

Ofsted Good Provider

January 2025

Laira Green Primary School
Shaping hearts, minds and futures

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

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to what has been a fantastic start to 2025. The children have settled back into school beautifully and have immersed themselves into their learning with focus and determination. We are super proud of all of our children but have been blown away with the positive attitude of our Year 6 children in particular as they begin the preparations for their SATs (which are just 4 months away). We will be hosting a SATS parent/carer session on Tuesday 11th March at 3:45pm where we will be able to share lots of useful information with you.



It has been wonderful to see the children taking part in so many different extra-curricular clubs and we are very proud to be able to provide these for free- we currently offer two clubs from external providers but all other clubs are run by our staff. I would like to thank them for this because without them, it would not be possible to have such a fantastic offer.



You will have seen on Facebook our incredible new library- we are over the moon with it and are very grateful to our local council for agreeing to fund it through their Community Funding Grant. When you come in for the upcoming Children's Progress Meetings, please do take a peak.

I would like to thank you all for the support that you show us; over the past year our school attendance has been higher than both the Plymouth and national average which is fantastic because when children miss even short periods of school, their learning is impacted.



As you may aware, in December we were granted permission by the Local Authority to lower our age range. This will enable us to welcome 3 year olds into Laira Green Primary from September. If you are looking for a preschool place, and would like more information, please contact the office or see our website for details. If you are yet to apply for a Reception place for September, please contact the Local Authority. We are delighted that the number of families who have selected us as their first choice of school for September 2025, is our highest yet with only one or two spaces remaining.

As ever, thank you for your continued support and if you need any help, support or advice, do not hesitate to contact us.



Best wishes
Mrs Claire Jones

Dates for your Diary

Monday 3rd February

Children's Mental Health Week

Tuesday 4th February

Six children from Year 5 to take part in an inter-schools' football event

Wednesday 5th February

Year 6 Author Visit- Matt Goodfellow

Friday 7th February

NSPCC TT Rock Stars Challenge- Years 1-6

Reception Pirate Themed Day

Monday 10th February

'Wonkey Bars' go on sale

RSC 'Read with us' for families

Children's Progress Meetings (no extra-curricular clubs)

Tuesday 11th December

Year 1 and 2 'Read with us' for families

Children's Progress Meetings (no extra-curricular clubs)

Wednesday 12th February

Year 3 and 4 'Read with us' for families

Children's Progress Meetings (no extra-curricular clubs)

Thursday 13th February

Year 5 'Read with us' for families

No extra-curricular clubs

Friday 14th February

Year 6 'Read with us' for families

Last day of Term 3

No extra-curricular clubs

Monday 24th February

First Day of Term 4

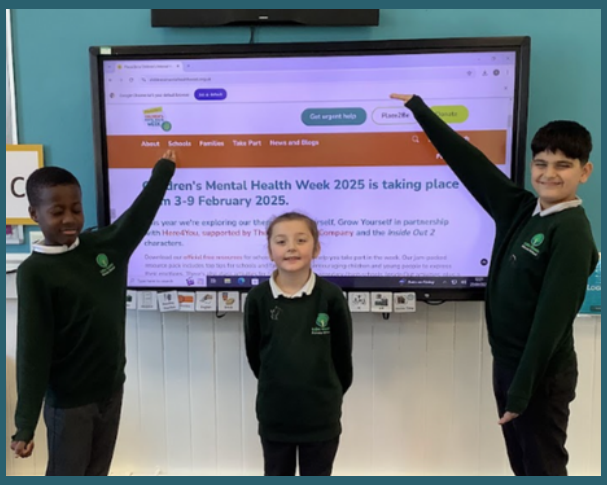
School Council Update

Our school councillors were excited to visit to the Lord Mayor's Parlour this month. We met the Lord Mayor, Councillor Tina Tuohy, and were given a tour of the Council Chambers. This was an amazing opportunity to see where local government officials meet to discuss and make decisions on issues that affect the community. It supports our British Values and enabled the children to gain a deeper insight into democracy and to understand where and how decisions about our community are made.





The children asked lots of questions such as:
When did you become the Lord Mayor of Plymouth?
What do you enjoy the most about being the Lord Mayor?
Is there a uniform you need to wear?
When do the councillors meet in Plymouth?
What have they been discussing recently?





Our school councillors have also launched our Children's Mental Health Week fundraising challenges. The 'Know Yourself, Grow Yourself' themed week running between 3rd-9th February has been planned by our School Council to encourage the children to be determined, be proud, get connected and feel confident in themselves whilst raising money for St Luke's charity. The children invited Mrs Jones to our meeting and were really happy to share ideas with her. They also have been thinking about what good mental health is and have made a video to share.

What a busy start to the new year!



Laira Green Primary School
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YMCA

Here for young people
Here for communities
Here for you



February Holiday Club

HAVE A JAM-PACKED, SUPER FUN TIME WITH US THIS FEBRUARY HALF-TERM!

FROM £17 FOR A DAY SESSION FOR AGES 8-16S @YMCA PLYMOUTH

Games | **Arts & Crafts** | **Sports**

Learn More & Book!

ymcaplymouth.org.uk/825
Tel. 01752 201918

825 CLUB

YMCA Plymouth,
Honicknowle Lane, PL5 3NG

Please remember to book as early as possible for wraparound. This will ensure that the message gets through to staff before the end of the day.

Don't forget to book an appointment for your Children's Progress Meetings so that you have an appointment that suits you!

Laira Green Primary School

Shaping hearts, minds and futures

Please remember to let us know why your child is absent by calling the office on each day they are away.

We are able to issue food bank vouchers If you are struggling and are in need of them, email inclusion@lairagreen.plymouth.sch.uk and we will be able to help.

CLASS UPDATES

Class RSC

The Reception children have made a fantastic start to the year and are fully engaged in their new topic, 'Ahoy M, Hearties'! It has been a joy to see them so enthusiastic and focused in their learning. So far, we've explored what is needed to become a pirate, followed instructions to create pirate flags, and made our very own treasure maps. The children have also been designing and building pirate ships using recycled materials, then testing them in water to see if they float or sink. In Phonics, they are applying their knowledge brilliantly to spell and read words. Please continue to record your child's reading on the BoomReader app – thank you! In Maths, the children have shown a strong understanding of how one number can be made up of two or more smaller numbers. Don't forget, on Friday 7th February, we will be celebrating our learning with a Pirate Day, where the children in RSC are invited to come to school dressed as pirates! This will be a fun way to celebrate all of their amazing progress this term.

Class 1MM

Year 1 have had another busy month! In English, they have been focusing on the story 'Don't Spill the Milk'. This week we have created our own versions and are trying our best to write these up independently. In Art, the children have enjoyed learning about the artist LS Lowry. They have unpicked the colours he uses, along with the typical pictures he paints. We then created our own paintings inspired by his work. In Maths, the children have been applying their knowledge of place value to support them adding and subtracting numbers to 20. In Science, we planted our own seeds and have been spending time observing their growth. We are now beginning to name different animal groups and how we can identify them. In PE, our focus has been gymnastics. The children have practised forming different shapes and joining these together to make a sequence. We then performed these in front of our peers.







Class 4JL

4JL have really enjoyed the start of our new History topic 'Anglo Saxons'. We have been learning about their incredible fighting skills and how they took advantage of King Vortegern. In PE this term, our Gymnastics lessons have seen the children develop balancing, rolling, jumping and inverted movements and then create more complex sequences. Every child has shown great determination, even if this seemed challenging at first! We have been making links between multiplication and division in Maths. Each child has been working really hard on their times tables and with the end of year checks getting closer we really appreciate all of the home learning that has been taking place too! I wonder how many children will beat their high scores on TTRS this week? Our new class reader 'The Firework Maker's Daughter' has taken us on a journey across the mountains, to find a secret ingredient for a special firework. The children have been making some great predictions as to what might happen to our main character Lila, as she begins her ascent up Mount Marapi! Our Science lessons have been particularly noisy this term - down to our experiments with sound. The children have loved seeing the science behind sound and have learnt all about vibration. We are working so hard 4JL and you make us really proud. Please keep it up!

CLASS UPDATES

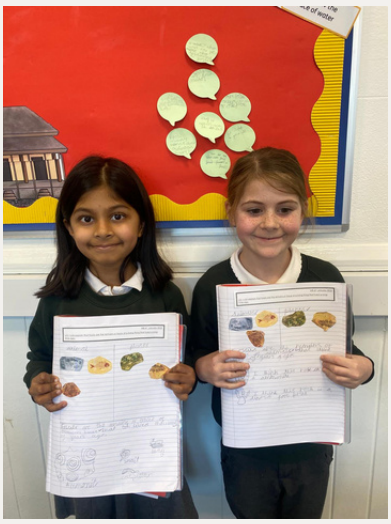
Class 2RB

2RB have had a brilliant first month of 2025! The children have thoroughly enjoyed starting our History learning about The Great Fire of London and have already gained a lot of knowledge about the topic. In Science, we have enjoyed learning about plants and trees and in Art we have been using nature to create beautiful drawings and clay models. Maths has seen us learning about money; the children have been working hard at counting pounds and pence as well as calculating with money and solving mathematical money problems. In English, the children have written their best stories yet and in Computing, we are working on taking the perfect photograph! The children are learning about digital photography and enjoying using the iPads to capture moments with precision. We've had a fabulous January, well done 2RB!





Class 3CL



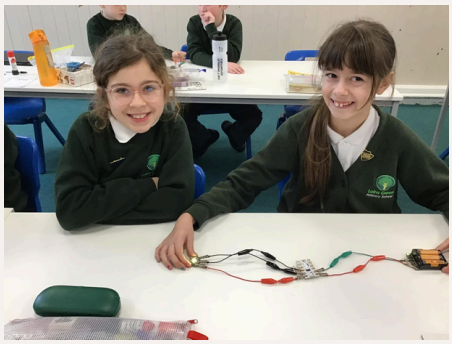


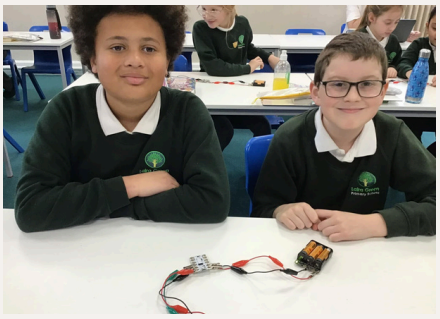
Year 3 have had an excellent start back to school and they are all really enjoying our topics this half term. In English, we have been reading Meerkat Mail and 3CL have enjoyed the funny journey that Sunny goes on in the book. This week, Year 3 have written their final writing for the unit, which was a series of postcards to show a different animal's journey of their own. In Maths, we have continued to learn about multiplication and division. We have been learning how to use partitioning and flexible partitioning to help us when multiplying and dividing a 2-digit number by a 1-digit number; this has been tricky but 3CL have demonstrated excellent perseverance throughout! Year 3 have also enjoyed starting their new Shang Dynasty topic in History. So far, they have learnt about where and when this dynasty lived, how the dynasty began and how historians and archaeologists have learnt about the past. Next week, they will learn about what life was like for the people living in this period. 3CL have started to learn about Fossils in Science this half term. They have worked scientifically to explore different fossils to better understand how fossils are formed when things that have lived are trapped in rock. This leads nicely onto our new topic next week, which is all about Soils. Lastly, Year 3 have started a British Art topic in their Art lessons this half term. They have enjoyed listening to the Monkey and the Crocodile story and used this story to create their own mini books, filled with their illustrations to match the story. Next lesson, they will use some of the artwork produced by Thomas Gainsborough to complete a 'painting in pieces' as a class, meaning they will split up a famous painting into 30 parts before piecing the painting back together to form a large piece of artwork. We are looking forward to seeing this when complete!

CLASS UPDATES

Class 5MT

The children had a very wonderful and exciting start to the New Year. They have particularly enjoyed being creative in Art where they have produced a series of work related to nature and birds. They produced some stunning observational drawings which we turned into detailed ink prints. In PE they became gymnasts, learning to perform backward rolls and link forward rolls together to make a chain. They also worked in pairs to make sequenced routines; the children surprised themselves with what they could achieve. In Maths, the children have been learning how to use written methods for multiplication and division with numbers up to 4 digits by two digits. They had to work extremely hard as there were a lot of steps to remember but they did a fantastic job! This term, in history, we have begun learning about Medieval Monarchs where we will learn all about the different monarchs in British history and decide who was the best... or worst!









Class 5AW

We have had a great start to our learning in 2025! In English we have explored the different effects used in a short film to create emotional responses, and we have used a variety of different devices to replicate this in our writing. We have been thoroughly enjoying our History topic, Medieval Monarchs, finding out about the significance of the Norman period and who we believe actually had the best claim to the throne of England! We have been loving the creativity of our Art lessons, creating tile ink presses! During computing, we have been learning how to program lights to flash and wheels to spin in a sequence we have inputted into the chromebooks, using crumble kits. In PSHE, we have been thinking about our futures and the jobs or careers we might want to do when we grow up, including the different salaries we could earn, as well as how we could help our society one day!

boom reader

Don't forget to log every read n Boom Reader

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CLASS UPDATES

Class 6LS

What a brilliant start back after the winter break! The children have all done themselves proud, working hard in all areas of the curriculum. In English, we read a 'twisted tale' of Rumplestilskin and then used this model to write our own for Little Red Riding Hood; there are some gruesome story writers in 6LS! In Maths, we have been learning about ratio and how this can be used in so many day to day situations and are now learning about algebra - which we are realising is not as difficult as it first seemed. Art has been a real favourite this term. We have learnt about several prominent South American artists and have been improving our skills in sculpting, painting and sketching. We will be making a class mural by the end of term entitled, 'Wall of Fame' which will be a collection of sketches of famous people. Finally, in PE we have been learning new gymnastic moves, considering counter balance and counter tension balances and working on apparatus to incorporate different forms of travelling and jumps.









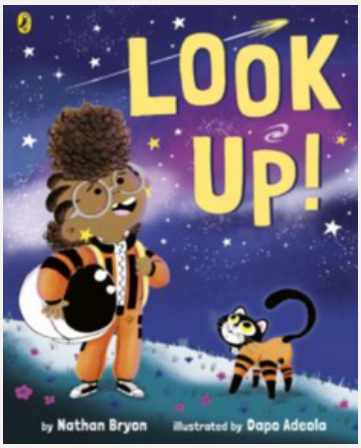


Class 6LG

We have had a fantastic start to 2025, we are so proud of their determination! The children have been working hard on developing their reading skills, and have already seen their progress week on week. In English, we have been creating our own 'twisted' versions of Little Red Riding Hood, with some diabolical endings! Our gymnastics lessons have showcased the children's teamwork and focus, and we have been reflecting on how we respond to challenges which are physical as well as mental or emotional. During our History lessons we have been both fascinated and appalled to learn about how black people were treated in segregated America, and were amazed at how brave Rosa Parks and her peers were to stand up for what is right. We have been inspired to create our own vision of a 'perfect world' in PSHE, and have been looking at the ways in which even 10 and 11 year olds like us can make a difference.

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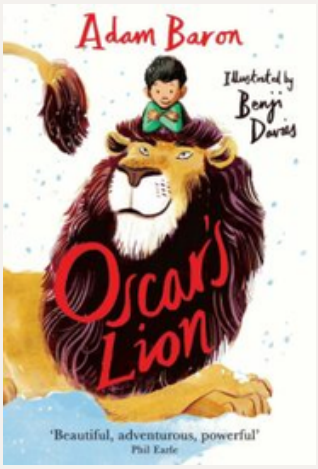
Recommended Reads



Look Up!
Nathan Bryon & Dapo Adeola - 5-7 year olds

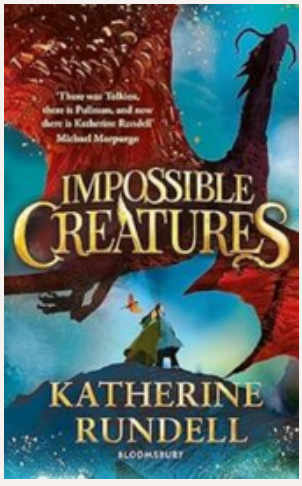
Look Up! is an entertaining and vibrant story book about a space-loving girl called Rocket. Rocket is excited about the chance to view an upcoming meteor shower, and she wants everyone she meets to be ready to look up and see it. Frustratingly, her much older brother would rather look down at his phone. With a little sibling compromise and a never-giving-in approach from Rocket, the pair have a wonderful time together and Rocket helps everyone to see how amazing the sky can be when you just look up.

Oscar's Lion
Adam Baron- 8-9 year olds



A magical story about a boy spending his first weekend without his parents . . . and the lion who comes to babysit him.
Oscar is a little terrified to find that a lion is going to be looking after him for the weekend. But when the lion lets him eat as many biscuits as he wants, and reads him his favourite story ten times, Oscar realises he might be on to something good. Soon, Oscar discovers that the lion can change into different animals and the pair find themselves having all kinds of adventures! But before the lion has to go, might he have one more amazing transformation up his sleeve?

Impossible Creatures
Katherine Rundell - 9/10 year olds



A boy called Christopher is visiting his grandfather when he witnesses an avalanche of mythical creatures come tearing down the hill. This is how Christopher learns that his grandfather is the guardian of one of the ways between the non-magical world and a place called the Archipelago, a cluster of magical islands where all the creatures we tell of in myth live and breed and thrive alongside humans. They have been protected from being discovered for thousands of years; now, terrifyingly, the protection has worn thin, and creatures are breaking through. Then a girl, Mal, appears in Christopher's world. She is in possession of a flying coat, is being pursued by a killer and is herself in pursuit of a baby griffin. Mal, Christopher and the griffin embark on an urgent quest across the wild splendour of the Archipelago, where sphinxes hold secrets and centaurs do murder, to find the truth – with unimaginable consequences for both their worlds. Together the two must face the problem of power, and of knowledge, and of what love demands of us.

Opening Soon...

Tamar Fresh

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FareShare South West

Community Food Hub

Everybody is welcome to use this free service

Help us to stop good food from going to waste

Please bring your own bags and take what you need from our Community Room in the KS1 Playground







Laira Green Preschool

All children receive 15 hours free childcare. If you are a working parent, you may be eligible to receive 30 hours free childcare. To check, go to www.childcarechoices.gov.uk or contact the school.

Funded Session times:

Morning Session	8:30am-11:30am
Afternoon Session	12:15pm- 3:15pm

Additional Prices and Session times:

Early Years Breakfast Club	7:30am-8:30am	£4.00
Morning Session	8:30am -11:30am	£18.00
Lunchtime Session	11:30am-12:15pm	£3.00
Afternoon Session	12:15pm-3:15pm	£18.00
Early Years Afterschool Club	3:15pm- 4:30pm	£6.00
Early Years Afterschool Club	3:15pm- 6:00pm	£12.00

Contact the school for more information
01752 660427
laira.green.primary.school@plymouth.gov.uk

A Month in Pictures



















A Month in Pictures







