



LITTLEGARTH

A truly independent school & nursery

26th January 2018

Dear Parents

NEWSLETTER 2017/18 – 7

We are now settled into our new building and enjoying the wonderful space and facilities. Although this is a much shorter term, the children are already busy with lots of activities and events planned leading up to half term. Today is the first of the Tea Time Concerts and I look forward to hearing the instruments that will be played including the xylophone, drums, guitar and violin. On the subject of music, if your child has passed an exam recently, please let the School Office know so we can celebrate their success.

ISA Swimming Nationals

Following the children's success at the Regional Champions, a group of Littlegarth children travelled to the National finals event at the Olympic Pool Stratford last Sunday. An amazing experience for all was topped off with some fantastic results. Harrison Brook came 2nd in the country in the 50m Breaststroke Event in a time of 53.17seconds. This was followed by Lyla Belshaw coming 3rd and medalling in the 50m girls Breaststroke Event. In all six pupils competed from Littlegarth and did the school proud. Congratulations to all!

ISA Regional Cross Country

Last Friday, our Cross Country teams once again competed in the ISA Eastern Region Cross Country competition. Cross Country has a growing tradition at Littlegarth and this year our pupils once again performed very well. Five of our pupils finished in the top ten and qualified for the National finals to be held in March in Rugby. Zak Troman, Lyla Belshaw, Megan Palmer, Oliver Martin and Henry Alexander will all represent the Eastern Region. In the team event our Year 3 and 4 boys came 1st out of 15 schools with the Year 5 and 6 boys and Year 5 and 6 girls finishing 2nd respectively.

Stay and Play in Reception

Parents joined their children for a Stay and Play session this week where Madame Johns was able to showcase the children's linguistic skills. Parents commented on how Madame was able to engage the children in their French lesson and all were impressed by their knowledge and confidence in speaking.

Stay and Play in the Nursery

All Nursery parents are invited to attend the Stay and Play sessions which start on Monday, 29th January. They start at 8.40 am and last for an hour each day next week.

Year 5 Young Voices Concert at the O2

Next Friday, our Year 5 children will be travelling the O2 in London to perform in the Young Voices choir. This will be the fourth year we have taken part and I am sure the children will love joining a choir of over seven thousand voices.

Year 4 Drama Workshop

This will take place over two days, Wednesday 7th and Thursday 8th February, culminating in a performance for the School and Year 4 parents on Friday 9th February at 8.50 am in the Sports Hall. The Year 4 children should wear their school tracksuits or PE kit on these days and they will need coats in school too please.

Fossils and Dinosaurs Workshop

Year 5 and 6 children have the bi-annual Fossils and Dinosaurs workshop on Thursday 8th February. This is an exciting science led day and we look forward to hearing all about it.

Internet Safety Meeting for Parents

We hope that you will join us for the Parents' Internet Safety Meeting at 2.00 pm in the Mallett Room on Thursday 8th February. This is primarily to raise awareness of the potential dangers online, especially of social media.

Parents play an important role in the e-safety education of their children through promoting safe use of technology at home. However, many parents are not aware of how they should ensure that their children stay safe on line. A key message is that children under the age of 13 should not be using Facebook for other forms of social media such as Instagram or Snapchat.

This is an extremely informative meeting and I urge you to join us if you are able.

The Prep school children receive guidance on how to keep themselves safe online in PSHE and ICT lessons, and when using the internet generally. Staff will also update their extensive training in this important topic after the Parents' Internet Safety Meeting.

World Book Day

Thursday 1st March is World Book Day and once again pupils and staff are invited to dress as a book character. Children can be as creative with their ideas as they wish, they will simply need to arrive in school dressed as their character and with a copy of the book their character is from.

Parents Evenings

Reports will be sent home with your child on Friday 9th February. Parents' Evenings have been arranged for all classes from Nursery to Year 5 after half term.

These evenings are as follows:

Wednesday 21 st February	Reception, Year 1, 2 and 3
Thursday 22 nd February	Year 5
Tuesday 27 th February	Year 4
Wednesday 28 th February) and Thursday 1 st March)	Upper and Lower Nursery

These evenings offer the opportunity to discuss the reports and plan for the remainder of the year.

Please see the calendar for times and contact the School Office should you wish to make an appointment. (Nursery appointments should be made directly with the Nursery staff).

Entrance Examinations

Year 6 children are clearly relieved that the last of the entrance examinations will take place next week. They have all worked hard to reach the levels of attainment expected by the various schools. Results are starting to filter through but please inform us if you have some good news to share as schools do not always contact us directly regarding results.

I hope the sunshine that finally broke through today continues for the weekend and that you are all able to enjoy the time together.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Peter H Jones". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Peter H Jones