



# **Lymington Junior School**

## **Newsletter Number 2**

### **8th December 2016**

What a term! It is always exciting to see children move into new year groups. As teachers we often take time to adjust to their new found maturity and the level of responsibility the children are able to take on. I am delighted to see Years 4, 5 and 6 are so well established and are making great strides in their learning. There is a buzz in the classrooms and around the school and this has been commented upon recently by many visitors; including those interested in the Headship available here. In particular I would like to congratulate Year 3 who have moved to a brand new setting and have shown their fantastic abilities and responsible attitudes towards school. They have developed so much this term and this was even more evident in the show that they put on earlier this week. I know I enjoyed it immensely as did the audience.

On Wednesday we say goodbye to Mrs Fletcher. For the previous eight years Mrs Fletcher has had a huge impact upon the work of the school. She has taught hundreds of Lymington's children and has helped them to attain some of the top results in the country. Her work on the school environment, productions and with the governing body has been a huge influence on the success of the school. As she moves on I would like to take the opportunity to express my thanks for all of her efforts and wish her well in her new role.

This will be my last newsletter to you. In January Mrs Moossun, ably assisted by her new leadership team, will be taking the reins and developing the work of this fantastic school. I know that under her leadership the school will not only maintain its current effectiveness but will develop even further. The governing body will continue to focus their energies upon finding a substantive headteacher and I know that you will support them, just as you have with me.

It's often a tough job being a headteacher. Long hours, complex problems and the huge responsibility to keep children safe and learning at all times. It is however, the best job in the world—no contest. I have been able to smile every day at something wonderful the children have said or done. I got to watch them develop, grow and thrive and know that I had a tiny part in their development. This job allows me to spend my day with the biggest energy givers in the world—your children.

Your support has been invaluable over the last few years. Some days the small, kind gestures made by parents have given me an enormous boost and have helped me through challenging times. Like all of us I have made mistakes along the way however I can say hand on heart that I have always had your children at the forefront of my decision making. Leading this school and getting to know you and your children has been the greatest honour of my professional career. I thank you for your support.

Wishing you a wonderful Christmas.

Dan Lambert

The children will have the opportunity to visit the Secret room on Wednesday 7th & Thursday 8th December in which they can buy a present for a special adult (i.e. all you Mums & Dads) and get it wrapped up brought home and safely stored away until the big day without anyone knowing what they have brought. The price of the gifts start at 50p.

There is so much happening here! The school fair on Friday 9th December from 3.30—5.00pm in the school hall. Also if your child is going to the Fayre without a parent, please ensure that they have money with them to spend (in a named purse) on that day.

Father Christmas will be in his Grotto, tickets can be purchased on the day.

If you are able to help at the Fayre, please leave your name and contact details at the office.



Our Christmas post Box is outside the library. If your child would like to post a card to a friend within the school please double check that they have clearly written the full name and class of their friend on the envelope, this helps postie to deliver the correct card to the right child!

#### **Menu Change**

On Tuesday 13th December the red option will be Meatballs and the green option is Pizza, this is due to the Christmas Lunch on Wednesday 14th Dec.

A very big thank you to everyone who supported Children in Need we raised £279.07



We raised a total of £44.54 with the Poppy Appeal in school this year. Thank you for your support.

## Welcome

We welcome Miss Bulman to the school, she has joined our office team. Mrs Onions has joined us a Teaching Assistant and will be working in Year 3.

### Car parking on Avenue Road

We have received several complaints in relation to parents parking on Avenue Road at drop off and pick times.

The main issues are that vehicles are blocking access to premises and also that a parking bay that can fit 5 cars has 3 vehicles parked in it.

Car parking is available at the town hall as there are spaces directly in front of the building and to the left hand side.

### Pick up time @ LJS



If while waiting you have another child with you can we please ask that they do not ride their scooters or bikes across the playground.

Please ensure that they don't run down the sides of the the school buildings or peer into the YR3 classrooms windows as this can distract the children as they are still engaged in learning at this time

We would appreciate it if you could ensure that any children waiting do not play in our outdoor classroom

### Autumn Term 2016

08.12.16—Secret Room  
08.12.16—Choir to sing at St Andrews Lodge—pm  
09.12.16—Christmas Fayre 3.30-5.00pm  
12.12.16—Choir to Sing at St Thomas's Lunch Club  
14.12.16—Christmas Lunch  
15.12.16—Carol Concert @ St Thomas's @ 1.30pm  
16.12.16—Last day of term

### Spring Term 2017

03.01.17—Inset Day 4  
04.01.17—Back to school

### Inset Days for 2016-2017

A reminder of our Inset dates for next year:



**Tuesday 3rd January 2017—Inset Day 4**  
**Friday 23rd June 2017—Inset Day 5**

### Useful Dates for the Year

19th Dec - 2nd Jan - Christmas Holiday

20th-24th Feb—Half Term

10th - 21st April - Easter Holiday

29th May - 2nd June Half Term

25th July - Last day of term

### **Attendance**

Thanks to everyone's support, most students' attendance last year was excellent.

The law relating to absence seems to be changing all of the time. All local authorities have a Code of Practice for Attendance which all schools must still follow.

Unless the issuing of a Penalty Notice would conflict with other intervention strategies in place or other sanctions already being processed, we will have to issue a Penalty Notice where the student has been:

absent without authorisation for 40 or more half-day sessions in a 12-month period – these do not need to be consecutive; or late on 10 or more occasions in any 10 weeks – again, these do not need to be consecutive; or absent for 1 or more sessions during a public exam or formal school assessment or test, where dates are published in advance.

We are still waiting for advice about holiday absence, but we will not normally approve any request for absence where a child's attendance for the previous 12 months is below 95%.

Each penalty notice carries a fine of £60 if paid within 21 days of the penalty notice being posted. If the fine is not paid within 21 days the penalty is automatically increased to £120 if paid within 28 days. If the fine remains unpaid the Hampshire County Council will consider prosecution for the non-attendance. Separate penalty notices are usually issued to both parents.

### **Absences**

If your child is absent from school we ask that you please phone by 10.00am or an unauthorised absence will be recorded.

There is an answer phone so a message can be left. All absences are passed onto the teacher.

### **Lunchtime Supervisory Assistants needed**



We are looking for some special people to supervise the children at lunchtime in both the dining hall and playground.

Can you engage with children and encourage positive play, if so, we need you!

The hours are 12.00-1.00pm, Monday to Friday. Pay £7.06 per hour.

For further details please contact the school office and talk to Mrs Lavis.



## **Stay & Play Holiday Club**

We are delighted to inform all our **Parents/Carers** about the **Stay & Play Holiday Club** which will offer affordable child care rates, and will be available to all our existing members as well as new members in the Christmas holidays from Monday 19th to Wednesday 21st December.

Please contact Danielle on 07867534398 or Karen on 07885821234 for more information

### **Child Care Times/Prices**

**8:00am - 2:00pm = £16.00**

**8:00am - 4:00pm = £21.00**

**8:00am - 6:00pm = £26.00**

Mid-Morning/Afternoon Snack menu are included within all sessions at no extra cost.

Full Day Stay will require the Children//Young People to bring in a packed lunch.