

LAYCOCK PRIMARY SCHOOL

Laycock Lane,
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Keighley,
West Yorkshire.
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Tel: 01535 605916
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Headteacher: Mrs J Nove



Autumn 1 Newsletter

5th October 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

It seems two minutes since we came back to school but we have been so busy time is absolutely flying by!
Our Reception children have settled into school really quickly and have learned our rules and made new friends.

You will notice our **new school logo** popping up on all our stationery, which was created from Hayyan Malik's winning entry to our competition held last year. Many thanks to James Hart at ColaCube Creative for helping us to turn Hayyan's entry into the most fantastic logo. Jumpers, book bags and PE bags are being created with the new logo, so please be patient if you would like one of these items.

This academic year we have introduced a new curriculum throughout school. Based on **The Learning Challenge Curriculum** from Focus Education, our new curriculum focusses on key questions for a themed topic, with science, maths and English taught separately. Curriculum leaflets are still available on our website.

We have introduced '**Fuel For Schools**' this term, linking with the charitable trust of the same name who redistribute foods on their sell-by (but not use-by) dates to help reduce food waste. Food is on sale every Thursday at the end of the school day under Reception's shelter, so if you haven't yet visited the stall, please come along and have a look. Please be aware that the stall is run on a 'pay as you feel' basis so there are no fixed prices for any of the items. We would also respectfully ask that we give all families equal access to the stall; there is high quality food available and it is unfair for a few families to benefit at the expense of others.

Attendance remains high on our agenda this academic year and it is frightening that already so many families have shown a disregard for the importance of their child's education by taking their child out of school during term-time for a holiday. I appreciate that holidays are cheaper during term-time, but I wonder what the reaction would be if staff announced that they were going on holiday during term-time? Absence for holidays, weddings, etc during term-time will not be authorised. Keighley schools are working together on a common attendance policy and have started an attendance league table. 'Keighley Schools Together' currently includes: *Laycock Primary, Parkwood Primary, Riddlesden St Mary's Primary, Victoria Primary, Eastwood Primary, Merlin Top Primary, St Joseph's Primary, Ingrow Primary, Long Lee Primary, Keighley St Andrew's Primary, St Anne's Primary, OLV, Holycroft Primary, UAK, Holy Family and Beckfoot Oakbank*. Our attendance target remains at 97%. Should your child not be in school for any reason you **MUST** ring the school office on each day of absence before 9.15am so we know where your child is and that they are safe. This year we will be recognising those children with improved attendance in our end-of-half-term assembly.

Next half term we are participating in the **International Early Learning And Child Well-Being Study (IELs)** carried out by the National Foundation for Educational Research (NFER). This is a games-based study of five-year olds, focussing on children's early learning and the influence of early educational experiences, home environment and individual characteristics on their development. The emphasis of the study is on improving children's early learning outcomes and overall wellbeing. Children have been selected to participate at random by NFER; if your child has been selected you will receive further information on Monday and a questionnaire to complete. All information is anonymous.



Laycock Primary School is a member of Pennine Academies Yorkshire.

Registered address: Farnham Primary School, Stratford Road, Bradford, West Yorkshire BD7 3HU

A charitable company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales (Company number: 10975521).



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Breakfast Club has been a free offer in school for the last six years, supported by Gregg's Bakery and staffed through Pupil Premium funding. We have repeatedly asked for those who benefit from the club to offer their time to help run it but unfortunately this has not been forthcoming and I am now having to take action to ensure that the club can survive to benefit those for whom it was set up in the first place. With significant changes to the qualification for Pupil Premium, our funding has been halved and we simply cannot afford to continue providing this service for free. Due to the funding stream, from **MONDAY 29TH OCTOBER** Breakfast Club will become an offer for **Pupil Premium pupils ONLY** to a maximum of 25 children, with additional spaces offered **ONLY** to children of parents who offer at least one day voluntary support every week

Parents of pupils eligible for pupil premium will receive a letter in the first instance asking if they wish to take up their place at Breakfast Club. This is a one-time offer that will not be repeated this year and will have a clear application deadline that is not negotiable. Should there be any remaining spaces by the deadline, these will be offered openly by text to all other families on a first-come-first-served basis until the 25 places are filled; you will be able to ring the office to claim a place until the remaining places have been taken, at which point we will send out a further text. No other places will be offered unless a parent/carer commits to at least one day a week volunteering to help at Breakfast Club; this offer will be via a second letter. May I take this opportunity to remind you that all children **MUST** be signed into Breakfast Club by a parent and this is not negotiable.

Some dates for your diary:

I know it is always helpful to have dates for events in school as far in advance as possible so we have tried to get organised for you! Here are the dates you need to know to get those days booked off work!

9th October – school photos: please make sure your child is in school and in their cleanest uniform!!

15th October at 2.45pm – Snuggle Up and Read: come and read in school with your children.

19th October at 2.30pm – End of half term assembly. School closes for the following week.

29th October – school re-opens.

31st October – Halloween Party: tickets will be on sale nearer the date, to include food, drink & games.

29th – 31st October – IELs study in school.

13th & 15th November – Parent Consultation Evenings.

16th November – Children In Need.

20th November AM – Reception & Y1/2 phonics workshop.

6th December – Christmas Jumper Day (fund-raising event) & Carol Service New Church at 6.00pm.

10th December at 2.45pm – Snuggle Up and Read: come and read in school with your children.

13th December – Christmas Dinner in school & Christmas Jumper Day (fund-raising event).

17th December at 2.00pm – Reception & KS1 Nativity Performance – tickets will be on sale nearer the time.

18th December – Reception & KS1 Christmas Party in school. Children can bring party wear to change into.

19th December – KS2 Christmas Party in school. Children can bring party wear to change into.

20th December at 2.30pm - End of term assembly & school closes.

3rd January 2019 – School re-opens to the children.

As always, should you have any questions about anything, please just ask any member of the staff team who will be more than happy to help.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs J Nove
Headteacher



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