



# **Lymington Junior School**

## **Newsletter Number 1**

### **8th September 2017**

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to the 2017/18 academic year. I would like to take this opportunity to say how excited I am to finally be starting in post as Headteacher here at Lymington Junior School. Although I have only been part of the school community for a week, it is clear to see how fortunate we are as a school to have such wonderful children; dedicated staff and supportive parents. I am very much looking forward to working with you all over the coming years.

It has been great to see how well the children have settled back in to school following their summer holiday and we extend a particularly warm welcome goes to our new Year 3 children! It has been lovely to see so many smiling faces at the beginning and end of each day this week and I have been very impressed to with how hard everyone has been working in lessons too. A great start to the year all round.

As always, the staff have worked hard over the summer to plan and prepare this half term's topic for the children. In the coming weeks each year group will be publishing their curriculum newsletters and holding curriculum meetings to allow you to better understand and support your child's learning.

I have also been very impressed by the range of clubs offered to the children at LJS. The club letters went out earlier in the week outlining what is available. As always, we will try to ensure that as many children as possible are able to benefit from this provision.

We understand that this can be a time of high anxiety for some children. Mrs Davies (Special Educational Needs Coordinator) and Mrs Rose (ELSA) are available in school every day to talk through any concerns you may have regarding your child's needs. Emotional Learning Support Assistants (ELSAs) are highly trained and very experienced in supporting families with whatever concerns or worries they might have.

If you have any worries or questions please remember that there are always members of staff available on the school gate in the morning or when children are collected after school. In addition to this, appointments to meet with specific members of staff can be made via the school office. As always the school year will be extremely busy and pass by very quickly – there are already only 69 more school days until Christmas! Please keep checking Newsletters, letters (as and when necessary), website etc for information about upcoming events. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the school office.

Mr Dan Twyman

### **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.

### **School Office**

Reminder that the school office is open between 8.30am and 3.30pm. There is an answer phone that you can leave a message on.

### **After School Clubs**

The children have already bought home a letter detailing the clubs that will be run in this term.

Also they had their club assembly on Thursday 7th September, and after this they took home club letters, these need to be returned by the morning of Monday 11th.

Text messages will be sent out next week confirming if your child has a place at a club.

Please be patient with us as we will have a rather large number of forms to sift through!



### Autumn term 2017

11.09.17—School photographs  
18.-21.09.17— YR5/6 Bikeability Training  
18.09.17—YR5 Curriculum Mtg @ 2.30pm  
20.09.17—YR4 Curriculum Mtg @ 2.30pm  
21.09.17—YR6 Tennis (4 weeks) - pm  
21.09.17—YR6 Curriculum Mtg @ 2.30pm  
26.09.17—YR3 Curriculum Mtg @ 2.30pm  
27.09.17—YR4 Swimming (4 weeks) - am  
28.09.17—YR6 to visit Priestlands  
29.09.17—Whole School sports afternoon  
29.09.17—McMillan Coffee afternoon@ 2.30pm  
03.10.17—Priestlands Open Evening @ 7.00pm  
04—6.10.17—YR5 to Hooke Court  
06.10.17—Priestlands Open Morning  
17.10.17—Parents Evening (3.30-5.30pm)  
18.10.17—Parents Evening (5.00-7.00pm)  
19.10.17—5D Class Assembly @ 9.00am  
23—27.10.17 Half Term  
30.10.17—Inset Day 2  
06-10.11.17—YR6 to Kingswood  
08.11.17—YR3 & 4 Flu injections  
23.11.17—6P Class Assembly—@ 9.00am  
07.12.17—6G Class Assembly @ 9.00am  
14.12.17—Carol Service at St Thomas's  
15.12.17—Christmas Fayre  
19.12.17 M & M Productions "Aladdin"  
21.12.17—Last day of school

### Spring term 2018

04.01.18—Back to school

### School Day

A reminder that school opens at 8.25am, so please don't leave your child before this time as they cannot access the building and we cannot take responsibility for them. If they arrive way before this time then they will be sent to our Breakfast Club and there will be a £3.50 charge for this.

If you know that you will be late collecting your child at the end of the school day, please ring the office so they can let your child know and so they can wait in reception. If we haven't heard from you & you haven't collected your child by 3.30pm then we will send them to our After School Club and again there will be a charge.

Our main concern is for the safety of the children outside of the school day.



### Medicines in School



All children with inhalers should carry their own, clearly named inhaler.

The School follows County guidelines regarding all other medication. A child who is clearly unwell should not be in school

- If your child is taken ill during the day we will phone you - please ensure the office has up to date contact numbers
- Non-prescribed medicines should not be brought into school
- For any child completing prescribed medicine (e.g. antibiotics) the following applies-
  - \* You may come into school to give medicine; if not then your child must be able to self-administer their medication
  - \* Three times a day can be taken before and after the school day
  - \* All prescribed medication must come to the office and a permission form completed.

### Inset Days for 2017-2018

Giving you plenty of notice for Inset dates in 2017-2018 school year:



**30.10.17 — Inset Day 2**  
**19.02.18 — Inset Day 3**  
**25.05.18 — Inset Day 4**  
**23.07.18— Inset Day 5**

### Useful Dates for the Year

23th - 27th October—Half Term  
22th Dec - 4th Jan - Christmas Holiday

12th-16th Feb—Half Term  
30th March - 13th April - Easter Holiday

28th May - 1st June Half Term  
20th July - Last day of term

### School lunches

Hampshire Caterers run our school kitchen. Each term they send out new menu options that meet the Government regulations for children's dinners.

The children get the option of a vegetarian or meat meal each day. However for some children with allergies additional special arrangements are required.

Hampshire Caterers are normally able to accommodate any individual needs but only if notified and the appropriate forms completed.

If your child has a particular dietary need and you wish them to have school dinners please obtain a form from the school office. The current menu is nut free.

### School Lunches

Can we please ask you to pay for school lunches on a Monday morning. If you would like, you can pay for a few weeks or pay for a half term in advance. The cost of a school lunch is £2.15 per day

To help speed up the queue on a Monday, dinner money can be put into a named envelope and handed in at the office.

### Food allergies

We encourage the children to bring in healthy packed lunches so please put into the lunch box what your child will eat and think of how the food is packaged in the lunch box (plastic tubs for fruit and not pre-packed fruit). Please remember that we are a nut-free school.

### Parent Helpers

*We are always grateful for all the support we receive from parents in school, whether in class, for trips or for other special events. All parents who help in school or on trips must have a Disclosure & Barring Service (DBS) check. If interested in helping please talk to the school office.*

### Cycling to School

If your child wishes to bike to school they must be accompanied by an adult or have passed their cycling proficiency. All children **must wear a helmet**. Year 6/5 will start their cycling training later on this term, letters will be sent out shortly.

As a school we cannot take any responsibility for bikes stored on the school grounds so would strongly recommend that all bikes are locked.

**For health and safety reasons, scooters and bikes must be pushed when on the playground. This includes younger siblings at the end of the school day.**

### Uniform Reminders!

It was wonderful to see the children looking so smart on Tuesday. Uniform and general appearance are an important part of our school identity.

May I remind everyone that **alternative jumpers/ hoodies are not acceptable replacements for school jumpers or coats**. We do every year get a few 'creative' children trying to wear hoodies as an alternative to a coat. All the children know this is not part of our school uniform!

We follow the Cluster Policy and have no jewellery in school, the only exception being a small, inexpensive watch. So no earrings or fashion wrist bands please.

Children are also aware that hair dye, extreme fashion cuts or styling is not appropriate. Hair gel in particular should be kept to a minimum, school is a place of work & learning.

The children need proper (dark) school shoes, trainers/ vans are not acceptable footwear and no makeup should be worn including nail varnish.

We also ask that no mobile phones (or electric devices) are brought into school. If due to home time arrangements a phone is required after school, it must be brought to the office in the morning for safe keeping.

**Finally please ensure everything is labelled clearly - this gives us a chance of reuniting your child with their belongings!**

## 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. However, all local authorities have a Code of Practice for Attendance which all schools must still follow. For us, this means:

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 10 or more half-day sessions in a 10-week 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 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.

## Cleaner

We are looking for a cleaner, 10 hours a week, hours could be worked 3.30-5.30pm or 4.00-6.00pm. This is for an immediate start date.

Please contact the school office for further details.

Closing date for applications is Wednesday 27th September.



## 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.

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

