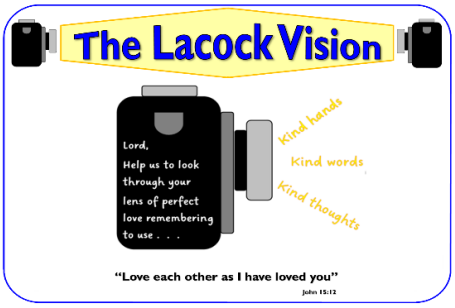

"Love each other as I have loved you" John 15:12

admin@lacock.wilts.sch.uk

Tel: 01249 730271

Thursday 11th January 2024 **Term 3 issue 7**

FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Dear Parent/Carers,

Happy New Year to everyone – I hope you all had a lovely holiday whatever you got up to despite the wet and windy weather!

It's been great to see the children really focused on their learning over the past week – we are proud of how they have settled back so quickly.

Willow Class are asking the question, 'Does it always snow in the winter?'
Beech are finding out, 'Were the Vikings always vicious?'
Oak class are learning about the Greeks and finding out if they would prefer to be an Athenian or a Spartan.
Keep an eye out for the termly parent letters and knowledge organisers which will be with you soon via Tapestry.

Staffing Changes

We would like to inform you of some changes to staffing this term.

- Mrs Dark is now one of the teaching assistants in Willow Class
- Mrs Simms has now moved to Oak Class.
- Mrs White is reverting to her 4 days a week contract, so Mrs Tedds will now be teaching Oak on a Friday and covering Mrs White's PPA (planning, preparation and assessment) time on a Thursday afternoon.
- Miss Whinton joins us as a Teaching assistant in Oak and sometimes in Willow.
- Mrs Jackson will be covering Mrs James' PPA time on a Tuesday afternoon.

We are also busy planning another exciting Fox Talbot Day on 9th February to celebrate Fox Talbot's 224th birthday! The National Trust are kindly helping plan the learning for the day and we are hoping to spend the morning at the abbey/museum and then back to school for a celebration. We are also planning events for the schools 200th year - we will let you know more in the next couple of weeks.

Parent Workshops - Dyslexia

The Wiltshire SSENS (Specialist Special Educational Needs Service) have offered some places for parents/carers at their online training **Dyslexia Workshop For Parents And Carers on 16th January 2024 4-5:30pm.** The session will allow parents and carers to find out what dyslexia is, how schools and other agencies in Wiltshire identify and support literacy difficulties, and explore ways to help at home.
We can host the session in school or you can log on from home if you prefer.
If you are interested, please leave your name & email in the office and we will contact you with log in details etc.
Caroline Jackson

Why good attendance is so important

Holidays during term time cannot be authorised, unless there are exceptional circumstances. Should this be the case, holiday request forms are available from the school office. These must be completed in advance and sent to the Headteacher for consideration.

Ensure your child attends school EVERY DAY unless your child is ill. If they are ill please ensure that you inform the school ASAP by calling the school office on **01249 730271.** Only keep them home if they are really unable to attend and in line with 'Should I keep my child off school guidance' attached to the newsletter. Phone school EVERY morning that your child is absent so that our attendance records are accurate and up-to-date. Make sure that we have all the correct contact details for you so that we can contact you about illnesses or absence.

Make sure your child arrives on time! Remember, doors open at 8.45am so do not be late to arrive! Late comers not only miss vital lesson time but also disrupt learning for other members of the class too

DID YOU KNOW? A two week holiday in term time means that the highest attendance you can achieve is 94.7%

School Clubs Term 3

Again our school clubs have proved very popular. We still have limited availability in our football, art and streetdance club.

A reminder that we run a breakfast club every school morning from 8.00am. Booking is via ParentMail and places are limited. If you would like to book a place, you need to do so 24 hours before the day you need. If you miss to book, please speak to one of our office team.

Dance Festival Tuesday 6th February

This year's performance is on Tuesday 6th February 2023, starting at 6.30pm with doors opening at 6.00 pm. The show will finish at approximately 7.45pm. Rehearsal for the performance starts at 5.15pm. Please make sure your child arrives by 5.00pm at the latest in time for the dress rehearsal.

Tickets are now on sale via the school office and the cost of a ticket is £4.00 and allows 1 person entry, this includes a programme provided on the night. Cash only please until Wednesday 17th January, after this date all tickets will be returned to Abbeyfield School please check out www.chipsportpart.co.uk – under Dance Festival for dates and times tickets will be sold. **Please note we have limited tickets. This year each performer can have a maximum of 1 ticket per family and this does not include siblings and any child requiring a seat, due to the seating availability.** Please be aware that children performing are not able to leave until the end of the show.

Photography/video will be used on social media, newsletter etc we are not be able to seek permission for all students.

Free School Meals (FSM) & Universal Infant Free School Meals (UIFSM)

All children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are entitled to universal free school meals (UIFSM). You don't have to apply, just order via the Lataca app.

However, if you are receiving a qualifying benefit, the school could receive an extra £1,385 for primary-aged pupils (2022-2023) premium funding to support their learning! Your child would be entitled to a free school meal and this can be ordered via the Lataca app but if you prefer to supply a packed lunch, it is fine too.

Do you qualify?

You can register your child for Free School Meals if you get any of these benefits:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The Guarantee element of State Pension Credit

- Child Tax Credit, provided they are not entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual income (as assessed by HM Revenue & Customs) that does not exceed £16,190
- Working Tax Credit 'run-on' - the payment someone may receive for a further four weeks after they stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit

Applications can now be made online using the parent portal
https://parentportal.wiltshire.gov.uk/web/portal/pages/home

We know this is a very challenging time for many, so please do not hesitate to speak to us about any concerns you may have. **For further information please ask at the school office.**

Head Lice and Nits

We have had a number of cases of head lice in school.

Head lice and nits are very common in children and their families. They do not have anything to do with dirty hair and are picked up by head-to-head contact.

Check if it's head lice. Head lice eggs (nits) are brown or white (empty shells) and attached to the hair. Head lice can make your head feel itchy, like something is moving in your hair. The only way to be sure someone has head lice is by finding live lice. You can do this by combing their hair with a special fine-toothed comb (detection comb). You can buy these online or at pharmacies.

For more information visit https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/head-lice-and-nits/

REMINDERS

Admissions – Primary application deadline

Online applications for September 2024 entry

The parent portal is open for applications for 2024 entry. The national deadline date for Primary Reception is **15th January 2024.**

https://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/article/1657/Apply-for-a-school-place

All applications submitted after the national deadline date will be treated as late applications. Late applications can be submitted using the parent portal.

If you have applied online you will be able to log back into the parent portal on national offer day to view the outcome of your application.

Oak Residential Trip to Braeside

A reminder that the next payment for the Braeside trip is due by 31st January.
Details below:
Who: Oak Class (year 4, 5 and 6)
Where: Braeside Education Centre, Devizes
When: Monday 24th June to Wednesday 26th June 2024.
Cost: £195.20 per child (if you are in receipt of free school meals the cost is £65.00)
3 installments of £43 due on 30th Nov, 31st Jan, 21st March = £129. Final payment due 22nd May of approx. £41 depending on oak fund raising events.

If you are in receipt of FSM, plan as follows:
£13.50 due on 30th Nov, 31st Jan and £13 on 21st March = £40.00

Emergency Closure of School Procedures

The school will make every effort to remain open for your children. However, in the event of bad weather, or other emergency, closure may be necessary.

School closure because of snow will also be posted on BBC Wiltshire Sound Snow Line, and on our web site **www.lacock.wilts.sch.uk** We will also send a message by text and email via Parentmail.

Please be aware that from time to time we are asked to publicise events from other groups / organisations. While we are happy to advertise events and distribute letters from third parties, we do not endorse them and it is for parents / carers to check the reliability and safety of these events / companies.

Letters sent home via ParentMail in the last fortnight		
Subject	**Class / year group**	**Date**
Letter from Chair of Governors	All	4th January
Dance Festival	Streetdance pupils	8th January

Dates for 2024

Some events *(in italics)* are run by Friends of Lacock School (FLS) and some may not confirmed.
All dates are subject to change. We will give as much notice of any changes as possible.

January 2024	
Tuesday 16th	Dyslexia Workshop For Parents And Carers
February 2024	
Tuesday 6th	Dance Festival
Friday 9th	Fox-Talbot Birthday celebrations
Friday 9th	Term 3 ends
Monday 19th	Term 4 begins
March 2024	
Thursday 28th	Term 4 ends
April 2024	
Monday 15th	Term 5 begins
May 2024	
Monday 6th	Bank holiday (school closed)
Friday 24th	Term 5 ends
June 2024	
Monday 3rd	TD Day (no pupils in school)
Tuesday 4th	Term 6 begins for all pupils
July 2024	
Monday 8th	TD Day (no pupils in school)
Wednesday 24th	Term 6 ends

UK Health Security Agency

NHS

Should I keep my child off school?

Yes

	Until...
Chickenpox	at least 5 days from the onset of the rash and until all blisters have crusted over
Diarrhoea and Vomiting	48 hours after their last episode
Cold and Flu-like illness (including COVID-19)	they no longer have a high temperature and feel well enough to attend. Follow the national guidance if they've tested positive for COVID-19.
Impetigo	their sores have crusted and healed, or 48 hours after they started antibiotics
Measles	4 days after the rash first appeared
Mumps	5 days after the swelling started
Scabies	they've had their first treatment
Scarlet Fever	24 hours after they started taking antibiotics
Whooping Cough	48 hours after they started taking antibiotics

No

but make sure you let their school or nursery know about...

Hand, foot and mouth	Glandular fever
Head lice	Tonsillitis
Threadworms	Slapped cheek

SCAN ME

Advice and guidance

To find out more, search for health protection in schools or scan the QR code or visit https://qrco.de/minfec.

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