



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

Here we are: Academic Year 2018/19. Welcome back! As a reminder, this will be the **last** printed newsletter. As of next week you will receive this newsletter via parentpay email. If you **have not signed up to parentpay** then you will still receive a paper copy. It will still be uploaded onto our **website** and if you have downloaded our **mobile app** then you will also receive an alert that the newsletter has been uploaded on to our website. In my opinion, the mobile app is the most useful, especially since it alerts you with our updates.

A special welcome to our new Reception children (they start on Monday) and all families new to the school in other year groups. It's an anxious time for some children and parents while others can't wait to get in to the class. For those who are anxious, you will find this will dissipate over time but if it doesn't- talk to your child's teacher and keep them up to date. We can help.

At the start of the term in Foundation Stage it takes a while to get everyone through the door in the morning. It is important that each family uses their own approach to make drop off a happy event. If you think you will take a little more time to say goodbye please wait further back in the queue to allow those with time pressures to 'drop and go'. This hasn't been a problem at all so far but it's still worth mentioning as a good strategy!

Parent Helpers are warmly welcome in school and to ensure our school continues to be a safe environment for everyone I thought it timely for a few reminders.

- ALL visitors to school must sign in the visitors' book and 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.
- 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.

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.

Extra Pastoral Support that the school can offer **Learning Mentor:** Carol Saunders is our school's Learning Mentor.

What support does Carol offer? The support Carol can offer is individual to your family's needs and this can be through home visit, by telephone or by meeting Carol in school. Carol has great experience and knowledge and can provide ideas to make parenting less stressful. This joint approach will, hopefully, make home life less challenging and will enable your children to achieve more in school.

Who does Carol support? Anyone - whether it be a problem getting your child to sleep at night or you feel they aren't making friends in school or you would like to discuss a home or school issue.

Why is Ladygrove Park Primary School offering this support? We believe that parenting is amazing and rewarding but also very challenging at times and the opportunity to receive the right support at the right time can be invaluable. We would much rather nip a problem in the bud before it grows. We also believe that happy children do well at school and we want all our children to reach their potential.

When should I contact Carol?

- If you have home issues you feel are affecting your child in school.
- If there are issues in school affecting your child at home.
- If you would like some practical tips e.g. bedtime routines, or managing challenging behaviour in your child.
- If you are concerned about an aspect of your child's behaviour and/or learning and are not sure who to talk to.

How do I contact Carol? Carol can be contacted direct on mobile 07506 074 347 or email carol.saunders@lpps.org.uk where you can leave a message and she will get back to you as soon as possible. Carol will also be out on the playground most mornings and will be available from 2.45pm until the end of the school day, in the 'School Den' when you can meet with her in person.

Here are the 'start of term' reminders.

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](https://www.facebook.com), 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, sometimes 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, however, 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 at home. 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; please also give consideration to our very young children when you bring your child into school. Some of our children have mobility issues and may lose their balance if jostled. Thank you.
- **Safety Drills-** 'Lock down' practice takes place in addition to the usual fire drills. These practices are highly beneficial. Please expect 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, Carrie Barringer and Carol Saunders are the designated officers at school. Heather Jones and Anne Addison are the designated staff at Extended Schools (ASC).
- **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, this sort of activity has 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 automatically 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 below 95% and may need to send letters to parents of children whose absence falls below expectations depending on their circumstances.
- **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. Year 2 is also allergen free due to children having life threatening allergies to Nuts, Milk, Egg and Dairy and Mustard. Your understanding in this matter is appreciated.
- **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. The letter will have an activation code on it for you to use.
- **PE Kits:** We have a sharp and smart look for PE and kit should be at school every day. We are **moving towards** having house colour T-shirts for PE kit, these are available to order from Trutex and are printed with the school logo. They are £4.50 each. For this academic year the options for PE shirts will be either a plain white t-shirt or a school house colour t-shirt with logo purchased from Trutex. From 2019-20 academic year house colour t-shirts will be PE kit. Non-logo coloured shirts need to be replaced with the house colour T Shirts when your child grows out of them. Therefore, children will be expected to have a plain white T-shirt (no logos) or 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.

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 £4.60 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 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. Any queries please see Clare 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.

School Uniform Shop: Our school uniform is available to purchase from Trutex in Didcot. They are based at Cockcroft (opposite Northbourne School). Book bags are also available at Trutex. We have a limited stock of PE bags (£4) available direct from the office (cash only please).

COMING UP...

Dates next week:

Date	Activity	Time	Place	Notes
Weds 12 th Sept	Yr 6 SATS Parent Meeting	3.30pm	Class 14	
Thurs 13 th Sept	Yr 5 Cake Crumbly	3.10pm	Courtyard	Remember to bring cakes to sell!
	Yr 6 Parent Information Evening	6.30pm	Hall	SBS & DGS Staff to lead

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 13 th September	Year 5	Thursday 20 th September	Year 4
Thursday 27 th September	Year 3	Thursday 4 th October	Year 2
Thursday 11 th October	Year 1	Wednesday 17 th October	Foundation Stage
Thursday 1 st November	Year 4	Thursday 8 th November	Year 5
Thursday 15 th November	Year 6	Thursday 22 nd November	Year 3
Thursday 29 th November	Year 2	Thursday 8 th December	Foundation Stage
Thursday 13 th December	Year 1	Thursday 10 th January	Year 6
Thursday 17 th January	Year 5	Thursday 24 th January	Year 4
Thursday 31 st January	Year 3	Thursday 7 th February	Year 2
Wednesday 13 th February	Year 1	Thursday 28 th February	Foundation Stage
Thursday 7 th March	Year 6	Thursday 14 th March	Year 5
Thursday 21 st March	Year 4	Wednesday 27 th March	Year 3
Thursday 18 th April	Year 2	Thursday 25 th April	Year 1
Thursday 2 nd May	Foundation Stage	Thursday 9 th May	Year 6
Thursday 16 th May	Year 5	Thursday 23 rd May	Year 3 (Yr 4 @ Hill End)
Thursday 6 th June	Year 4	Thursday 13 th June	Year 2
Thursday 20 th June	Year 1	Thursday 27 th June	Foundation Stage
Thursday 4 th July	Year 6	Thursday 11 th July	Year 5
Thursday 18 th July	Year 4		

Year 5 are exploring different religious ceremonies this term and are focusing on weddings. If there are any family members that would like to come and talk to the children about their wedding then we'd love to hear from them!

Clubs: Clubs on offer over the autumn term will be in next week's newsletter. We are still finalising what clubs will be on offer.

For **Up and Coming Events** please check our website calendar regularly as events may change or added at the last minute. Below is a snap shot of what is planned for this term:-

TERM 1	
19th September	All Day - Yr 6 visit Oxford Natural History Museum
21st September	All Day - Yr 1 Dragon Dress Up Day
26th September	All Day - Yr 4 trip to Sulgrave Manor BAGS 2 SCHOOL COLLECTION
28th September	1.30pm-3pm Lacrosse OPEN Training event @ LPPS
2nd October	am - Circus Adventure Performance Workshops - FS & Yr 1
3rd October	Yr 5 visit the Living Rainforest
9th October	2.40pm FS Mystery Readers
12th October	8.50am-9.20am - Yr 1 Open Classrooms
11th October	Yr 4 Tudor Arts and Crafts Day 1.30pm-3pm - Yrs 5/6 Girls OPEN Football Tournament
15th October	Individual School Photos
16th October	2.30pm - Year 4 Tudor Assembly
17th October	PALS Christmas Card Collection 5pm-8pm - Parent Meetings
18th October	1.30pm Cycling Test 2.40pm FS Mystery Readers 3pm-6pm - Parent Meetings
19th October	Term 1 finishes at normal time

Finally, on our website are *homework guidance* and *reading to parents* documents. These documents are uploaded next to this newsletter under **Letters and Blog** tab.

Andrew Markham and the school team

