



Web: www.ladygrove-park.oxon.sch.uk
For vital notices and dates of open classes, assemblies, clubs

Twitter for learning notices: @ladygrovepri
Email: office.2609@ladygrove-park.oxon.sch.uk
Direct link to School Blog: ladygrove-park.blogspot.co.uk

Happy New Year to you all and welcome to a new academic year! Please download our **mobile app** if you haven't done so already, you will receive an alert whenever anything has been uploaded on to our website. This is a great 'push communication' which keeps you up to date. Details on how to download our app are on our website under the 'letters' tab, 'newsletters'.

This year the **Life Skills Certificates continue to be aligned with the school rules (Ladygrove Standard)**. Children can be rewarded a certificate for demonstrating exemplary behaviour in each of the specific areas. These rewards will be celebrated in the *Monday Celebration Assembly*. There are 7 for the children to collect. However, the school rules also remain in place to address poor behaviour. Any child **persistently** demonstrating low-level poor choices (such as talking over the teacher, running in the corridor, etc) will be issued with a Sanction Slip by the teacher. If the child continues to receive Sanction Slips the teacher will communicate this with the parent in order to work together to address the issues. As always, more serious breaches in behaviour are escalated to Senior Leaders immediately. Here is basic version of the Standard → and you might consider using the rules at home, to facilitate consistency between home and school. There is a more detailed version of the Standard on the website.

Ladygrove Standard
Be safe and help others
Show respect and tolerance
Listen and follow instructions
Be responsible for possessions
Show good manners
Be school ready
Have a Positive Mental Attitude

All schools deploy a **School Development Plan** each year which outlines the areas they have evaluated as necessary to develop and enhance further. It is a good idea for parents to know the main points of our strategic plans as you may be able to help with your child at home. This year we are focused on opportunities for the children to deepen understanding in all our curriculum subjects by taking a 'mastery' approach to topics. In this way we aim to build an intrinsic motivation to learn more about a topic and to be excited about becoming an expert. All our staff will take a diagnostic approach- evaluating the pupils' outcomes and assessing the effectiveness of lessons.

We will also be focusing further on motivation and skills in reading, ensuring pupils have grasped the basics of grammar- alongside the more advanced concepts and we will be highlighting the importance of presentation of work- which is obviously connected to pride in work.

In terms of **premises**, you might have noticed a lot of work has gone in to refreshing areas and structures, thanks to our caretaker Kev. Notably, there is a new climbing frame which has shared use by KS1 and 2 and forms the beginning of this year's project to refit the outdoor apparatus. Also, Forest School has some amazing new features such as a working Willow Dome and an area we are calling 'The Grove' with new seating. Huge thanks to Mrs Boden Selvidge and her husband for this work.

Here are the 'start of term' reminders. Please read and keep for reference, as these are updated:

Parent Helpers are warmly welcome in school- they can add great value to our work with the pupils. To ensure our school continues to be a safe environment the start of the year is timely to give our standard reminders:

- ALL occasional visitors need to read the Visitor's Policy, Fire Regulations and Safeguarding expectations
- All visitors to school **must** sign in the visitors' book and read the Fire Regulations and be aware of the Designated Leads for Safeguarding
- All visitors will be asked to provide official identification at the time of their visit.
- All visitors are required to wear an identification lanyard and this must remain visible throughout your visit.
- Regular helpers/volunteers (e.g. once a week) will also require a DBS clearance certificate and safeguarding training.
- If you are a working parent and would like an opportunity to come into school occasionally, please email the school office (office.2609@ladygrove-park.oxon.sch.uk) stating when you are available and we will get back to you as soon as we can.
- Please bear in mind that parents should not be in school unless they have agreement with the office or a specific purpose such as a prearranged meeting/event. Staff will challenge anyone in school who isn't wearing a lanyard.

As always, I'd like to mention that these rules are put in place for general good practice, they are not in response to any incident.

Safety:

- **Gates:** School **side gates** are locked at 9am and unlocked by 2.50pm. The gates will then be locked again at 3.20pm for the safety of children in ASC or clubs running after school. We also **close** the main reception gates, path gate (by the kitchen) and the car park gates during the day. **These gates are not locked** but we ask that you close the gates behind you when you leave.
- **Social Media:** Any inappropriate or disproportionate comments regarding the school or any of the pupils, parents or staff, on social media sites such as Facebook, are not in the best interests of the whole school community. Parents should be aware that even flippant comments can be vastly misinterpreted when in print and are often shared beyond your online friendship groups, negatively affecting others. Any concerns you may have should always be made through the appropriate channels by speaking to the classteacher, headteacher or office staff, so they can be dealt with fairly, appropriately and effectively for all concerned.
- **Home Time** – Children in Foundation Stage and KS1 are always handed over to their parents by a member of staff at the end of the school day. Children in KS2 exit into the courtyard and are instructed to find their parents. They are told that if they cannot find their parent/childminder they are to come back into their classroom and tell their teacher. Please can you reiterate this to your child. If you happen to be late picking up, your child will be either with the teacher in class or sitting on the sofa in the main office.

- **Dropping Off and Picking Up:** Parents are respectfully asked to park with care and consideration at the beginning and end of the school day. These are busy and sometimes frustrating times as it gets very congested- the roads were not designed for the number of cars we now use. Please also give consideration to our very young or disabled children when you bring your child into school. Some of our children have mobility issues and may lose their balance if jostled. I go out to monitor the road when possible but this is not part of the school's remit therefore we involve the PSCO if necessary. Thank you.
- **Safety Drills-** 'Lock down' practice takes place in addition to the usual fire drills. These practices are highly beneficial. Please assume that there will be a practice (at any time during the year).
- **DISABLED PARKING BAYS:** We have parents and children in school for whom it is essential to use these spaces - please do not park in these bays unless you are eligible. Thank you.
- **Safeguarding:** You will know that we are committed to safeguarding and promoting welfare of the children at the school. If you have any safeguarding concerns myself, Elaine Li-Koo, Carly Clarkson and Carrie Barringer are the designated safeguarding officers at school. Heather Jones, Anne Addison and Gill Ollenbuttel are the designated safeguarding officers at our Extended Schools/After School Club. Posters with pictures of these staff are all around school.
- **Cycle safety** – please ensure your child wears a helmet at all times, evidence shows that these can save lives and previous local incidents have shown that injuries from falls while cycling around Ladygrove estate have been minimised by the use of helmets.
- **Online safety** – the potential dangers of social networking sites are often highlighted in the news. <http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk> has sections for parents and children. We talk to children about online safety in assemblies and during computing lessons but you should follow this up at home. At home, the important aspect is ensuring children have the skills and understanding to deal with an issue if it arises, since it is becoming harder to monitor what they are doing on personal devices. More recently, some aspects of this activity have been linked to mental health issues, especially for adults. Please take care for yourself as well as being a role model for all our children.

Reminders:

- **Holidays/Absences:** Any absences during term time for a holiday will be recorded as unauthorised absence in line with government legislation. If your child is not in school, whatever the reason, you must notify us by leaving a message on our answerphone before 9am each day. If you are hoping to take your child out of school for other circumstances, you must request this in writing beforehand. Please note that we monitor all absence and when below 95% we may contact parents to discuss attendance expectations- depending on specific circumstances. Below 90% we may need to involve external services- depending on specific circumstances. Over a whole school year 90% attendance is 10 school days absence.
- **Food Allergies:** We have children in school who have various complex food allergies and we have clearly marked tables in the hall at lunchtime to ensure their safety. If your child has a packed lunch please ensure they know they are not to 'share' food or eat food from another child's packed lunch. A current year 3 pupil has a severe nut allergy so please can Year 3 children remember to bring in a **NUT free packed lunch**.
- **Photographs:** We take photographs or videos of the children at our school mainly for educational but sometimes for promotional reasons. For example- promotional images may be used on our school website, in publications that we produce or on displays in school. Educational images may be used to allow teachers to reflect on their teaching. Occasionally our school may be visited by the media who will take photographs or film footage. Parents can take photographs at school events but strictly for their personal use, these cannot be made public unless you have gained permission from everyone in the image- sorry.
- **School Photographer:** Twice a year we commission a company called Tempest to take individual photographs and class photographs for parents to purchase.
- **Trips:** Payments for trips are required via ParentPay. A letter will be sent home detailing information about ParentPay for new children starting school this term. The letter will have an activation code on it for you to use. Please note that Years 4 and 6 have residential trips during the summer. We allow ample time to pay for these trips but often make a loss due to one or two parents failing to pay the balance. This year we will need to pay even closer attention to achieving financial balance to continue running trips.
- **PE Kits:** We have a sharp and smart look for PE and kit should be at school every day. For the last two years we have allowed for the old white t-shirts to continue- from this academic year all pupils now wear their house colour t-shirts as standard PE kit. Children will be expected to wear a house coloured t-shirt with logo, blue shorts, trainers for outdoors, warm top and jogging bottoms when it is cold. Kits should also be labelled.
- **Medicine:** Please remember it is a national school policy that staff DO NOT administer medicine to children during the school day. Whilst we appreciate the difficulty parents may face, I'm sure you understand that we have over 400 children in school and staff cannot be responsible for administering prescribed medicines to individual children at individual times unless there are special circumstances. Thank you.
- **Inhalers:** Children must have their 'named' and 'in-date' **inhaler at school at all times** (this is a parental responsibility). If, over the holidays your child has been given an inhaler for the first time please speak to Sarah in the office as you will need to complete relevant paperwork.
- **Medical Conditions:** Whatever medical conditions your child has please ensure we have this information in writing. If your child requires antihistamine or an epipen please remember it is your responsibility to ensure medication is replaced when it expires.
- **Dogs:** Dogs are NOT ALLOWED on school premises. Please leave your dogs tied up outside by the school gates.
- **School Trips:** The government has confirmed that schools do not need to ask for parental consent for school trips during the school day. We won't, therefore, ask your permission for local trips (e.g. to the park or local library) but you will always be made aware in advance that they are taking place. Children are always accompanied by an appropriate number of school staff members and risk assessments undertaken.
- **ParentPay:** Please check your parentpay account to see if you have any outstanding monies due to be paid.
- **Mobile phones:** If it is necessary for your child to bring a mobile phone to school then please speak to your child's class teacher. All mobile phones must be switched off upon entering the school gates and remain switched off all day. Your child is expected to hand their mobile phone to their teacher upon entering the building so that they can be kept in a safe place. If your child does not hand their phone in the school cannot take responsibility for any loss or damage.

Breakfast and After School Clubs: We are able to provide childcare for children from 8am-6pm during term time only.

- Breakfast Club runs from 8am – 8.40am; children are provided with a breakfast whilst enjoying conversation with their friends. We have a varied menu that will meet the needs of even the most selective of children! Breakfast Club costs £4.75 per session and is open to all children.
 - After School Club runs from 3pm – 6pm. It ensures a smooth transition from school to child-care. The children are offered a snack on arrival and a light meal halfway through the session. It costs £10.50 per session and is open to all children in school.
 - Fees are reflected via ParentPay on a weekly basis. Payment must be made via ParentPay or childcare vouchers only. Please ensure you pay any outstanding money in a timely manner, no later than at the end of each calendar month. It will be necessary to chase non-payment. Any queries please see Heather in the office.
 - Parents are respectfully asked NOT to use the school car park or entrance to car park to drop off their child to Breakfast Club.
- If you need to book places in our **Breakfast Club** or **After School Club** please email Anne or Heather at extendedschools@lpps.org.uk or call 07926 002 189.

Please can bicycles belonging to **After School Club** child be left in the cycle racks outside the main reception area. Thank you.

Clubs: Below is a list of clubs running in the autumn terms. Clubs will start the week beginning 16th September. If your child cannot attend club please inform the relevant adult and REMEMBER to **wait outside the front door to school** to collect your child at finish time for the club leader to hand over your child.

	Club	Timings	Year Group (max nos)	Staff / Volunteers	Location	Start Date
TUESDAY	Stemillions Club https://stemettes.org/stemillions/otoheb/	3.15pm-4pm	Yrs 5 & 6 (max 10)	Elaine Li-Koo and Mrs Cook	Class 2	17 th September
	Library Club	3.15pm-4pm	Yrs 3-6 (max 10)	Carly Clarkson	Library	17 th September – ends 22 nd Oct
WEDNESDAY	Girls Football Club	3.15pm-4.15pm	Yrs 4-6 (max 14)	Naomi Loveless	Class 15	18 th September – ends 16 th Oct
THURSDAY	Wildlife Gardening Club	3.15pm-4.15pm	Yrs 3-6 (max 10)	Zoe McLauchlan	Class 9	19 th September
	Choir Club	3.15pm-4pm	Yrs 3-6 (max 25)	Gemma Gowkes		19 th September

To apply for a place in a club for your child, **please either email the school office or send in a note giving permission** no later than Tuesday 10th September. Existing members do not need to re-apply.

CLUBS MAY BE CANCELLED AT THE LAST MINUTE (WEATHER, ILLNESS)

PLEASE ALWAYS CHECK OUR SCHOOL WEBSITE TO SEE IF A CLUB HAS BEEN CANCELLED.

School Uniform Shop: Our school uniform is available to purchase from Trutex in Didcot. They are based at Cockcroft (opposite Northbourne School). Book bags and PE bags are also available at Trutex.

School Meals: School meals are £2.35

Healthy Snacks: Children in KS2 (Yrs 3-6) can bring in a piece of fruit (or veg) to eat at breacktime. Children in KS1 and Foundation Stage are offered a piece of fruit/veg every day through the Government funded Fruit and Vegetable Scheme.

Fruit Trees: We have some fruit trees in school that bear fruit such as apples. Whilst they are edible, we ask you to reiterate at home that children are not to pick/eat anything off trees unless an adult has said it is safe to do so.

COMING UP...

Following on from successful sessions last academic year, 'Maths Matters' (run by Dr Shorrock and Mrs Manthorpe) will be commencing Saturday morning maths sessions again this year. The first session will be held on 14 September, with subsequent sessions (for Term 1) on 28 September and 12 October. The session for children in Years 2-4 will be held at 10 - 11 am and sessions for children in Years 5 & 6 will be held afterwards at 11 - 12 pm. The first session on 14 September will be a timestables bootcamp (timestables are important for children to be successful learners in much of the maths curriculum) where we will look at improving your child's ability to recall their timestables. For those children who can successfully recall them, we will look at developing problem solving skills in various areas of maths where timestable knowledge is necessary. Sessions are held at Ladygrove Primary School. To book your child a place, please email didcotmathsmatters@gmail.com

Dates next week:

Date	Activity	Time	Place	Notes
Tuesday 10 th Sept	Yr 6 Parent Meeting re: Yr6 and SATS	3.30pm	Year 6	
Thursday 12 th Sept	YR 5 Cake Crumbly SBS & DGS Yr 5/6 Presentation	3.10pm 6.30pm	Courtyard School Hall	Don't forget to bring in cakes to sell Yrs 5 & 6 Parents are all invited

Cake Crumbly Dates for this academic year: For parents new to our school *Cake Crumbly* is a way year groups fund raise money by selling cakes. On the date your child's year group has their cake crumbly we ask parents to donate cakes to sell in the courtyard after school for 30p per cake

Thursday 12th September	Year 5	Thursday 19th September	Year 4
Thursday 26th September	Year 3	Thursday 3rd October	Year 2
Thursday 10th October	Year 1	Thursday 17th October	Foundation Stage
Wednesday 23rd October	Year 6	Thursday 7th November	Year 5
Thursday 14th November	Year 4	Thursday 21st November	Year 3
Thursday 28th November	Year 2	Thursday 5th December	Year 1
Thursday 12th December	Foundation Stage	Thursday 9th January 2020	Year 6
Thursday 16th January 2020	Year 5	Thursday 23rd January 2020	Year 4
Thursday 30th January 2020	Year 3	Thursday 6th February 2020	Year 2
Thursday 13th February 2020	Year 1	Thursday 27th February 2020	Foundation Stage
Thursday 5th March 2020	Year 6	Thursday 12th March 2020	Year 5
Thursday 19th March 2020	Year 4	Thursday 26th March 2020	Year 3
Thursday 2nd April 2020	Year 2	Thursday 23rd April 2020	Year 1
Thursday 30th April 2020	Foundation Stage	Thursday 7th May 2020	Year 6
Thursday 14th May 2020	Year 5	Thursday 21st May 2020	Year 4
Thursday 4th June 2020	Year 3	Thursday 11th June 2020	Year 2
Thursday 18th June 2020	Year 1	Thursday 25th June 2020	Foundation Stage
Thursday 2nd July 2020	Year 6	Thursday 9th July 2020	Year 5

Below is a snap shot of what is planned for this term:-

TERM 1	
9th Sept	Reception children start
10th Sept	3.30pm - Year 6 Parent Meeting re: SATS – meeting in Year 6
12th Sept	6.30pm - Year 6 Parent Meeting re: DGS & SBS Presentation - meet in school hall
25th Sept	Yr 5 visit The Living Rainforest 2.40pm - Yr 1 Mystery Readers
2 nd Oct	Yr 4 visit Sulgrave Manor
8th Oct	8.45am-10.15am - Phonics meeting for Foundation Stage Parents
9 th Oct	Yr 6 visit Oxford Natural History Museum
11th Oct	2.40pm - Yr 3 Fairytale Picnic
21st Oct	School Photographs
22nd Oct	5pm-8pm - Parent Meetings - tbc
23rd Oct	3pm-6pm - Parent Meetings - tbc
24th Oct	Term 1 finishes at normal time
TERM 2	
5th Nov	pm - Yr 4 Maths Challenge (selected children, venue tba)
6th Nov	3.15pm - Parent Meeting for Class 1 (January 2020 Intake)
7th Nov	All Day - Flu Vaccine for whole school pm - Yr 6 Maths Challenge (selected children, venue tba)
8 th Oct	2.40pm – Yr 1 Mystery Readers
17 th October	2.40pm – Yr 1 Mystery Readers
6 th Nov	2.40pm – Yr 1 Mystery Readers
3 rd Dec	2.40pm – Yr 1 Mystery Readers
12th Dec	1.30pm & 6pm - Yr 2 Christmas Production - Tickets required
13th Dec	Christmas Jumper Day - come to school wearing a Christmas Jumper and pay £1 10am & 2pm - Foundation Stage & Year 1 'Sing Song' to parents - tickets required
16th Dec	lunchtime - Foundation Stage & Year 6 Christmas Lunches - everyone else needs to bring in a packed lunch 2.40pm – Yr 1 Mystery Readers
17th Dec	lunchtime - Yr1 & Yr5 Christmas Lunches - everyone else needs to bring in a packed lunch 2.15pm - Class 1 'Sing Song' to parents - tickets required LAST SESSION FOR CLASS 1
18th Dec	lunchtime - Yr2, Yr 3 & Yr4 Christmas Lunches - everyone else needs to bring in a packed lunch Class 1 Closed for home visits
19th Dec	Non Uniform Day - Donations NOT required 1.15pm - School Finshes 4pm - ASC Finshes

NOTICES ...

Reminder: Admissions to school (Academic Year 20/19): If your child was born between 1st September 2015 and 31st August 2016 you must apply for a school place for your child for entry in the academic year September 2020. You will be able to apply on-line from 1st November 2019. Please visit www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/admissions for further information. NB The deadline line date for online applications is 15th January 2020.

Please remember the following:-

- It is the responsibility of parents/carers to apply for a school place by the deadline of 15 January 2020
- If your child is attending nursery classes within a primary school, you must still apply for a place in the main school
- You can list three different schools in order of preference. We strongly advise you to use all three preferences
- We advise you to enter your catchment (or designated) school as one of your preferences
- Attending your catchment school does not entitle you to free home to school transport if it is not your closest school and / under 2 miles away
- If your application is late, you are far less likely to get a place at one of your preferred schools.

Click on this link for easy access to OCC website <https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/residents/schools/apply-school-place>

Reminder: Admissions to Secondary School:

Year 6 parents can now apply on line for secondary schools and the closing date is 31st October 2019.

Remember, to ensure your child transfers to the school that you consider most appropriate, you must apply before the closing date.

Click on this link for easy access to OCC website. <https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/residents/schools/apply-school-place/secondary-school>

For transport information click on this link <https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/residents/schools/travelling-school>

We have a **lunchtime supervisor vacancy** in school. Monday-Friday, 11.30am-1pm to start as soon as possible.

If you are interested, please speak to Sarah in the office.

Due to this post having access to children, candidates will be required to undertake a Disclosure and Barring Service check (DBS). The possession of a criminal record will not necessarily prevent an applicant from obtaining this post, as all cases are judged individually according to the nature of the role and information provided. DBS checks and references are conditional to appointment.

At various times through the year we will use **video clips/DVDs** to enhance our curriculum. The clips/DVDs are either suitable for all ages (U) or will, on occasions, be a PG. All PG films will be vetted for their content before showing them to the children. We would like your permission to allow your child to watch a PG film. Please email us OR complete the slip below only **if you are not** willing to allow your child to watch a pre checked PG film in school.

✂.....

Child's name:..... Class:..... I **DO NOT** give permission for my child to watch a PG rated film in school.

Signed:..... Date:.....

Andrew Markham and the school team