruha G	Ava G
Oak	Wren T	Annie C
Cherry	Lily H	Martha H
Holly	Clementine N	Sienna D
Pine	Elliot R	Zoe M
Lime	Brooke S	Lola K
Birch	Osian P	Ava S
Larch	Rosie B	Ciada R
Maple	Mahad K	Mehjabeen C
Spruce	Manraj S	Nyari K
Poplar	Gabby C	Georgina M
Cedar	Eloisa P	Alex S
Hazel	Nimrat G	Belle H
Aspen	Hughie T	Arthur E

Mountfields Lodge School Library

Two years ago, the PSA began developing the idea of transforming the school library and fundraised approximately £5,000 to initiate the project. This year, with interior design and project management support, a design was created for an inclusive space with a Forest of Fairy Tales theme.

We have been extremely fortunate to receive additional funding, including £2,000 in donations from parents and £1,500 from the Barratt Homes Community Foundation. One of our parents working at Barratt Homes also engaged further community partners to support the project over the summer:

- BD Living supplied and fitted all joinery.
- Abingdon and Novus provided and fitted the carpet.
- Dulux gifted all paint.
- Illustrator and author Emma Carlisle created large-scale artwork, which has been integrated into the space.
- Waterstones set up a PSA account offering a 20% discount on all new books, helping to maintain the library's stock and provide a sustainable budget for ongoing procurement.

As a school we are really fortunate to have a group of dedicated library volunteers, who regularly give their time to support children's reading, are excited to bring the refreshed library to life. They have worked tirelessly over the past few weeks organising the many books onto the new shelving.

Please pop into the library when you are in school for your parent/teacher meeting to see what a magical place the library has become.



Future PSA dates

Thursday 16 October - Pre-loved uniform sale, with tea, cake and coffee!

Friday 7 November - Samosa sale and Bollywood dance workshop after school.

Friday 21 November - School discos!



EYFS

The children in EYFS have settled into school life beautifully this first half of the autumn term. They have enjoyed learning about themselves, their families and friends, and have used their oracy skills to talk and share with one another. The children have also been getting to know our school routines and rules, while beginning their exciting journey into phonics and early reading. It has been a wonderful start, and we are so proud of how well the children have embraced their new adventures at school.



Year 1

In Year 1's science learning they have been finding out about seasonal change, and particularly Autumn. They went on a hunt for signs of Autumn and collected treasure that had been dropped from the many different trees and plants we have in our school grounds. They even found an ash tree and oak tree next to each other just like the Year 1 classes! The fallen objects have been used for counting, sorting, creative work and, of course, science!



Year 2

The Year 2 children have made a positive start to the school year as they begin to settle into their new routines. They have spent time exploring the school grounds, noticing the different natural materials around them. Inspired by the work of Andy Goldsworthy, the children used leaves, sticks, and stones to create simple pieces of outdoor artwork. This activity has helped them to work together, enjoy time outside, and start thinking creatively about the world around them.



Year 3 & 4

This term, Years 3 and 4 have been diving into the amazing world of Ancient Egypt – and what a start they've had!

It all started with a brilliant Ancient Egypt Day, where the children explored artefacts, dressed up, and even had a go at mummifying tomatoes. It was a great way to bring history to life and get everyone excited about what's to come.

Since then, they have been learning all about Tutankhamun, the famous boy king, journeying deep underground into his tomb and discovering some of the incredible treasures that were buried with him.

They are looking forward to our upcoming trip to the New Walk Museum, where we'll be able to see real Ancient Egyptian artefacts and find out even more fascinating facts



Year 5

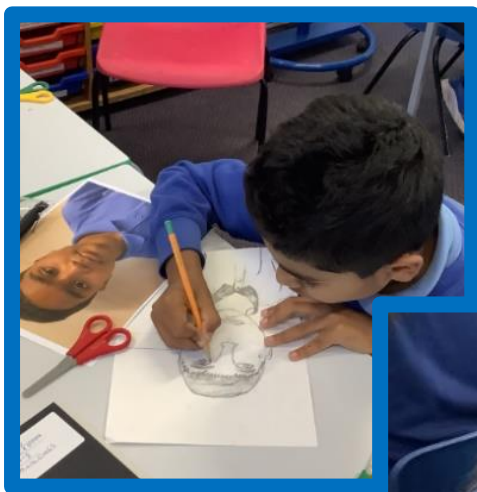
Y5 presented a wonderful Harvest Assembly last week, showing parents their fantastic speaking, acting, art work and singing. The children rose to the challenge of bringing this together 4 weeks into the year, reminding their audience what harvest is about and providing food for thought about how we should treat each other. The harvest assembly launched this year's appeal collecting donations for Loughborough food bank.

The food bank is always grateful for any donations, however, they have a shortage of these products which we are hoping as a community we can support them with.



- Size 6 and 7 nappies
 - Cereals
 - Coffee
- Tins of meat
- Tins of tomatoes
 - Shampoo
 - Cordial
- Chocolates/treats
- Jams/Marmalades

In art, we have been enjoying exploring self-portraits and have begun to create our own multi-step self-portrait collage using a variety of drawing techniques, paint and layering.



Our Year 6 children had an incredible time on their residential at Standon Bowers! The experience was full of fun, challenges and teamwork – with the children making memories to last a lifetime.

They took part in a wide range of adventurous activities including:

- 🎯 Rifle Shooting – it was much trickier than some of us were expecting! However, there were quite a few people hitting the target and scoring a 10.



- 🚲 BMX Biking – lots of children gained confidence in riding bikes, or scooters down the pump track; over the hills and perfecting going round the burns.



- 🕒 Orienteering – with lots of experience of orienteering already from our wonderful grounds at Mountfields, it was good to put our skills to the test around a different course.

- 🧗 Gladiator Climb & 🏹 Leap of Faith (High Ropes) – lots of children (and staff!) overcame their fear of heights to have a go at these activities. The children were so supportive and encouraging of each other. *Lilly: 'The platform was really scary but once you had done it, you felt really good.'*



- 🧱 Climbing and Bouldering Walls – lots of personal challenges completed by following certain colour 'holds' for the bouldering and working together to secure the ropes for the climbing.



- 🏠 Bridge Building Challenge – this activity really tested the children's thinking skills and harnessed their team building and communication skills. A few soggy feet when things didn't quite go to plan!



The campfire night was a true highlight – filled with laughter, singing, storytelling and delicious marshmallows toasted to perfection. One of the biggest personal challenges for some? Making their own beds and climbing to the top of the Leap of Faith staircase! It was wonderful to see so much independence and resilience from everyone. *Abia: 'It was fun and we could try new things and challenge ourselves.'*

A huge thank you to all the staff who supported the trip – and to the children for being such great fun to be with and giving everything a go with a positive attitude!

Huge congratulations to our newly formed Football Teams!

Our Year 5&6 girls' team in their first ever tournament played together recently at Charnwood College. The team managed to win two of their games, drew two and lost three. It was certainly a case of their confidence growing with each game as they got used to each other's play and rhythm and they found their voices on the pitch!

They were rewarded with a great 5th place overall out of the nine competing teams and this represents a great start to the year.

Well done Maryam, Emiko, Orly, Esme, Grace, Bea, Penelope Nancy and Brahmi - we are really proud of you all!

Next up is the first of the BEP Football League fixtures, which we are all very excited about.



The Year 5/6 boys' football team have been involved in two separate competitions and have represented the school brilliantly in both.

The first time the team played together was in the Charnwood tournament with the team finishing 4th out of 9 teams. They showed great determination and teamwork throughout the competition.

They have also kicked off their BEP League campaign in outstanding fashion, playing four games, remaining unbeaten, and conceding only one goal across all fixtures. A fantastic start to the league.

Well done to Arlo G, Joseph, Ashton,

Hugo, Luca and Marley

