

May 2024

Ofsted Good Provider

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

Dear Parent/Carers,

Welcome to May's newsletter. Next week we begin our final term of the Year; it is hard to believe how fast this year is going and we are already making preparations for the new children who will be joining us in Reception from September. May has seen a host of educational visitors including a wonderful visit to Year 3 and 4 from a Clive Pig, a renowned storyteller who brings History alive. We have also had lots of virtual author visits this month which have introduced the children to new and exciting books, all of which have been very inspiring.

The month of May always brings with it Year 6 SATs- we cannot be prouder of our children for the sheer determination that they demonstrated throughout. Thank you for all of your support in getting them to school, on time and well rested.

It has been brilliant to welcome you into school again this month with our 'Read with Us' sessions and our class assemblies. The feedback from the children is that they have felt proud to showcase their learning so thank you to all who have been able to make it so far.

Our extra-curricular clubs have continued to be popular and we are really proud to be able to offer such a range of clubs for our children to develop a passion, skill and confidence in something new. Being able to offer 21 free clubs across a week is no mean feat and not something that many schools can offer so thank you for supporting your children to regularly attend.

The wraparound provision that we began in September is becoming more popular (especially Breakfast Club) so thank you for supporting it. Our aim is to make life a little bit easier for families who rely on affordable childcare. Please remember to book in advance for afterschool club unless it is an emergency.

I hope that you have had a super half term (despite the weather) and look forward to welcoming you all back on Tuesday 4th June.

Best wishes

Mrs Claire Jones









Dates for your Diary

Monday 3rd June- INSET Day - school closed

Monday 3rd June- Year 5/6 Residential to Nethercott Farm

Tuesday 4th June- First Day of Term 6 for children

Tuesday 4th June- Year 4 swimming begins every day for 3 weeks

Wednesday 5th June- Six Reception children to attend Dodgeball event at Marine Academy Primary

Thursday 6th June- change to menu to celebrate 80th Anniversary of D-Day

Thursday 6th June-8:45am-10:45am OnCourse South West to run 'Cooking on a Budget' course for parents

Thursday 6th June- Year 5 to take part in a Digital Workshop

Friday 7th June- Ice cream Friday

Tuesday 11th June- Whole school to watch Bike Stunt Show from SUSTRANS

Tuesday 11th June- Year 6 to take part in a travelling to school safely (preparing for secondary school) session run by Plymouth City Council

Wednesday 12th June- Year 2 visit The Box- WW11 exhibition and workshop

Thursday 13th June- 8:45am-10:45am OnCourse South West to run 'Cooking on a Budget' course for parents

Thursday 13th June- Lipson Cooperative Academy to visit Year 6 children

Friday 14th June- Year 6 to visit Exeter Museum

Friday 14th June- 9:15am-9:45am Reception Father's /Special Men Assembly

Friday 14th June- Ice cream Friday

Monday 17th June- Year 5 and 6 to take part in a live virtual event:Refugee Week with Michael Rosen- On the Move

Monday 17th June- Children's Progress Meetings- extra-curricular clubs

Tuesday 18th June- Children's Progress Meetings- No extra-curricular clubs

Wednesday 19th June- Children's Progress Meetings- No extra-curricular clubs

Thursday 20th June-Year 2, 3 and 4 to take part in a live virtual event: Refugee Week 2024

Thursday 20th June- 8:45am-10:45am OnCourse South West to run 'Cooking on a Budget' course for parents

Thursday 20th June- Children's Progress Meetings- No extra-curricular clubs

Friday 21st June 9:15-9:45- 1MM Class Assembly

Friday 21st June- Ice cream Friday

Wednesday 26th June- Year 5 visit to The Box- History workshops

Thursday 27th June- 8:45am-10:45am OnCourse South West to run 'Cooking on a Budget' course for parents

Thursday 27th June- RSC to visit Buckfast Butterfly Farm and Dartmoor Otter Sanctuary

Friday 28th June- Ice cream Friday

CLASS UPDATES

Reception has had the most spectacular term, with so many wonderful learning opportunities! They have enthusiastically embraced their learning centred around their 'African Adventure' topic. The children have deepened their knowledge of African animals, explored animal skin patterns, and refined their artistic skills by making some fantastic artwork! As part of their learning, children tasted some of the exotic fruits from the story 'Handa's Surprise'! After tasting each one, they described how it tasted and felt in their mouths, using words like 'tasty', 'delicious','soft', and 'squishy'. They enjoyed tasting the fruits, although the passionfruit definitely wasn't as popular as some of the others! The children are demonstrating incredible determination and perseverance in Phonics! It has been amazing to see the children's confidence in reading and writing develop since September! During Maths, they have focused on patterns, as well as, number patterns. They've been counting in twos and tens, as well as exploring odd and even numbers. Well done, Class RSC - What superstars!







Class 5CL have had a great month of learning and we have had lots of exciting events going on too! Bikeability was a huge success and we were so pleased with the children's confidence, balance and road awareness that developed throughout the week. In Computing this month, we have been learning to use selection to create quizzes on Scratch. So far, we have revised what selection means, used a branching structure to understand the role of commands and outcomes and mapped out what our final quiz will be about. We have enjoyed learning about North American artists during Art this half term and we have produced some excellent landscape collages and abstract paintings that link to this theme. During P.E. lessons, 5CL have loved learning how to perfect their chip and putt shot and challenged themselves with scoring a hole in one. This week, we learnt how to perform a long distance shot, applying our skills of chipping to increase the height as well as the distance. Next, we will focus on still ensuring our long distance shot is accurate as well as powerful. Finally, we have recently come to the end of a Shape unit in Maths and we have been really pleased with their knowledge of the properties of shapes. We have also been learning about different types of angles and learnt how to calculate missing angles on a straight line and around a point. Next, we will be focusing on coordinates! Well done 5CL!

5LG have had such a busy month- we can't quite believe we fit so much in! We thoroughly enjoyed our visit to the Welsh National Opera, and were amazed to hear the full orchestra as well as some tenors and sopranos! Our favourite moment was definitely hearing the Harry Potter overture performed live on stage. In English, we loved using a wide variety of language to create detailed descriptions of waking up in an unknown place, and we are now enjoying learning all about Charles Dickens. As Historians, it has been fascinating to learn so much about Plymouth's rich history this term - we were amazed to find out how much Plymouth has changed over time! We all worked incredibly hard to prepare our class assembly, and are so proud of our singing, dancing and performing to our parents and carers. We enjoyed the fantastic opportunity to take part in Bikeability, with everyone increasing in confidence and some even riding a bike for the first time! In RE we have been thinking about how Jesus inspires Christians to live their lives in certain ways, and we have also explored what inspires us to make good choices in our own lives. Finally, in our Science learning we have been finding out all about growing up and growing old - including exploring gestation periods, growth rates and lifespan of different mammals.



CLASS UPDATES

We have had a really hard working term in 4JL. The children absolutely loved learning about The Vikings and the special visit from Clive The Storyteller was a real highlight. He did an amazing job of captivating our imagination and I am sure that this has really helped add some core facts into the children's long term memory. We will be sad to see the end of our Outdoor and Adventurous Activities in PE, which has been thoroughly enjoyed by the children. This has truly enhanced their team work and communication skills. Our Science experiments have been VERY noisy! The children have been recording sounds of their choice and plotting the decibel levels onto a graph. It has been lovely to get outdoors for these experiments with the weather being so beautiful. In the classroom, the use of the coding programme 'Scratch' has been a real hit. Our computing lessons are always popular with the children and their skills never fail to amaze Mr Lethbridge and Mrs Dulling! We have continued to encourage the use of Times Tables Rockstar's, as the children are making so much progress! We are very proud of each and everyone of them for their efforts and know that if they continue to practise, they will all achieve their goals. Well done 4JL! Have a great half term!





4PN have loved the steel pans lessons we have received and have enjoyed playing together and building our musical skills week on week. During our Art sessions, we have used watercolours to create a painting of fruit in the style of Caravaggio. Mixing up the colours to the correct consistency for the background and the detail was tricky but we were very pleased with our final artwork. Our computing unit has been game evaluation and design using 'Scratch'. The games that we created were fantastic - lots of different types of animals popping up and disappearing on a variety of backgrounds. The game was to click on the animals as quickly as you can and each one made a different sound. The children loved creating the coding and debugging when it did not quite give the effect they were after. We have been writing persuasive letters about litter and how to prevent animals getting hurt by litter pollution. We were quite passionate about keeping our world clean and tidy! We are certainly ready for half term and deserve a break from all our hard work this half term!

Year 3 have enjoyed another busy month of learning. A highlight was the visit from Clive Pig, who made our Ancient Greece learning come to life with his storytelling! The children loved hearing about Greek mythology and we have enjoyed continuing to read some more of these stories throughout the term. In our PE lessons, we have been learning to play tennis. The children have built up to playing doubles tennis matches and have enjoyed learning how to score points - and lose points! In our Maths lessons, we have been focusing on learning to tell the time and exploring seconds, minutes and hours in great detail. Our English lessons have involved bringing animals to life through interviews. It has been great fun to give animals a personality and to answer questions in a way that shows their character through thoughtful vocabulary choices. This month we have also enjoyed learning about children's rights in our PSHE lessons. We have learnt about the United Nations and have also practised our skill of empathy when thinking about different children's experiences throughout the world. We are all looking forward to a busy final term of learning in Year 3!

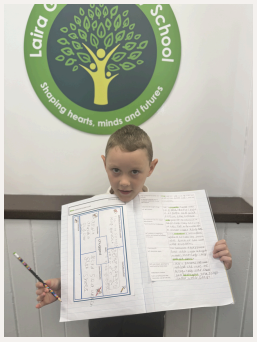


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CLASS UPDATES

This month 2MT have dived into the world of make believe, they have written their own stories about their very own mermaid machine. In maths the children have been learning all about time, they have learnt how to tell the time past and to the hour! During art they have created Joan Miro inspired surrealist art, learning how to blend and mix colours to make different shades. In our PE unit this term we have been learning all about target games, learning how to control and pass balls to teammates. Every Friday morning the children also get the pleasure of an extra dance session, focusing on a different topic each week, and getting to make their own dance up at the end of the lesson, the children have loved showing their creativity through movement. The children have taken a step back in time to World War 2, learning all about rationing and evacuees. 2MT have worked very hard this term, we are all very proud.





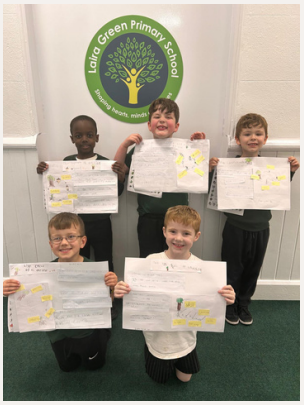


Wow! Our Year 6 children are superstars! Every single pupil has done themselves proud in the SATs this month. We all enjoyed some special treats for breakfast together - including sausage sandwich on the final day - delicious! Our children arrived with smiles on their faces and determined attitudes ready to show the world what they have learnt. We couldn't be any more proud of them all. To celebrate, our trip to Jump provided much needed relaxation time and the chance to race their teachers around the soft-play and down the wibbly slides! Mr Gotham also showed off his dance moves - something we are sure that the children will not forget quickly!

Following SATs, the children continue to work hard on their learning - starting with writing poems for a poetry competition. Their poems are in the theme of 'dreams' and we have received a wide range of entries - from the laugh-out-loud poems to the thought-provoking, emotional poems and some taking us into the dark world of nightmares. What a pleasure you all are to teach.









Year I have had an exciting and busy month! The children have enjoyed balanceability - practising riding a balance bike. In History, the children learnt about the origins of the olympics, the changes over time and about specific athletes which have had a significant impact on the Olympics today. In Maths, we have been learning to partition 2-digit numbers into tens and one. In English, we had focussed on non-fictions text and the key features. The children wrote their own information text all about the life cycle of an oak tree including a glossary to inform the reader further. In science, the children classified animal groups, focussing on vertebrates and invertebrates. In computing, the children have been learning to login into the chrome books independently, load a Google Docs, insert pictures and wrote short captions. All children have been working incredibly hard and know they'll be ready to smash Term 6! Well done Year I!

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ICE CREAM FRIDAYS ARE BACK!

ON SALE EVERY FRIDAY IN THE KS1 PLAYGOUNDTHROUGHOUT TERM 6
3:20PM-4:30PM

ALL PROCEEDS WILL GO TOWARDS THE PTA'S NEXT FUNDRAISING PROJECT.

Treat Yourself to a Book!

Treat Friday isn't just for the children!

Come and browse our selection of excellent books for grown ups.

Take a treat for yourself to read and enjoy!



It's a gift for our parents and carers!!

Read it, return it, pass it on or keep it!

School Council News

We would like to say a very big thank you to all the parents and residents who have taken the time to fill in our questionnaire regarding parking around our school; we really appreciate your feedback. On Friday 24th May, Mrs Hughes and our School Council met with Cllr Pauline Murphy, Cllr Paul McNamara and Cllr Neil Hendy to show them a video presentation that they made to highlight the road safety issues and to share your feedback. We also discussed possible ways the busy roads and parking could be addressed. We really hope that our voices have been heard so look forward to hearing from them soon.





Please remember that if your child is absent from school, you must call the office to report their absence. It is a legal requirement that we record a reason for all absences.

Please remember to pre- book and pay for after school wraparound care in advance. We can take bookings on the day but cannot guarantee any bookings after 2:30pm.

Reminder

Due to our Year 6 residential trip to Nethercott Farm, we will have limited extra-curricular activities the first week of term. The following Clubs will **not be running**:

Tuesday 4th June : Lego
Wednesday 5th June: Ukulele
Thursday 6th June: Sewing
Friday 7th June : Arts and Crafts and Coding

All other extra- curricular clubs will be running as usual.

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School Uniform

The below information sets out the expectations for school uniform:

- Pinafores, trousers, shorts and skirts need to be dark grey please rather than black or light grey
- Laira Green Primary School jumper or cardigan with our logo (no plain jumpers/cardigans please)
- White Polo Shirts (non logo)
- In the summer, dark green checked dresses or skirts rather than light green
- Plain black school shoes (not including boots) or plain black trainers
- Bracelets and necklaces are not to be worn and earrings must be studs rather than hoops
- Children can wear hair accessories, such as bows and hairbands, however please ensure that they are school colours only
- Grey or green tights and/or white or grey socks

The below information sets out the expectations for P.E. Kit:

- The Laira Green bottle green P.E. top with black shorts/leggings/tracksuit bottoms (*children wearing the old P.E. kit of white t-shirts or shorts are still permitted to wear them until they grow out of them*).
- On the days that your child has P.E., they should wear their P.E. kit with their school jumper or cardigan to school for the day.

School sweatshirts and cardigans, can be purchased by visiting The Schoolwear Shop (105 Mayflower Street, Plymouth, PL1 1SD) as well as Laira Green Primary Sun Hats (optional). Second hand uniform is available for free, from the Uniform Store Plymouth.

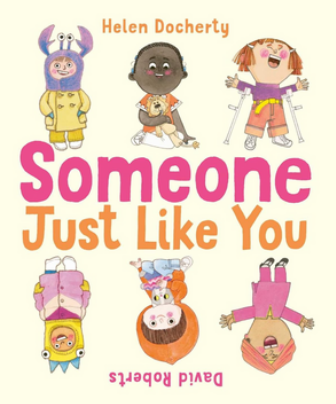
Book Bags and water bottles can be purchased from the school office







Best Books this Month



Someone Just Like You

by Helen Docherty & David Roberts

A deeply moving, vitally important picture book encouraging empathy and kindness.

Somewhere in this world, there is someone just like you,
who finds the same things funny and who laughs the way you do.

Have you ever stopped to think that there might be someone out there who is just like you? And if they needed you, would you help them?

Helen Docherty's lyrical rhyming text is perfectly matched by David Roberts' stunning, thoughtful illustrations, as the two combine to make a picture book that is as necessary as it is beautiful.

The Wrong Shoes

by Tom Percival

For Will, things just keep going wrong. Bullied for having cheap shoes, misunderstood by his teachers, and struggling to come to terms with the bleak and hungry life he leads after his dad lost his job, life seems to be pushing him down a path of self-destruction.

The love of his family, the persistence of his friends, and a freak encounter with nature keep filling him with just enough hope to keep doing the next right thing.

Will is living on the poverty line, and this will be a sensitive issue for some children. Life for Will is hard, but he learns that he is still powerful, and in a position to make choices about his future and the path he wants to take.

The Wrong Shoes is a story that will increase empathy in children whose lives are easier than Will's, and empower those who relate to him. Suitable for Upper KS2 and beyond.





Croaky: Search for the Sasquatch

Matty Long

Croaky Hopper isn't like other little frogs. His head is filled with thoughts of wild adventures. He dreams of hopping across crocodile-infested waters, or being chased by a giant boulder, just like the famous TV explorer Tennessee Toad. But where can an energetic amphibian like Croaky find real-life adventure? When his Aunt Lilly signs him up for the Woggle Scouts, he expects to spend his time crafting with pinecones and selling cookies, but he soon discovers there's much more in store, as scout leader, Winston the Puffin, takes the scouts on a dangerous expedition to search for a sasquatch.

Please remember to log all reading on Boom Reader. This helps us to know what your child is reading and when they are ready to quiz or change books.

Livewell Southwest

Children and Young People's Neurodiversity Wellbeing Team

A confidential, free advice line available to all children, young people and their families who are on the Neurodiversity Pathway within Plymouth.

What we offer

Advice and support including:

- Sleep
- Diet
- Anxiety
- School difficulties
- Friendships
- Positive support strategies

Contact us

Please call 01752 435404
Monday to Friday
9 - 11am and 2 - 4pm

Please complete our questionnaire using the QR code provided.

We support people to lead independent, healthy lives

Save money on your childcare bills with Tax-Free Childcare

If you're a working parent or carer, you can get up to £500 every three months (up to £2,000 a year per child) to help with the costs of childcare. If your child has a disability, you can get up to £1,000 every three months (up to £4,000 a year per child).

You can use it to pay for childcare including:

- childminders, nurseries and nannies
- playschemes, before and after school clubs, and holiday clubs

Check with your provider to see if they're signed up.

If you use our Wraparound care, you could be eligible for support with the cost.

How it works

You set up an online childcare account for your child. For every £8 you pay into this account, the government will pay in £2, up to a maximum of £2,000 a year or £4,000 if your child has a disability. You can then use the money to pay your childcare provider.

You need to reconfirm your eligibility for Tax-Free Childcare every three months. You'll get a text reminder and it's easy to do through your online childcare account.

Am I eligible?

To get Tax-Free Childcare, you, and your partner (if you have one) need to be working at least 16 hours a week and expect to earn at least the National Minimum Wage or National Living Wage over the next 3 months. This includes being:

- self-employed
- on shared parental, maternity, paternity, or adoption leave
- on sick leave or annual leave.

Your child is eligible until 1 September after their 11th birthday, or until 1 September after their 16th birthday if they have a disability.

Each parent or carer can earn up to £100,000 per year and still be eligible for Tax-Free Childcare. Your eligibility doesn't depend on how much tax you pay, so it won't affect your income tax liability or VAT.

You can't claim Tax-Free Childcare at the same time as Working Tax Credit, Child Tax Credit or Universal Credit or childcare vouchers. Further information on eligibility is available on **www.gov.uk/tax-free-childcare**.

If you need any help in understanding your options, call into the office and we will be happy to help.

If you live in Northern Ireland

If you live and pay tax in Northern Ireland but use a childcare provider in the Republic of Ireland, please call 0300 123 4097 to check your eligibility.

If you live in Northern Ireland but work in the Republic of Ireland, you're eligible for Tax-Free Childcare if you or your partner pay UK tax and complete an annual Self-Assessment tax return and foreign income form.

Find out more

To find out how much you could get towards your childcare costs and check whether you're eligible, visit **www.childcarechoices.gov.uk or www.gov.uk/tax-free-childcare**

HM Government

Childcare Choices

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about

POP-UP ADS

Pop-up advertisements have been a staple of the internet since they were first introduced in the late 1990s. This form of advertising causes a small window or banner to appear in the foreground while someone is browsing a website. Although these adverts are merely irritating for most people, pop-ups can present more severe risks to younger users.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

DECEPTIVE TACTICS

Children sometimes don't understand that adverts (including pop-ups) are designed to sell a product – and can't distinguish between a legitimate feature of a site and an advertisement. Video games, for example, can be full of pop-up ads that tempt users into spending money, yet they might take the form of a mini-game or extra level.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

While some adverts are targeted based on a user's interests and activity online, that isn't always the case. This means that children may unfortunately be exposed to ads for age-inappropriate goods or services such as tobacco products, alcohol and gambling sites.

MALWARE RISK

Most pop-ups from reputable advertisers are safe. However, in some cases, pop-ups can trick you into downloading malware – whereby cybercriminals install software on your device, allowing them to access your sensitive data. It can be difficult to know if malware has been installed on your device, so your best option is to avoid engaging with these pop-ups altogether. Be wary of sites that suddenly bombard you with ads or try to prevent you from leaving.

PRIVACY RISK

Many app and game developers will collect their users' personal data, such as their name, address, email address, geolocation information, unique numerical identifiers, photos and payment information. If a child clicks on an illegitimate pop-up laced with malware, all this information could be put at risk.

RACKING UP BILLS

If a child has access to a payment card on their device – be it a smartphone, laptop, or tablet – they could very quickly rack up a massive bill by interacting with pop-up adverts and buying products shown to them. Try to keep a close eye on their spending.

BEHAVIOURAL IMPACT

Research has found that pop-up ads can even have an impact on children's behaviour. Some of these adverts use manipulative tactics that take advantage of children's developmental vulnerabilities, intentionally or otherwise. This approach may cause a child's mood to shift: becoming more stubborn, for example, if they begin wanting their parents to buy a specific product for them.

Advice for Parents & Educators

START A CONVERSATION

It's important to have regular conversations with children about online advertising so that they understand the risks of interacting with pop-ups. For example, if a child asks for a product which has been advertised to them online, ask them why they want it and how they found it: this will present an opportunity to talk youngsters through the tactics used in online marketing.

SPOT THE SIGNS

If you're concerned that a child may be following pop-up ads to make online purchases or viewing content that could be harmful, it's important to be able to spot the signs. Due to the often-manipulative nature of these adverts, children who interact with them regularly may show signs of distraction, stubbornness and an increasingly materialistic worldview.

MONITOR CONTENT

It can often be difficult to spot when a pop-up advert is malicious – even more so for impressionable younger users. It's important to monitor the content they're consuming to prevent them from clicking on something dangerous. If a pop-up ad seems too good be true – promising a free iPad, for example – it probably is.

PRIVACY SETTINGS

Most modern devices have privacy settings that let you limit the amount of advertising a child is subjected to while using apps or browsing the internet. You may also want to speak to teachers about avoiding sites and apps with advertising, as well as adjusting digital privacy settings on any education technology they use.

LIMIT SPENDING

Try to stay aware of what children are spending and ensure that payment details aren't linked to or saved on the gaming platform that they use. Most video games and internet-enabled devices have settings that can help you manage what children can or cannot purchase online.

CUT DOWN ON SCREEN TIME

Given the prevalence of pop-up ads (which can appear on everything from smartphones and tablets to internet-connected toys and games), it might be beneficial to limit the time children spend on digital devices to curb their exposure to digital advertising.

Meet Our Expert



Carly Page is an experienced technology writer with more than 10 years in the industry. Previously the editor of tech tabloid The Inquirer, she is now a freelance technology journalist, editor and consultant who writes for Forbes, TechRadar and Wired, among others.

#WakeUpWednesday®

The National College®

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: https://nationalcollege.com/guides/pop-ups

A Month in Pictures



















A Month in Pictures

















