



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

I hope everyone had a great Christmas and Happy New Year to you all. Term 3 curriculum letters have been emailed and uploaded on to our website this week. If you have the **mobile app** you will receive an alert whenever anything has been uploaded on to our website.

During our first assembly I asked the children to identify something they would like to achieve this year in or out of school. I reminded them that the Ladygrove Standard is a good way to focus achievement ideas. As an aid, here is basic version of the Standard. There is a more detailed version of it on the website.

Year 6 would proudly like to share with everybody the grand total raised during their '**Money Matters**' week in December. The total amount raised was £659.01. Year 6 have decided that they would like to donate £300 to charity, keeping the rest to put towards their end of year leaver's party. The children voted to donate £150 to Oxfam because they have been learning all about the 'UN Rights of the Child' and would like to donate funds to support children in countries where there is no access to clean water and sanitation. The children also voted to donate another £150 to help the wildfires burning in Australia; this follows their recent topic on climate change. Well done Year 6!

Update on our **School Development Plan** (which each academic year outlines the areas we expect to enhance further). We continue to focus on opportunities for the children to deepen understanding in all our curriculum subjects and now also identify generic skills they are using successfully across subjects. We also continue to focus further on motivation and skills in reading, ensuring pupils have grasped the basics of grammar alongside the more advanced concepts. We continue to highlight the importance of presentation in work- which is closely connected to pride in work.

This week there has also been a school assembly by the Anti Bullying Ambassadors- presenting a very thorough powerpoint about the differences between being Rude, Mean and Bullying and also reminding children how to deal with these, ensuring they have a go-to-adult in mind and they know the process the school uses for sorting any issues. Today a group of Year 6 children will be doing an assembly presentation about Climate Change. Next week we will be holding House Captain hustings for the Year 6 Captains of the Spring Term.

My thanks to Mark Field who met with the SLT on Wednesday as the new Chair of PALS PTA. We toured the school to look at the areas which have been enhanced through PTA funding and also the resources and areas earmarked for the next donations. Finally, we made a provisional plan of the PTA events for the rest of the academic year. This will be ratified at next PTA meeting in a few weeks and then published.

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

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. We also ask the PSCOs to monitor the road if and when it is 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.

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

- **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.
- **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 continue 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. 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:** Whilst we appreciate the difficulty parents may face when their child may require a course of prescribed medicine, 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.
- **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 breaktime. 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...

Dates next week:

| Date | Activity | Time | Place | Notes |
|----------------------------|--|---|-------------------------------------|--|
| Tues 14 th Jan | Yr 5 Cycling LPPS v All Saints High Five Club | Afternoon KO 3.30pm 3.10pm-4pm | Ladygrove School Field Courts | Remember bikes and helmets Match due to finish at 4.30pm. Spectators most welcome |
| Weds 15 th Jan | M & M Productions Spanish Club | 1.45pm 3.10pm-4pm | Hall Year 3 | 'Cinderella' production – please pay for this via Parentpay |
| Thurs 16 th Jan | Stemillions Club Helicopter Stories Choir Club Year FS Cake Crumbly | Lunchtime 3.10pm-4pm 3.10pm-4pm 3.10pm | Class 5 Class 13 Courtyard | Please donate cakes to sell |
| Fri 17 th Jan | Yr 5 Space Workshops | All Day | School | Please pay for this via ParentPay |

Clubs: Below is a list of clubs running this term. Clubs will start next week. 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 / Finish Dates |
|-----------|--------------------|------------|----------------------|--------------------------|----------|---|
| MONDAY | Scratch Club | Lunchtime | Year 5 (10) | Andrew Markham | Year 5 | All term |
| TUESDAY | High Five Club | 3.10pm-4pm | Existing Members | Heather & Katy Manthorpe | Courts | 14 th Jan / 4 th Feb |
| WEDNESDAY | Spanish Club | 3.10pm-4pm | Yrs 3 & 4 | Alex Meyer | Year 3 | 15 th Jan / 25 th March |
| THURSDAY | Helicopter Stories | 3.10pm-4pm | Yrs 1 & 2 (max 10) | Jo Hicks & Lucy Storer | Class 5 | 16 th Jan / 6 th Feb |
| | Stemillions Club | Lunchtime | Existing Members | Elaine Li-Koo | Library | 16 th Jan / 13 th Feb |
| | Choir Club | 3.10pm-4pm | Existing Members | Gemma Fowkes | Class 13 | 16 th Jan / 26 th March |
| FRIDAY | Sketch Club | Lunchtime | Year 5 (12) | Andrew Markham | Library | All term |

CLUBS MAY BE CANCELLED AT THE LAST MINUTE (WEATHER, ILLNESS)
PLEASE ALWAYS CHECK OUR SCHOOL WEBSITE TO SEE IF A CLUB HAS BEEN CANCELLED.

Girls Football Club will not be running this term due to league fixtures but current members will be invited to attend league matches.

NOTICES ...

On 15th January M&M Theatrical Productions are in school in the afternoon to perform *Cinderella* to Year 1-6 children. Each year, without fail, this touring theatrical company visit our school to briefly bring back the atmosphere of Christmas. They are experts in family entertainment of classic stories. We ask for a voluntary donation of £2.68 per child to cover the cost of this. Please pay for this via ParentPay.



The Oxfordshire parent carers forum are asking for people's experiences of accessing CAMHS in Oxfordshire. Whether you are a parent/carer, professional or young person, we would like to understand what your experience has been. The survey is available at the following link: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/CAMHSOXON>

Can my child get Disability Living Allowance (DLA)? Any child who has a disability or illness might qualify for DLA, and you don't need to wait for a formal diagnosis to make a claim. However, you will need to show that your child needs substantially more care or supervision than other children of the same age who don't have a disability or health condition.

DLA can be paid regardless of whether you are working or not. It isn't means-tested, so it does not matter what income or savings you have. Any decision to award DLA will be based on how your child's condition impacts on their day to day life. DLA is not treated taxable and it's not treated as income for other benefits. Instead, getting DLA can help you qualify for extra amounts within means-tested benefits or tax credits you receive or help you qualify for these benefits for the first time. It may also help you qualify for other benefits such as Carer's Allowance.

The charity, Contact, has just published a video to challenge the myths around Disability Living Allowance (DLA), the financial help you can apply for to help with the additional costs of having a disabled child: <http://ow.ly/KOOn30q7RMc>

More information about DLA can be found here.

<https://contact.org.uk/advice-and-support/benefits-financial-help/benefits-and-tax-credits/disability-living-allowance/>

Year 6: Please ensure that Kilvrough has been paid in full by 28th February 2020. Your child's place is not secure unless full payment has been received.

A reminder of how to access pastoral support at (and beyond) the school:

Our Inclusion team is Carrie Barringer (Inclusion Manager), Carol Turner (Special Needs Co-ordinator), and Sarah Cheetham (Emotional Literacy Support Assistant). The team support learners and families across the school working with class based staff and other professionals in school. The Inclusion team offer information, support and guidance on issues such as SEN, child protection, bereavement and behaviour management. The team supports children and families when they join the school to make smooth and well planned transitions into their new class teams and to ensure that important information and strategies are shared with colleagues across the school.

Work with children The team are able to work with children directly in the classroom across the school supporting children to become "School and classroom ready". The team are able to meet with parents to help set up new routines, to observe children and to model behaviour strategies. Note that the Local Authority have just realised a leaflet about school readiness- this is for new starters to school but it still holds useful information for all. We have put this on the website.

CAMHS and Therapeutic support The Inclusion Team liaises with professionals from the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service and co-ordinates interventions that support children's emotional and mental health needs; we can support parents to make referrals for external support.

If you would like to find out more about this team, contact Carrie Barringer via the school office.

FINAL Reminder: Admissions to school (Academic Year 20/21): 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>

Cake Crumbly Dates for the rest of 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

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|-----------------------------|------------------|-----------------------------|------------------|
| 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 | | |

Advanced notice..... we have received notification from RWE about the **forthcoming demolition of the chimney** at Didcot A Power Station, which is scheduled to take place on Sunday 9th February. This will be the final controlled explosive demolition activity for the former Didcot A station and follows the demolition of the north cooling towers, which took place in August. Due to the height of the chimney, the exclusion zone will be larger than during the previous demolition in August. To accommodate this exclusion zone, an application is required for temporary road closures of a section of the A4130 and Milton Road alongside Didcot Power Station, for a short period on the morning of the demolition. A local temporary footpath closure is also required. The demolition is planned to take place on a Sunday morning when local roads are typically at their quietest, and the impact on any local business will be minimised. To ensure members of the community are kept safe during the demolition process, RWE is again actively discouraging all forms of public participation, including attempts to view the demolition from public vantage points. Local households will be able to hear the explosion and dust being visible. For further information please contact rwe@communityrelations.co.uk or call 0800 157 7344.

Willowbrook Leisure Centre and
England Touch Rugby Presents

TOUCH RUGBY TASTER SESSION

- Suitable for all ages • £4 per person
- Contact reception to book on

January 11 • 9:30-10:30am
Willowbrook Leisure Centre



Andrew Markham and the School Team

Premier Soccer Centres will be re-starting their football coaching in Didcot at Willowbrook Leisure Centre on 15th January.

The sessions are for boys and girls of all abilities aged between 4-6yrs at 4pm-5pm and 7-11yrs at 5pm-6pm.

Forms are in reception.

Please contact Mark Jones on 07795 342 509 to secure a place.