



Friday 4th October 2019

DE LACY PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



"Working together as a community to enable all our children to develop as responsible citizens."



HEAD OF SCHOOL'S MESSAGE

This week, the children have been thinking about good manners. CBG points have been awarded to children who consistently show good manners both in class, on the playground and when walking around school. I have been very impressed with a number of children holding the door open to let others pass and there has definitely been an improvement in manners towards each other when sharing equipment on the playground.

On Friday last week, all children in years 1 to 6 took part in our De Lacy elections to choose our School Council. Our new School Council members are wearing their yellow badges with pride and have already met with SLT to identify priorities for improving the school further. The Eco Council members are now proud owners of planet Earth badges and have taken part in litter picking both at the front of school and on the playground. Mrs Webster has ordered new high-visibility tabards for the children to wear when on duty. I am excited to find out their ideas for saving energy and making the school a more eco-friendly place to learn and work. The school librarians have also been very busy this week and have loved wearing their book shaped badges. We are very proud of our library environment and it is hoped that the school librarians work with SLT to audit and purchase new reading materials for all year groups this year. We are also planning a 'De Lacy Book Festival' so watch this space for more details!

Aldi vouchers for school

We've done it! Thank you so much for all of your support in collecting the stickers from Aldi. We have now completed one chart and have started completing a second entry. Please continue to send in your stickers so that we have double the chance of winning a prize of £20,000 for healthy lifestyles in school.



Get caught reading competition

Reading is a vital skill that can unlock the world for children. By learning to read fluently, children have the skills to be able to go on into the world of work and attend further education if they wish. Every child in school has been issued with an age appropriate and phonic appropriate reading book from EYFS to Y6. Please encourage your child to read for 5-10 minutes each night so that they improve their fluency, comprehension and vocabulary. In school, your child reads at least 3 times a day as part of our reading canon and expectations for Literacy. We want all children to read a range of texts, not just fiction so even comics, magazines and games manuals are good reading experiences. What is important, is that your child has access to a wide range of texts. Please sign in your child's planner / reading journal when they have read to you at home as they will be entered into the 'reading raffle'.

Send in your photos of you and your child reading to add to our library 'Get caught reading' wall! Email them into school or print them off. The most interesting photo / place to read will win a prize! Deadline Monday 21st October 2019.

De Lacy Stars

Reception— Harrison B and Loki B

Year 1— Billy

Year 1/2— Finley B

Y2— Evie L

Y3 — Norman

Y3/4— Faith C

Y4— Lenny K

Y5— Leila

Y5/6— Gracie C

Y6—Laila T



WHOLE SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

NATIONAL TARGET = 96%

Butterflies: 99%

Caterpillars: 98%

Year 1: 95%

Year 1/2: 97%

Year 2: 93%

Year 3: 93%

Year 3/4: 96%

Year 4: 99%

Year 5: 97%

Year 5/6: 91%

Year 6: 92%

SCHOOL NEWS

Reception children have loved reading the story of Zog by Julia Donaldson. They have created their own Zog creatures using the construction blocks and have written character descriptions of Zog. The teachers in Reception are very proud of the phonics learning this week and can see that the children are practising hard to learn the sounds at home.

In KS1, the children have been working hard on addition and subtraction in Maths. In Geography, the children have researched their local area using Google Maps and have thought about different places near to school and in Pontefract. All of the children in KS1 are looking forward to their visit to Pontefract Castle next week.

This week in Year 4 the children have been writing limericks! They've really enjoyed creating word banks and making up funny rhymes! As part of their learning, they have worked as a group to perform Limericks to the rest of the class. They added actions and thought of lots of ways to make the performance fun for the audience to watch.

Learners in Upper KS2 have been writing persuasive leaflets to encourage visitors to attend 'Infinity Park', the intergalactic theme park from the class novel 'Cosmic'. The children continue to read and study 'Cosmic' during reading focused lessons, expanding their vocabulary and comprehension skills. Despite the bad weather, the children have been working on ball control skills and increasing their fitness during PE, listening to Holst's 'The Planets' in music and beginning to expand their understanding of our celestial neighbour the moon.



First hand experiences!

In a previous newsletter, I shared with you our '50 things for De Lacy' and I am pleased to share even more exciting news regarding residential. Previously, any child in KS2 could access the annual residential. However, the uptake for this optional visit was low. We have now planned for children in Years 5 and Years 6 to go on two different residentials in UKS2. However, if we do not have enough interest, unfortunately these visits will not be able to go ahead. Letters will be given to all children with the option to pay monthly throughout the year. It is hoped that these visits will run every year so that all children who attend De Lacy will be able to have the same exciting opportunities!

Year 5 children in the Y5 and Y5/6 classes will be able to go on residential to Kingswood Activity Centre for a 1 night break. This will combine a variety of activity sessions from aerial adventures to fun problem solving. We have designed a programme of adventure experiences which encourage the children to bond and work together as part of a team. All food and accommodation is included.

Year 6 children in the Y5/6 and Y6 classes will be able to visit the Houses of Parliament in London. As part of their visit, they will visit at least one museum, visit the theatre to watch a show and stay in a hotel. Again, all food, transport and accommodation will be included. When we discussed this visit with the Y6 children, they were very excited! This is an opportunity for our children to learn about a different part of the UK and experience first hand the hustle and bustle of city life.

Each year group will have at least 3 experiences / visits this year. More details will follow regarding individual year group visits for the Autumn term.

