



# LJS Update

Newsletter No 25 – February 2017

Contact us 0115 9194343 [office@larkfields-jun.notts.sch.uk](mailto:office@larkfields-jun.notts.sch.uk) [headteacher@larkfields-jun.notts.sch](mailto:headteacher@larkfields-jun.notts.sch) [www.larkfields.schooljotter2.com](http://www.larkfields.schooljotter2.com)

This term the school will be working hard to explore and learn around our Take Care Charter with a focus on Taking Care of Each Other. This will be emphasised in a variety of different ways. The first event we will be holding is Safer Internet Day on 7<sup>th</sup> February. This is a world-wide event and our new digital leaders are working hard to plan lessons which they will deliver on the day. We will also be holding an assembly. If you have any questions about e-safety please come in and speak to Mrs Scott and check out our Twitter feed as we often tweet updates and information to help keep children safe on line. Many children will have received electronic devices (including mobile phones) to play on and explore over Christmas. We urge you to ensure that you have properly trained your children in safe use of the internet and that settings have been set appropriately. Many broadband and mobile phone providers give this service for free include Giff Gaff and Virgin Media. We have also had advice about the app Musical.ly that this site should be carefully monitored or not used as it is an app that has been linked to grooming and contains images and lyrics of a sexual nature. See links for further information

<https://www.common sense media.org/app-reviews/musically-your-music-video-community/user-reviews/adult#>

<http://www.mirror.co.uk/news/world-news/horrified-parents-warn-paedophiles-using-8363035>

<https://www.internetmatters.org/hub/expert-opinion/musical-ly-app-parents-need-know/>

As I am sure you are aware from the news, the education sector has undergone incredible changes and the pressure on the teaching staff is far greater than ever before. Teachers are leaving the profession in droves due to stress, unreasonable parental demands, unmanageable workloads and recruitment is poor. The Times Educational Supplement reports that 'The level of workload expected of teachers is not improving schools, but it is wrecking lives'.

With the emotional well-being of everyone in Team Larkfields at the forefront of what we do, we have been reviewing policy and practices to ensure that all of our Team are able to focus on the teaching and learning—ensuring that your children get the very best from our teachers at all times. The passion around learning here at Larkfields is strong and growing; we are working relentlessly to improve and develop a curriculum that, yes, meets the needs of the new very demanding curriculum, but is also exciting and prepares our youngsters for the big wide world. I hope that you will join me on this journey, and support us in order to ensure that we can keep our excellent teaching staff. I ask you to trust us to know what we are doing. Trust us to know the pace that your child learns at. Trust us to expect your

child to achieve the best that they possibly can, and to support them in it. Trust us to do all that we can to keep communication clear and open. But please also remember that we are people too, and we need your help to succeed. We also have families and we deserve to be treated with respect and courtesy.

*Jess Scott*

### **Parking**

We have had several concerns raised by residents and parents about the parking outside of school and the way in which children are haphazardly crossing the road. The safety of our children is our number one priority so please encourage your children to cross using the lollipop lady on Larkfield Road and consider where you park and drop your children off. Thank you.



### **Train tracks**

We recently asked for any spare lego you were able to donate, the response was amazing and we are now running several Lego Therapy groups to help with team building skills, resilience and imagination. On a similar thought if any one has any spare train tracks wooden or otherwise we would greatly appreciate this. Thank you for your ongoing support.



### Reading Survey

Don't forget if you have not already completed our reading survey it is open for another week. We would really appreciate your feedback.

Just click on the link below.

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/GGFSK75>

### **Football**

The football session is back on again. Larkfields Boys team played Mornington on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> January. The final score was a strong 5-2 win for the boys.

On Monday 30<sup>th</sup> January both girls and boys teams played Underwood. The boys won 6-1 and the girls won 12-0. Well done to both teams.

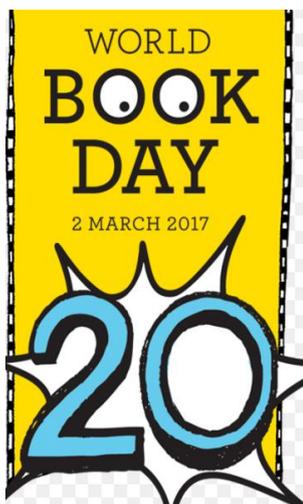


# LJS Update

Newsletter No 25 – February 2017

Contact us 0115 9194343 [office@larkfields-jun.notts.sch.uk](mailto:office@larkfields-jun.notts.sch.uk) [headteacher@larkfields-jun.notts.sch](mailto:headteacher@larkfields-jun.notts.sch) [www.larkfields.schooljotter2.com](http://www.larkfields.schooljotter2.com)

## World Book day



This year we will be celebrating World Book Day in style!

On Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> March we will be dressing up as our favourite characters from books as well as creating a huge mural for the wall in the playground.

Andi Deacon will be working with each class for 1 day during the week of world book day to create a mural to show off our love for reading.

Children will also receive a £1 book token to buy a book and we will be doing lots of activities linked to books during the week.

Check out

<http://www.worldbookday.com/>

## Uniform

As I mentioned in the last newsletter we are very proud of our uniform and what it represents please see the information below for clarification on what the uniform should be:

### BOYS

Boys should wear grey or black trousers, a dark green sweater with a school or non-school polo shirt in the school yellow.

Boys Short Trousers - if boys wish to wear short trousers in **summer**, we ask that they wear only plain black or grey shorts that do not reach below the knee.

Grey or black socks should be worn.

### GIRLS

Girls should wear skirts, culottes or trousers, in black or grey, a dark green sweater or cardigan, with a school or non-school polo shirt in the school yellow.

In summer they may wear dresses in yellow or green.

Long white or black socks and white or black ankle socks may be worn.

### SHOES

All children should wear black shoes, in sensible styles (with girls particularly making sure they have secure fastening and flat heels).

Children should not wear trainers, other than during PE/Games sessions.

Some retailers now offer a black training shoe that is designed to look like a school shoe. These are not acceptable. Traditional black school shoes should be worn.

School uniform can be obtained from Price & Buckland at their shop in Hucknall or ordered from their website:

<http://www.pbuniformonline.com/>



## Focus on... Writing

This year writing is one of our school development points.

### Why is writing important?

#### **Writing is practical.**

Every day, we need to write in order to complete our tasks, whether we are filling out a form at the doctor's office or writing an important letter. These tasks require us to write clearly, and organize information effectively.

#### **Writing is an important element of a student's education.**

Whether students are writing by hand or on the computer, many assignments and exams require students to write short answers or longer essays as a way of assessing what they have learned. As students get older, they will be expected to show more sophisticated writing skills, and to complete more sophisticated tasks through their writing. In addition, many colleges and universities require students to write essays as part of their admissions application.

#### **Writing can be an important element of an employee's job.**

Employees in many kinds of jobs are required to write on a daily basis. Perhaps they are taking phone messages and doing administrative work, or writing research reports and newspaper articles. Whatever the task, their ability to do their job well may depend on their ability to write. Many job applicants also must submit a resumé and a letter of application when applying to a new job.

#### **Writing is an important form of communication.**

Writing letters and emails is a common way of keeping in touch with our friends, relatives, and professional colleagues. Writing is frequently the final stage in communication when we want to leave no room for doubt, which is why we write and sign contracts, leases, and treaties when we make important decisions.

#### **Writing can be an important outlet.**

Many people find writing to be therapeutic, and a helpful way to express feelings that cannot be expressed so easily by speaking.

*We are doing lots of new things to develop writing in school including using more exciting engaging texts and film. Modelling writing and giving children examples so that can see what a good piece of writing looks like. The school is also using the Rainbow Grammar system to teach the nuts and bolts of writing.*

### What can you do to support writing?

#### **Practice, practice, practice**

Writing takes practice! Let your child see you write often and encourage them to write often, too. At-home writing might include e-mails, instant messaging, thank-you notes, scrapbook descriptions, diaries, menus, shopping lists, posters and what's-for-dinner notes.

#### **Try writing for different audiences**

Encourage your child to expand their range and abilities by writing for many different audiences. He could try a letter to the editor or to a TV show, a silly story for his younger sister, or a "top ten" list to cheer up a sick friend.

#### **Make language fun**

Have fun with language yourself and share that sense of play with your child. Point out new words and phrases you come across in the newspaper or on the radio; share favourite song lyrics; get creative in naming a new pet or in writing gift cards.



# LJS Update

Newsletter No 25 – February 2017

Contact us 0115 9194343 [office@larkfields-jun.notts.sch.uk](mailto:office@larkfields-jun.notts.sch.uk) [headteacher@larkfields-jun.notts.sch](mailto:headteacher@larkfields-jun.notts.sch) [www.larkfields.schooljotter2.com](http://www.larkfields.schooljotter2.com)

## **Encourage your child to examine different styles of (and reasons for) writing**

Encourage your child to compare the styles of different authors, and to compare how a newspaper editorial may be different than a website or an instruction manual.

## **Encourage your child to pursue forms of writing that interest him**

If your child has found a form of writing that they enjoy, encourage them to pursue it whether it's poetry, journal and letter writing, or writing on the internet.

## **Make sure your child has what he needs to write**

Support your child by making sure he has adequate materials for writing (sufficient paper, pens, pencils, etc.), as well as a quiet place to work. If your child must write an assignment on a computer and you don't have a computer at home, check with the school's computer lab to see if he can complete assignments in the lab, or check computer availability at your public library. In addition, make sure they have a good dictionary and help them learn how to use it.

## **Take your child to the library**

Help your child obtain the resources needed to complete any writing assignments by taking him to the library, especially if he is working on a research report. While some resources may be available online, many will only be available at the library.

## **Communicate with your child's teacher**

If your child is struggling with his writing, talk with his teachers to find out ways that you can help his efforts at home.

Look out for our new writing display in the entrance hall. We will be showcasing authors here at Larkfields Juniors.

## **Lost Property**

There are two bin-liners full of clothing, lunch boxes, footwear, etc in the lost property in school. Only two of the items had names in so we were able to return them.

**Can you please make sure that all your child's belongings are clearly labelled with their name and class.**

You are welcome to look for missing items in the lost property either before or after school time, however, any un-named items that are not claimed by 31<sup>st</sup> March will be disposed of.