

Ofsted Good Provider

April 2026

Laira Green Primary School
Shaping hearts, minds and futures

BE KIND, *BE* DETERMINED, *BE* PROUD

Dear parents and carers,

As we settle into the Summer Term, I wanted to take a moment to celebrate the wonderful achievements of our school community and share some exciting news about our continued growth.



Next week, (11-14 May) marks an important milestone for our Year 6 pupils as they sit their Key Stage 2 SATs assessments. Following their mock SATs week, we have been incredibly proud of the determination and resilience every single child has shown in their preparation. Their positive attitudes and hard work have been exemplary, and we know they will approach the tests with confidence and give their very best. Whatever the outcomes, we are already so proud of each and every one of them.



Although this has been a shorter term due to the Easter holidays, our children have certainly made the most of every opportunity. From the moment they returned, they have thrown themselves into their learning with enthusiasm and energy. It has also been wonderful to see so many children engaging in our extra-curricular clubs.

Every day, our pupils continue to demonstrate our core school values: be kind, be determined, and be proud. Whether it's supporting a friend in the playground, persevering with a challenging piece of work, or celebrating their achievements, our children embody these values in everything they do. This is what makes Laira Green Primary School such a special place to be.



We were delighted to receive our reception allocations for September 2026, which have left us for the first time in many years, with a waiting list of families eager to join our school community. This is a wonderful testament to the reputation we have built together and the positive word-of-mouth from our current families- thank you very much. Our preschool provision continues to flourish, and we have received so many positive comments from parents about the nurturing environment and high-quality early years education we provide. If you have a child who is turning two and would like to discuss a preschool place, please do not hesitate to contact the school office.



Thank you for your continued support, and we wish our Year 6 pupils the very best for SATs week.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

Mrs Jones

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Dates for your Diary

Wednesday 6th May

Plymouth Family Hub to run 'Ready Steady School' - Dell Centre 1:30-2:30pm

4SM Swimming Lesson at Plymouth College

Thursday 7th May

Local Elections to take place in the Dell Centre

Mental Health Support Team to deliver Mindfulness session to Year 4

Friday 8th May

2RB Class Assembly·9:15 – 9:45am

Reception and 2RB to attend Virtual Author -Steve Smallman

Monday 11th May- Thursday 14th May

KS2 SATs Week

Wednesday 13th May

Plymouth Family Hub to run 'Ready Steady School' - Dell Centre 1:30-2:30pm

Thursday 14th May

Mental Health Support Team to deliver Mindfulness session to Year 4

Friday 15th May

Year 6 Post SATs trip to Jump

4SM Class Assembly·9:15 – 9:45am

Sunday 17th May

Children taking part in the Plymouth Schools Half Marathon Challenge

Monday 18th May

Read with Us- Year - Year 5 and 6

Year 6 Swimming Top-ups

Tuesday 19th May

Read with Us- Year - Year 3 and 4

Year 6 transition visit from Lipson Cooperative Academy

2RB - Muslim speaker

Parent drop in session - Attendance

Wednesday 20th May

Read with Us- Year - Year 1 and 2

Plymouth Family Hub to run 'Ready Steady School' - Dell Centre 1:30-2:30pm

4SM Swimming Lesson at Plymouth College

Thursday 21st May

Read with Us- Preschool and Reception

2RB Trip To The Box

Parenting Pathway being run in The Dell Centre - Plymouth Family Hub 12:30 – 2:30pm

Mental Health Support Team to deliver Mindfulness session to Year 4

Friday 22nd May

Last Day of Term

3MT Class Assembly·9:15 – 9:45am

5LS trip to The Box and Barbican

CLASS UPDATES

Preschool

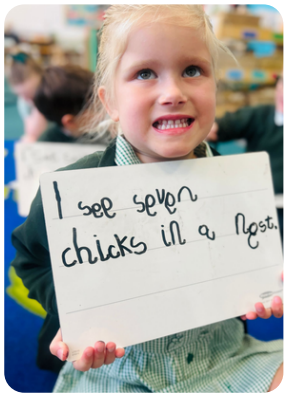
Preschool have settled brilliantly back into school life since the Easter break and have been engrossed in our new topic 'Wriggly World' where we have been exploring minibeasts. We started the new term with our rhyme of the week 'Incy Wincy Spider' and the children were fascinated to learn that there are lots of different spiders. They showed great focus and attention to detail as they drew spiders, looking carefully at photographs of them to help them. The children have loved going on minibeast hunts and so far we have found snails, spiders, slugs and woodlice. We have also been keen gardeners, ensuring that we take cake of our plants by watering them daily and also sowing seeds in the hope that we can grow our own snack! During our tuning into sounds sessions, the children are continuing to learn new phonemes and they are carefully putting these phonemes together to make words. Our youngest preschoolers continue to develop their recall of familiar rhymes. In our number sessions all of the children have been practicing their counting skills in lots of practical situations including following some simple recipes in our mud kitchen area! This half term our PE sessions will focus on gymnastic skills, we can't wait to explore all of the different ways we can move our bodies. In our music sessions, we are off to the jungle and have so far looked at how monkeys move, creating our own dance moves in time to a piece of music. Well done preschool for settling so well after the break and embracing your new learning with such positivity and collaboration. There have been lots of smiles and laughter and we can't wait for another half term of playing and learning together.





Reception

What a wonderful month it has been in Reception! The children have had a fantastic start to Term 5 and have been thoroughly enjoying our 'African Adventure' topic. They have been learning all about Africa, including the people, animals, and environments found there. The children have also developed their knowledge of Kenya - what it is like to live there and have created some incredible Kenyan flags! In Phonics, the children are learning to read words containing adjacent consonants (words with two or more consonants next to each other). They are continuing to apply their Phonics skills well in their writing and are working hard to write sentences correctly. In Maths, Reception have been developing their understanding of pattern. They have been continuing and copying simple patterns, creating their own patterns, and spotting errors within them. During PE, the children have really enjoyed our Gymnastics topic this term. They have been exploring different ways of moving their bodies, showing enthusiasm and confidence in their physical development. It has been wonderful to see the children growing in confidence and demonstrating such a positive attitude towards their learning. Well done, Reception!





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CLASS UPDATES

Year 1

Since returning from the Easter half term, Year 1 have approached their learning with a wonderfully positive attitude and a real sense of determination. In English, the children explored the story 'It's My Birthday' by Helen Oxenbury. They thoroughly enjoyed engaging with the text and showed great creativity when innovating it to create their own class version. The children worked hard to write their own adapted stories, taking care to include all the important elements needed to make their sentences clear and complete. It has been lovely to see how proud they are of their beautifully presented writing. In Maths, the focus has been on measurement, particularly capacity and volume. The children have enjoyed practical activities that helped them compare and measure different amounts. Building on this, they have begun learning to count in 2s, 5s and 10s, showing increasing confidence and enthusiasm as they develop their number skills. In Science, the topic of plants has sparked lots of curiosity. The children have learned about the key parts of a plant and discussed how the seasons affect growth. They particularly enjoyed planting their own seeds and are excited to watch them grow over time. In PE, the focus has been on developing ball skills. The children have been practising control, coordination and teamwork, showing great effort and perseverance. In Computing, the class have been learning how to use Chromebooks to add text to a Google Doc. They have shown growing independence and confidence with technology. In PSHE, the children have been exploring different types of families and thinking about friendships. They have had thoughtful discussions about what makes a good friend, showing kindness and respect for one another. Keep up the great work, Year 1!









Year 2

In 2RB this month, we have been busy as always in all areas of our learning. We have been particularly focused on our times tables, spending lots of time on TT Rockstars as well as practising our tables away from the Chromebooks too! The children are all very determined to be fluent in their 2, 5 and 10 x tables by the end of the year and it is lovely to see their dedication to this. In other areas of Maths, we have been learning about fractions and developing our understanding of equal parts and wholes. In English, we have been using a book called 'The Dragon Machine' by Helen Ward to inspire our own fiction stories about imaginary creatures. The children have been working hard to include descriptive phrases in their writing as well as sentences that tell us where something has happened. In PE, we have been learning about the principles of defending and attacking in target games. The children have also been developing their skills of throwing, rolling and striking towards a target. We are looking forward to putting some of these skills into practice over the next few weeks! Year 2 have also been working hard on preparing their class assembly and are really looking forward to sharing their learning with everyone soon.

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CLASS UPDATES







Year 3

April has been an exciting month of learning for Year 3! The children have shown great effort and determination. In English, we have been busy writing our own stories based on The Beasties by Jenny Nimmo. The children have used some fantastic expanded noun phrases, adverbials, and subordinating conjunctions to really enhance their writing! In Maths, we have been learning about the value of money, how to calculate totals, and how to work out change. We have also been practising our addition and subtraction of 3-digit numbers. Year 3 are showing what super mathematicians they are! In PE, we have been practising our tennis skills, learning about the game and different shots to win points. We have been playing rallies with partners and learning how to control the ball. The children are also really enjoying learning about Ancient Greece in History, how they lived, what their culture was like, and how their civilisation was run. We cannot wait to learn more! Well done 3MT for a brilliant month.

Year 4

What a busy start to the Summer Term for Year 4. The children were very excited to start their swimming lessons at Plymouth College. Despite a few nerves, the children were brilliant at their first lesson and showed great resilience and bravery when entering the pool for the first time-it was lovely to see them all smiling and enjoying themselves. In Art, the children have enjoyed exploring the work of Magdalene Odundo who creates organic ceramics. To plan her work, Odundo creates giant sketches on walls and floors so we used chalk on the playground to create our own ginormous sketches of her vases and pots. In Computing, we have enjoyed exploring Scratch, in particular a lesson called 'Dancing Dinosaurs' where we experimented with different codes to make our colourful dinosaurs dance in an assortment of ways. In History, we have started our brand new unit on the Vikings- so far we have explored why they wanted to invade Britain and ways they are similar and different to the Romans and the Anglo-Saxons. As always, the children have worked hard and have impressed us with their positive, can-do attitudes.





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CLASS UPDATES

Year 5





The Year 5s have had an exciting and creative few weeks, with lots of rich learning taking place across the curriculum. In Music, the children finished composing their own pieces inspired by The Planets by Gustav Holst, exploring musical components such as dynamics, tempo and texture. In English, the children began by writing clear explanation texts on how to make KFC, focusing on sequencing and clarity. We have now moved on to The Ice Bear, where pupils are learning how authors use short sentences to build tension and longer sentences to add vivid description. In Maths, the class have strengthened their understanding of area and have now moved into statistics, where they are reading line graphs and timetables and constructing their own with increasing confidence. In Art, the children have been drawing self-portraits and creating thoughtful "poem portraits." They will begin to experiment with mixed media, combining different materials to produce expressive and imaginative portrait pieces. We have also started our new golf unit in PE. The children are enjoying developing their accuracy when aiming at a target using a club and they are learning techniques for controlling shots over both long and short distances.

Year 6

Year 6 have had a very busy and focused April, and we are all incredibly proud of the determination and concentration they have shown this month! The children have met every new challenge with positivity, which is reflected in their ever-increasing test scores. Recently, when reflecting on the progress they have made in their Maths and English learning since January, so many children commented on their pride in their achievements, and their sense of success. What amazing year 6 pupils we have! The children have also been enjoying their new PE unit, and have been excited to get to grips with the rules of tag rugby, and an opportunity to develop their skills with a new invasion game! Regular one-mile runs have also been on our timetable, in preparation for the Plymouth Schools' Challenge next month. So many children have increased their speed and stamina with this regular running, and are proud to talk about the improvements in their fitness! This month in English, we have been focusing on developing our reading skills in preparation for the upcoming SATs. The children have been practising how to answer questions using a range of evidence from the text, building both confidence and accuracy in their responses. We have also begun a new class reader, 'Journey to Johannesburg'. Our initial lessons explored the setting and historical context of the story, helping the children to better understand the time period. Although we have only read the first few chapters, we have really enjoyed engaging with a story from a different culture. In our Maths lessons, we have continued our work on geometry. The children have made great progress in both their skills and understanding, particularly in drawing and naming a variety of 2-D shapes. Alongside our classroom learning, the children also took part in an exciting event with Greg Jenner, inspired by his 'Totally Chaotic History' series. He shared fascinating and chaotic facts from history, which the children thoroughly enjoyed! Unsurprisingly, we are very focused on our upcoming SATs tests, and it has been wonderful to see the children taking their mock tests so seriously, coming into school on time, refreshed and ready to enjoy their delicious breakfast. Well done year 6, keep up the great work!





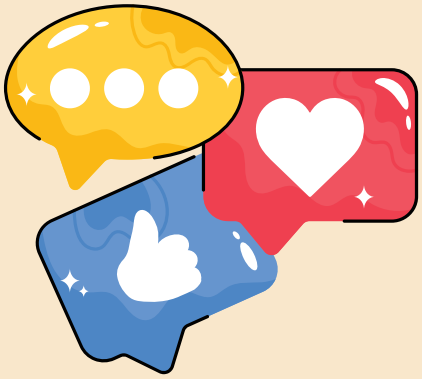
Likes, follows and feelings workshop

Thursday 9th July 1:30-3:00pm

Come and join a 1.5 hour parent and child workshop that looks at the effect of *social media* on children's mental health and wellbeing, and strategies we can use to support our young people. This is for Years 5 and 6 and will run in the school day with you and your child. Please register your interest using the google form below.

Likes, Follows and Feelings.







Livewell Southwest

MHST

Laira Green Primary Community Bike Fleet

🚴 Borrow Bikes for Free 🚴

We have a range of bikes for adults and children available to borrow for FREE!

🌟 Enjoy a fun family day out on one of Plymouth's scenic cycle paths

🚲 Cycle to school or work with ease

📅 Bikes available from Friday to Friday

For more details, or to book out a bike contact the school office by calling 01752 660427



sustrans
JOIN THE MOVEMENT

Laira Green Primary School
Shaping hearts, minds and futures

SUPPORTED BY

PLYMOUTH CITY COUNCIL

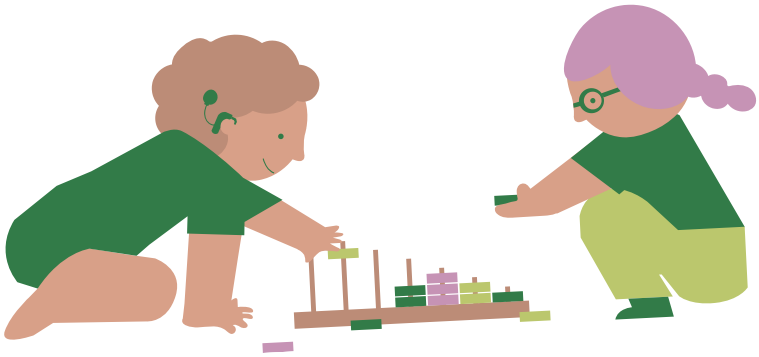
LAIRA GREEN PRIMARY TODDLER GROUP

In the Dell Centre every Tuesday 8:45-10:00am (term time)

No need to book- just turn up- £1 per week.

Are you new to the area?
Do you need support from other parents/carers?
Do you just fancy a chat and a coffee?





Come along and have a coffee whilst the little ones play

Tea/coffee for grown ups and juice and a biscuit for the little ones!



Come and join us every week.
Everyone welcome!

Attendance Update

Thriving at school - school is more than schoolwork

The lessons your child learns at school go far beyond academics. The friendships they build, the challenges they work through, and the everyday experiences they have teach them skills for life.

We know it isn't always easy getting your child to school. But encouraging them to go – even during difficult moments – builds their resilience and gives them access to wonderful experiences.

School is where they develop social skills, build confidence, and learn that working through challenges can be rewarding. When children attend regularly, they're more likely to feel connected to their school community and their peers.







90% attendance a year = 4 missed weeks of school

inclusion@lairagreen.plymouth.sch.uk

Attendance Update

PARENT AND CARERS

Coffee and Chat

DROP IN SESSION ALL ABOUT ATTENDANCE!

Tuesday 19th May
2pm-3pm

Thursday 11th June 9am-10am

The Dell Centre

Do you have any concerns or questions about your child's attendance?
Mrs Trembath is available to talk things through- we really are here to help and listen, and we can work with you to overcome any difficulties together.





REPORTING ABSENCE

Please call/email the school as soon as possible (by 9am) to let us know your if your child will be absent, letting us know the reason and when you are expecting them to return.
For safeguarding reasons we have to know where each child is. If we have not heard from you, we may need to complete a home visit or request a welfare check from support agencies.

inclusion@lairagreen.plymouth.sch.uk

Inclusion Update

If you have any questions or worries about your child, we are always here to listen. Please speak with the class teacher or call/email to arrange a time to come for a chat with Mrs Trembath

SELF-ESTEEM

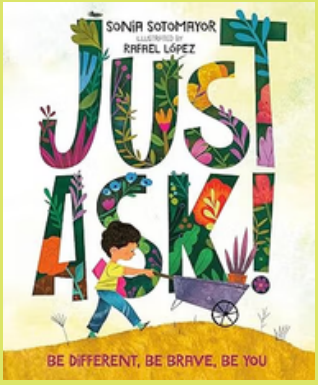
Self-esteem is how we think and feel about ourselves.
If we have high levels of self-esteem, the way we think about ourselves is likely to be positive. We are more likely to believe in our abilities and feel able to try new or difficult things.
Low levels of self-esteem can mean that we think about ourselves in a more negative way. This can lead to avoiding situations and worrying.

TIPS FOR IMPROVING SELF-ESTEEM

- Try to have healthy habits - e.g. healthy food, quality sleep, reducing screen time
- Focus on your strengths
- Spend time around those people who make you feel special and positive
- Help other people with a simple act of kindness
- Notice and challenge negative thoughts, replacing them with a positive statement e.g. 'I am strong and can do this'
- Be kind to yourself - treat yourself as you would treat a friend
- Remember no one is perfect and everyone makes mistakes!



BOOK RECOMMENDATION



Just Ask! Be Different, Be Brave, Be You
Written by Sonia Sotomayor and Illustrated by Rafael Lopez

A book about celebrating children with different abilities and challenges, as well as the special powers we each have.

HELPFUL RESOURCES

Parent guide to supporting your child with self-esteem

Mirror of compliments activity

Positive Affirmation activity





TOGETHERNESS

NHS

An update on

WELLBEING FOR EVERY SCHOOL PARENT

Your NHS learning space created by psychologists

Togetherness the NHS emotional health digital learning hub funded in your area. Your family has free access to expert learning about childhood development, wellbeing, brain changes, and much more to help you to connect with your children.

Including a Parents' guide to KS2 SATs: What to expect and how to help (Spill the beans on SATs)

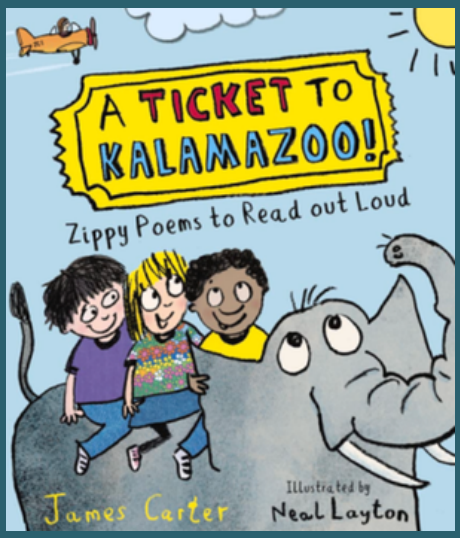
Log in via learn.togetherness.co.uk

The code for Plymouth families to access these FREE resources is TAMAR

Online learning available includes:

- Understanding your child: from toddler to teenager
- Understanding your child with additional needs
- Understanding your child's feelings
- Understanding your child's mental health and wellbeing
- Understanding your teenager's brain
- Moving up to secondary school

Poetry Picks



Preschool and Reception

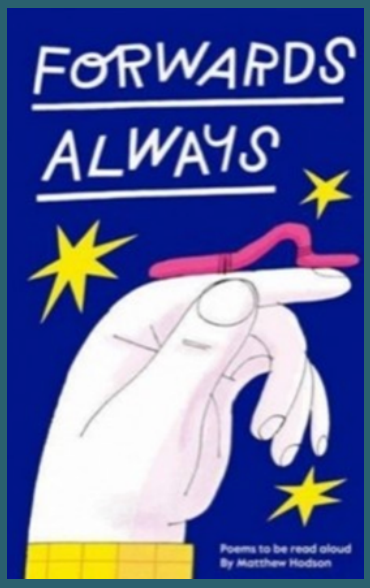
A Ticket to Kalamazoo! Zippy Poems to Read Out Loud by James Carter

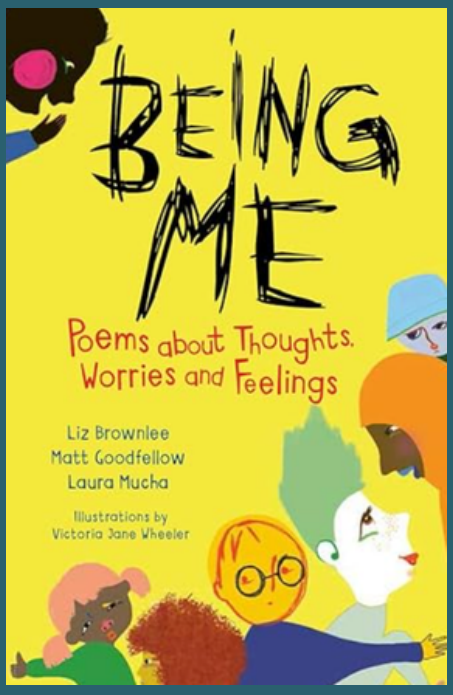
This book is full of lively, funny poems that are perfect for sharing. The poems are easy to read aloud and great for building confidence while having a laugh. It's a lovely way to enjoy reading together and help your child discover the joy of poetry.

Key Stage 1

Forwards Always: Poems to be read aloud by Matthew Hodson

This is a thoughtful and engaging collection of poems. Written to be enjoyed out loud, these poems encourage children to explore rhythm, expression, and meaning in a fun and relaxed way. It's a great choice for quiet moments together, helping to build confidence in reading while enjoying poetry as a family.





Key Stage 2

Being Me: Poems about Thoughts, Worries and Feelings by Liz Brownlee, Matt Goodfellow and Laura Mucha

A great book to revisit regularly as different worries and feelings arise. Each poem deals with a different emotion or common school situation in a deceptively simple way, creating a bank of highly accessible and hugely reassuring poems.

SCHOOL COUNCIL

Our School Councillors had a productive first meeting back and discussed supporting Plymouth Foodbank as our next initiative.

Firstly, we agreed to write to Plymouth Foodbank to find out which food items are most needed by local families, so we can ensure our contributions are as helpful as possible.

In addition, we discussed practical arrangements, such as where to safely store the donations once they are brought into school.

This project will also count towards one of our school's SuperKind action badges.

We will soon be in touch with the information about the donation week. Most importantly, we hope our efforts will make a real difference to people in our community who need support.







Pick Up After Your Pets Update...

Last month, our School Councillors met with our three local councillors: Pauline Murphy, Paul McNamara, and Neil Hendy. The children confidently presented their "Pick Up After Your Pets" campaign ideas, highlighting the issue of dog fouling on the roads around our school. We are delighted to share that Environmental Enforcement Officers have agreed to conduct a review of the dog fouling signage in the area and add the area around our school to the list of areas they patrol.

If you witness dog fouling, and know the identity of the person responsible, it can be reported to Dog fouling | PLYMOUTH.GOV.UK

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A Month in Pictures



















A Month in Pictures

















