

## LANGTREE COMMUNITY SCHOOL

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ICO Registered: Z6046852

19 October 2018

Dear Families



### Harvest Show Tuesday 16 October 2018 Langtree Parish Hall

Thank you to everyone who came along to watch our classes showcase curriculum and Harvest-themed topics on Tuesday morning. It was lovely that so many families were able to support the children by coming to watch and hear more about enormous turnips; singing sharks; learning how to write rhyming poems; the Second World War; and 'Beowulf' having a cameo role in 'Wuthering Heights'. It was a fantastically entertaining morning, and I feel sure you joined with Miss Mellody and myself to thank everyone who took part for working so hard to produce a polished production. Our retiring collection for 'Send a Cow' has raised over £50 to be donated to this very worthwhile charity, which works hard to change lives by helping families to grow their own food, inspiring confidence and aspirations. For more details about their work, please visit: <https://sendacow.org/> Thank you to everyone who helped achieve this magnificent total.

**Get Well Miss Weeks!** You might already have heard that sadly Miss Weeks is currently unable to be here in school with us due to suffering a serious ankle injury. We are hopeful that she will be well enough to come back a few weeks after the Half-Term break, and are meanwhile covering her duties here in school to enable the 'Early Bird' before school club, and 'Nursery Lunch Club', to continue unaffected. I am sure you will join with me to wish her a speedy, successful recovery and look forward to seeing her here in school on her return.

**Langtree School Wedding Number Two!** Mrs Symons set the ball rolling last term with her wedding at the beginning of the Summer Holiday, and to continue the theme into the Autumn Term, we were pleased to be able to congratulate Sarah, one of our lunchtime team, on her marriage to James last weekend. We wish them lots of happiness for their future together.

**Application for Secondary School Places** A final reminder that the online facility to apply for a secondary school place in September 2019 opened on 1 September 2018, BUT WILL CLOSE ON Wednesday 31 October 2018. Please visit [www.devon.gov.uk/learningschools/admissions/how-apply-school-place/admissiononline.htm](http://www.devon.gov.uk/learningschools/admissions/how-apply-school-place/admissiononline.htm) for more details.

Message from the PTA: Kaye French Halloween is almost on us and the PTA will be running the annual Halloween Parties. These will take place on **FRIDAY 2ND NOVEMBER** at the Parish Hall. The party for Class F and Class 1 children will take place from 3.30pm – 5pm (we will happily collect your children from class and take them to the party and entertain and look after them until 5pm). The party for Class 2 and 3 children will take place from 5pm to 6.30pm. There will be prizes for the best costumes, a wide range of games as well as refreshments. All tickets are £3.50 and are available from the school office. Tickets have been on sale from Mrs Cook from Monday 8<sup>th</sup> October and have been selling well, but **must be purchased by Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> October.**



**FRIDAY 2ND NOVEMBER** is a 'Halloween' Non-School Uniform Day. Suggested donation £1 to PTA Funds. For children who are attending the party, no donation is needed.

The **PTA AGM** was held on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> October at the school. Thank you to everyone who attended. Emma Parnell and Sarah Dowson remained as Treasurer and Secretary respectively. I remained as Chair and Ruth Gilbert was voted in as Vice Chair. Thank you to Clare Heard who stepped down from Vice Chair after holding this role for the past year and making a fantastic contribution to the PTA. The events and activities this year raised a fantastic £3761.18. The amount spent up to last month was £3125.52, with a few items still to be paid for. The PTA will continue to fund the items requested by the school which currently include footballs and other outdoor equipment. At the recent AGM, the PTA have pledged to contribute £2000 towards the ICT equipment and infrastructure that the school is planning to purchase. We are delighted to be able to support the school with this.

The date of the next PTA meeting is Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> November at 7.30pm in the Green Dragon. All new members welcome.



**Operation Christmas Child 2018** With your help, we would again like to support this appeal helping children in areas of the world divided by civil conflict, war, famine or disease. Lists of suitable donations will be available - thanks to Mrs Mitchell - outside each classroom shortly after the Half Term break ready for you to choose an item, or items, which you would like to give.

For example, you might like to donate a child-sized toothbrush or toothpaste, colouring pencils or sweets. Or alternatively, please remember we are always happy to accept donations of money to help towards postage costs passed into the School Office.

**Sports Round-Up**

**Reports, latest news, updates and scores**



**Friendly Netball Match**

Clare Heard  
Netball team

The first match of the term against the High Bickington netball team proved invaluable experience for our team and included coaching tips from Clare Turner of the Titans netball club, based in Barnstaple, who are always on the look-out for new players. Please visit their webpage for more details:  
<https://www.titansnetballclub.com/>

**Gifted and Talented test day at GTS**

Class 3 : Year 6 pupils

Well done to our five pupils who attended the test morning this week. We'll keep our fingers-crossed that all of you are selected for places on the Gifted and Talented sport programme.

**Multisports event at GTS**

Class Two : Mr Thorne  
Class One : Mrs Symons

Class One had a great time on Tuesday afternoon this week, and Class Two last week, trying lots of sport stations, run by Great Torrington School Year 7 Sports Leaders, including some ex-Langtree Year 6 pupils. Thank you to them for some great organisation.

**School Meals** New school meal menus to start after the Half-Term break, should reach you with this Newsletter but please note that Amanda has asked to menu-swap Monday, for Tuesday's choice on Week One, which is the first week back. Look out for new tempting treats such as Hot Dogs with Tomato sauce, Roast Pork with Apple Sauce and Mexican Bean Spicy Rice, or, if you always look at the pudding choice first, Apple and Raspberry Strudel with custard, or Oat Cookies (fresh fruit and yoghurt always available, of course!) Meal prices remain the same at £2.20 - unless, of course, your child is in year group Reception, One or Two with meals funded by the government, or you are entitled to Free School Meals.

**Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal** and Remembrance Day Commemoration We will again be pleased to be able to offer poppies and wrist bands in exchange for a donation to the Royal British Legion from the School Office after the Half Term holiday and will be pleased to welcome Mr and Mrs Gilbert (Martha, Poppy and Leo's Mum and Dad) into school on Friday 09 November to join with us to lay our poppy wreath at the Parish Hall Memorial, and tell us a little bit more about the Armed Forces and the part they played in both the First and Second World Wars.

#### School Diary Dates

**Autumn Term Half Term:** Monday 22 - Friday 26 October 2018. School closed to children.

**Mon 29 Oct** Autumn Term Second Half: first day back in school for everyone.

**Fri 02 Nov** PTA Halloween Non-Uniform Day and Parties after school.

**Tues 13 Nov** **Tempest Photography visiting:** individual and family photos from 8am.

**Festive dates:** please look out for a full list coming to you as part of our next Newsletter due to come out to families on Friday 09 November 2018.

#### Film Club

**Mondays after school:** 29 October (first Monday after Half-Term. Bookings will close Friday 19 October); and 26 November 2018.

#### Foundation Stage 'Stay and Play' Sessions:

Fridays: Friday 02 November and Friday 07 December 2018

#### Community News

**LEAP into a Cosy Winter!** Vulnerable and fuel-poor residents across Devon are being encouraged to apply for expert help to keep warm and cosy this Winter, and reduce energy bills by up to £300 per year. 'Cosy Devon' and the 'Local Energy Advice Programme' (LEAP) is a free advice service supported by Devon County Council and funded by energy suppliers. It helps households with energy saving measures and, once an application is accepted, advisors will visit and look at current heating and warmth levels in your home. They can install a range of simple measures, provide energy efficiency advice and help look for better deals on energy bills. They might even be able to offer help to repair or replace a boiler that's not working or is very old and doesn't meet current standards. For more information, please visit [www.applyforleap.org.uk](http://www.applyforleap.org.uk).



**Man Alive! Rise and Shine! There's a Family Bingo Night at Frithelstock Village Hall: Saturday 20 October 2018.** Raising funds for Frithelstock Village Playing Field, the bar will open at 6.30pm, with eyes-down at 7pm. Free entry - pay per play. Hot dogs available in the interval, plus prize raffle. Children are welcome too!

**Devon County Council** are searching for more home care workers across Devon as there is currently a lot of demand in the county for care and support for people living in their own homes. This is called 'domiciliary', or home care. There are too few people working in the profession, which means that meeting demand is really difficult at times, especially during the Winter when demand for care tends to increase. Concerns about staffing levels have led to a need to ask people to consider careers in care, especially in the domiciliary care section. If this is something which might be of interest to you, please visit [www.proudtocaredevon.org.uk](http://www.proudtocaredevon.org.uk) for more information.

**RHS Rosemoor, Torrington** are holding special Halloween-themed 'Room on the Broom' events during the Half-Term break next week. Interactive Workshops will include a showing of the award-winning animated production, alongside interactive pumpkin carving sessions for children aged 5 years and older. Tickets cost £5.00 each - please book online to take part: <https://www.rhs.org.uk/gardens/rosemoor/viewevent>.



We will look forward to seeing everyone back in school on Monday 29 October, ready for the second half of the Autumn Term, but meanwhile wish all our families a relaxing Autumnal Half-Term.

Yours sincerely

Nigel Smale, Joint Headteacher.

