



Be the Best You Can Be...  
Celebrate Success...  
Respect Others...

# Larkfields Update

Newsletter No 29 – June 2017

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Welcome back to a very busy half term which includes sports afternoon, Year 6 residential, Taking Care of Ourselves week, district sports, Year 6 performance, transition events, music afternoon and of course lots of exciting learning.

The learning this half term will be based around keeping ourselves safe and healthy. We will also have a writing focus on fairy tales with a twist. We look forward to seeing many of you at a variety of different events. Check out the What's On page on the website for the latest information. The website is constantly being updated and this is now the best place to find out information about the school, policies and events.

## School Day Information

From September the school day will end 5 minutes earlier at **3:25pm**. This has been done to allow parents to collect children from both here and the Infants and ensure that all the children are safe at the end of the day. The school day is still long enough as this year I removed 5 minutes off lunchtime so the children have actually been doing an extra 5 minutes each day this year!

*Jess Scott*

### **OFSTED**

As you may be aware our OFSTED window is now open. We can be inspected at any time!

Part of the inspection is around parental views. We would be very grateful if you could complete the parent view questionnaire on line.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

<https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/>



### **Swimming**

Congratulations to the swimming team who came 2<sup>nd</sup> in the County Gala. The standard of swimming from all teams was very high and the children were exemplary not only in the pool but in how they represented the school as whole. I was very proud to be there as part of Team Larkfields. I would also like to thank Mrs Poxon for all her hard work in organising and making it happen.

## Girls Football

Congratulations to the girls football teams who won the first Tournament here at Larkfields just before half term. Fantastic team spirit was shown by all. I would like to thank Miss Johnston for organising the event and championing the girls football team.

## Rounders Tournament

A fantastic effort by the rounders squad who were ably supported by Miss Mitchell. The squad performed brilliantly winning 2 matches; sadly they lost their final match.

Again amazing sportsmanship was shown by all, making Team Larkfields very proud.

## Road Safety

I have had a lot complaints about the traffic on Coronation Road at home time.

Parking is not permitted outside school as this blocks visibility when crossing the road and blocks resident's drives. We have several near misses where cars have pulled out suddenly or children have crossed between parked cars.

Please park elsewhere and walk down Coronation Road - this is for the safety of all our children.

Please also note that the school car park is not to be used by parents, except for disabled badges holders by prior agreement.

**Please remember that the safety of our children is our first priority.**

## Website

The school website is currently being updated and this is the best place to find out any information about school. Many of the policies have been updated and all communications from school can be found there.

The website will continue to be updated and some new elements are being added over the summer - watch this space for further information.

Don't forget you can also follow our twitter feed @LarkfieldJunior this contains information about school events, e-safety links, advice and much more!

## Behaviour for Learning Survey

As a school we are constantly looking for feedback on what we are doing. We have put together a very short survey on behaviour for you to complete. The children will also be asked about behaviour in school as well.

Please click on the link below to access the survey:

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/WW5BR7H>

## School Dinners

We would appreciate it if you could complete the survey from Coombs Catering about the provision of dinners in school. This is your opportunity to help shape future menus and the service provided, please use the link <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/larkparent1>

Could we also remind you that dinners should be paid for **before** they are taken. We currently have 54 people who owe dinner money. Can you please make sure that payments for your child's dinners are up to date. As a school, we cannot sustain this level of debt. Please be aware that if you owe more than one week's dinner money (£11.25), we will contact you to bring sandwiches in to school for your child. Thank you.



## Focus on...

# Home Learning

At Larkfields Junior School we recognise and value the contribution that learning in the home environment can make to children's education. This information sets out the purpose of and benefits of home learning and the guidelines we follow when setting home learning activities for our children.

### Aims:

Our school believes that home learning should:

- Involve parents and carers in their child's education
- Consolidate and reinforce class learning to help raise children's confidence and achievement
- Provide children with the opportunity to learn in different settings
- Encourage children to talk about what they are learning and foster good home-school links
- Encourage children to develop the self-confidence, discipline and resilience needed to study independently
- Prepare children for the transition to secondary school - as this can be a huge shock when they suddenly have to complete 5 or 6 pieces a week.

### General Principles

Home Learning will be given to all pupils and will be appropriate to their age and ability. It will consist of:

- Reading for pleasure
- Spellings
- Maths task
- Times table practise
- A menu of activities to consolidate learning across the wider curriculum.

From September home learning will be different, with a choice element and longer timeline so that we can increase the independence of the children, but also try to make home learning less stressful for all involved. We will also be using the website to support some aspects of home learning and a new planner will replace the reading record that is currently used.

More information about home learning will be available at our new curriculum evenings which will roll out in the first few weeks of September.

Home learning should be a positive opportunity for parents to share in their children's learning and we hope that the changes will make home learning a more enjoyable experience for all.