



Lady Elizabeth Hastings' CE VA Primary School
Dowkell Lane ♦ Thorp Arch ♦ Wetherby ♦ West Yorkshire ♦ LS23 7AQ
Tel: 01937 842566 **Fax:** 01937 845632
Email: secretary@thorparch-LEH.co.uk
Website: www.ladyhastings-thorparch.leeds.sch.uk
Robins: Tel: 07756 065982 or the school phone number

NEWSLETTER – Friday 7 May 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been a week of mixed weathers with seasonal changes from one hour to the next. I was outside with Class 4 this week and we managed to experience four different weather cycles in one session of P.E.! We are looking forward to warmer temperatures next week when we can all have the opportunity to enjoy our school garden.

LEH Garden

Mrs. Bowley is continuing to develop our LEH garden with spectacular results. This week, our log circle was delivered to our garden. We wish to convey our thanks to Mike Shackleton from the Tree Care Company at Parkhill Wetherby, who generously made this wonderful contribution to the school. Next week, weather permitting; I am looking forward to leading Worship for all classes in our garden so that the children can experience the log circle for themselves!



Covid 19

Currently, there are optimistic signs with the decrease in numbers of positive cases of Covid-19 and the increase in the number of Leeds residents who have been vaccinated. On 19 April, the case rate was 48.4 per 100,000. This is the lowest rate in Leeds since September 2020. However, whilst there is a reduction in the transmission of COVID, Leeds schools are still being impacted with 22 recently collapsed bubbles and approximately 1200 staff isolating. The highest case rate is amongst young people aged 11-18 (87.6 per 100,000), so it is important that we all continue to follow Covid restrictions. Whilst we are all keen for the current restrictions to be eased but we know that we have all worked successfully together to limit the transmission in school so we encourage our parents and carers to

continue their good work as we follow the Government's roadmap. Please remember to come and speak to us if you have any queries or concerns. We are all available and happy to help in any way needed.

Homework

Our Homework guidance currently sets out our daily expectations at LEH (read, practise spellings, and practise times tables). Our assessments show that lockdown may have had an impact on some children's reading fluency, spellings and times tables. Nationally, there is also increasing evidence that the lockdown has had an impact on young children's language skills. For these reasons, we request that your child is meeting our Homework expectations by:

- Ensuring that your child spends some time each day learning **spellings** and practising their **times tables** by using **Times Tables Rock Stars** and Mathletics.
- Ensuring that your child reads regularly or you read aloud to them. Reading fluency promotes positive mental health and is an essential skill in accessing all areas of the curriculum. Please can we ask that you sign your child's reading record when you read with your child?

Check out these five tips to boost your child's vocabulary.

Staying Safe On-line

Does your child play Roblox? It is one of the most popular video games of recent times. [Read this guide](#) for tips on a number of potential risks such as in-app purchases, online dating and chat functionality.

Transition Visits

As we await Government guidance for schools, we are working with High Schools and Health and Safety to make sure that these important visits can take place safely. This year, our new Reception parents were unable to visit our school due to the fact that our Open morning was replaced with website information and videos. Next week, we will begin to contact parents whose children do not have siblings in school and invite them to come to walk around the school **outside** and to meet with staff. This will be done in line with COVID restrictions in groups of six maximum. After June 21st and the final stage of the road map, we will be able to invite all Reception parents and children to our Stay and Play sessions where we will all be able to meet them at first-hand. We are very much looking forward to meeting all of our new parents and pupils!

As we move closer to each important date on the Government's roadmap, we thank you for your continued support and perseverance. Have a restful weekend and let's keep our fingers crossed for some sunshine!

School Meals

On Thursday 13th May students are invited to try our delicious school dinner. Please let Mrs Gill know if your child would like to have a school dinner on Thursday.

Learning at LEH

Class 1

The children have really enjoyed the topic on growing this week, we have planted sunflowers, watched our beans grow, and investigated the different parts of a plant. We have also started to look at the 'sunflowers' picture by Vincent Van Gough. So far we have discussed and explored the colours that he has used in his work and experimented with some colour mixing. Next week we will explore shape in art where we will draw our own versions of the sunflowers picture before moving onto using paint to recreate his work. We will also be discussing plants that we can eat, discussing foods that are healthy. In Maths we are thinking more about addition. We are going to be working on our understanding of 'adding more' and how to record our work correctly. We are also going to continue to work on our number recognition and writing up to 20.

Class 2

It has been a busy week again and Class 2 continue to show enthusiasm for their learning. Our Plants Project is building momentum now and the children have been thrilled to see the plants beginning to grow from just a tiny seed. On Wednesday we started to pot some of the plants and they very much enjoyed getting their hands dirty! It has been lovely to hear about the children growing their own plants at home too and sharing their knowledge with us all. We have been working hard on our maths this week with Y2 beginning to practice division word problems and Y1 have been reviewing their addition skills. Next week, we all move onto Fractions. We are enjoying reading stories in class and now that the libraries are open, why not go on a visit there and pick up some books! Also, just a reminder that photos of Class 2 art work can be found on the school website. Enjoy your weekend.

Class 3

This week Class 3 started their topics on the Ancient Egyptians. We learned about chronology and key historical vocabulary.

In maths we have been doing addition, representing calculations pictorially and using the abstract column method.

In English we have been planning our own Greek Myth to write up next week. The children have created their own monsters and will use the story structure from Theseus and The Minotaur in order to write their own myth.

Class 4

This week in class 4 we have been working really hard during our maths lessons to deepen our understanding of fractions. We have been calculating fractions of a number and multiplying fractions and have been proving our answers using bar models. The children have identified different ways to explain their understanding and presented their findings in different ways.

In English, we have begun to write our biographies about J.K Rowling. The children have looked at what ingredients we need to include when writing a biography and are applying that to their writing.

For our Art topic, we have been focusing on how Leonardo Da Vinci uses perspective when 'building' a piece of art and have practised this skill by creating a tunnel book based on 'The Last Supper.'

In History, we have begun our unit on World War 1 and have been looking at the factors that caused countries to declare war on other countries.

Class 5

In Maths we have been working hard on developing our understanding of percentages such as finding percentages increase and decrease. We have written some fab warning stories that feature fabulous descriptive ton and wonderful figurative language. We have also been learning about micro-organisms in science.

Training days for 2021-2022 academic year are as follows:

Monday 6th September 2021

Monday 1st November 2021

Tuesday 4th January 2022

Monday 28th February 2022

Tuesday 3rd May 2022

Dates for your diary

Friday 28 May

School closes for half-term

Monday 7 June

School opens after half-term

Thursday 20 May

Church group meeting @2.30pm

Friday 28 May

Parent and Carer Forum @10am

Yours sincerely



Michele O'Donnell
Headteacher