

Ofsted Good Provider

Term 1 2026

Laira Green Primary School
Shaping hearts, minds and futures

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

Dear parents and carers

What a wonderful first term we have had! It has been a fantastic start to the school year, filled with exciting opportunities and lots of learning. We are incredibly proud of all our children and the enthusiasm, kindness and determination they have shown throughout the term. It has been especially lovely to welcome our new families into our Reception and Preschool classes. We hope you are already feeling part of our school community and look forward to working together to support your children as they settle into Laira Green Primary School.



We are also delighted to have established a range of pupil roles and responsibilities across the school. Our librarians, reading leaders, School Council, Eco Champions, energy monitors and digital leaders are already making a valuable contribution to school life. These roles give our children the opportunity to develop their confidence, take responsibility and make a positive difference to our school community. We are very proud of them!



This term has been full of memorable experiences beyond the classroom, too. Our children have enjoyed visits to The Box, Central Park and Kents Cavern and the Tamar Bridge alongside our Year 4 residential, which provided wonderful opportunities for learning, independence and teamwork. Our amazing new minibus has also been a very welcome addition, helping us to create even more opportunities for exciting visits and experiences in the future.

A huge thank you to all the parents and carers who attended our Children's Progress Meetings and our Read With Us sessions. Your support and involvement make such a difference to your children's learning, and we really value the strong partnership between home and school.



As we look ahead to the festive season, please take a little time to look through the important dates in this newsletter. There are lots of exciting Christmas events and celebrations coming up, and we look forward to sharing these special moments with you.

Thank you for your continued support throughout this first term. I hope you all enjoy a restful half-term break, and I look forward to welcoming everyone back for another exciting term on Monday 2nd November.



Wishing you all a lovely half-term break.

Mrs Claire Jones

Dates for your Diary

Monday 2nd November - First day of Term 2
Tuesday 3rd November 5LL – Joy of Moving Workshop with Plymouth Argyle
Thursday 5th November - School Council to attend Efford Remembrance Service
Tuesday10th November - 5LL – Joy of Moving Workshop with Plymouth Argyle
Tuesday10th November - Fluoride Varnish Visit – RSC and 1MM
Wednesday 11th November - 9:00–10:00 am – Inclusion Parent Drop-in: Coffee and Chat
Thursday 12th November - 2RB Visit to Efford Library
Friday13th November - Children in Need Day- children invited to wear spotty/Pudsey mufti
Friday13th November- 1MM and 2RB – Virtual Author Visit with Nick Sharratt and Pippa Goodhart
Monday16th November - 2RB Visit to the National Marine Aquarium
Tuesday 17th November - 5LL – Joy of Moving Workshop with Plymouth Argyle
Wednesday 18th November - 2RB Dental Workshop – Open Wide & Step Inside
Wednesday 18th November - MHST to deliver an Anxiety Awareness Workshop to Year 5
Thursday 19th November - Year 5 Visit to Efford Library
Friday 20th November -1MM and 2RB – Leon's Reef Assembly of Kindness
T**uesday 24th November -**5LL – Joy of Moving Workshop with Plymouth Argyle
Tuesday 24th November -1MM and 3VM – session with South West Water
Tuesday 24th November - 5LL & 6LG to watch Material World: A STEM Roadshow
Thursday 26th November- 6LG to visit Efford Library
Friday 27th November - Workshop – 3VM The Story of Waste Workshop- PCC
Friday 27th November- 14 children to watch the National Opera School's Concert at Theatre Royal
Tuesday 1st December -5LL – Joy of Moving Workshop with Plymouth Argyle
Wednesday 2nd December - 4SM Geography Trip to Drake Circus and the Barbican
Thursday 3rd December -9:15–11:15 am – Craft Sessions for Parents, ONCourse South West
Friday 4th December- Luke Pollard to meet School Council
Monday 7th December -1MM to attend the Nativity Experience for Primary Schools – Plymouth Christian Centre
Monday 7th December - 2:00–3:00 pm – Preschool Christmas Craft and Singalong- parents invited
Tuesday 8th December - 5LL – Joy of Moving Workshop with Plymouth Argyle
T**uesday 8th December** - Reception and Preschool (3-year-olds) Nativity
Tuesday 8th December -1:30–2:00 pm – Christmas Raffle Live on Facebook
Tuesday 8th December - 4:30–5:00 pm – Performing Arts Club Christmas Market Performance, Plymouth City Centre
Wednesday 9th December - 2:00–3:00 pm – 1MM and 2RB Christmas Concert
Thursday 10th December - 2:00–3:00 pm –3VM and 4SM Christmas Concert
Friday 11th December - 2:00–3:00 pm – 5LL and 6LG Christmas Concert
Monday 14th December- Santa's Grotto
Tuesday 15th December - 5LL – Joy of Moving Workshop with Plymouth Argyle
Wednesday16th December - Christmas Lunch
Friday 18 December- Last day of Term 2

BE KIND *BE* DETERMINED, *BE* PROUD

CLASS UPDATES

Preschool

What a fantastic first term for Preschool! We are so proud of how well the children have settled and how happy they are to come to school. Our oldest children have shown such kindness to their new friends and it has been wonderful to see new friendships blossoming. Our first topic of the new school year 'Me and My World' has allowed children the opportunity to explore their classroom and outside area, settle into school life and build positive relationships with both the adults and other children in Preschool. We have learnt about routines, the importance of washing our hands, explored ways our body can move and named body parts. A favourite rhyme has been 'Clap, Clap Hands' and the children really enjoyed being able to move their bodies in different ways, stamping their feet was by far the most popular move! In our Foundations for Phonics sessions the children have had the opportunity to learn new rhymes each week and explore syllables, rhyme and alliteration as well as developing their listening skills. The children are already expanding the range of rhymes which they know and they enjoy singing these and exploring them further in our Independent Learning time. During number time our youngest preschoolers have developed an interest in number and counting by exploring a variety of different number rhymes and songs as well as play based experiences. Our oldest children have developed an understanding of the numbers 1, 2 and 3, practised counting small groups of objects accurately and used the words 'more', 'fewer' and the 'same' when comparing groups of objects. The children have loved our PE sessions and being able to play games in the hall to develop their spatial awareness and ways of travelling safely. In music we have focussed on a variety of different nursery rhymes and developed a love of playing musical instruments. What a wonderful start to the new school year!









Reception

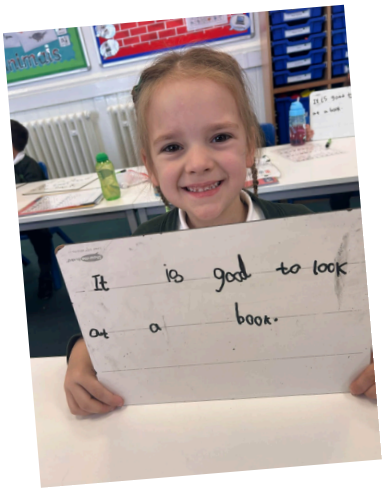
What a brilliant first term in Reception! The children have settled beautifully into school life, established their daily routines and begun to form some lovely friendships. It has been wonderful to see them grow in confidence, embrace new experiences and enjoy their first few weeks at school. Our learning has been centred around our 'Marvellous Me' topic, which has inspired some fantastic creativity. Taking inspiration from the artist Andy Warhol, the children have produced some truly impressive pieces of artwork. They have also thoroughly enjoyed learning and retelling our class story, Five Minutes' Peace, using Makaton actions to bring the story to life. In Phonics, the children have made fantastic progress in such a short time. They have quickly established their routines, learnt new phonemes and are beginning to blend sounds to read words. It is a joy to see them reading their Phonics books and applying their new skills with growing confidence. They have also been working hard to form their graphemes correctly and develop their handwriting. A huge thank you to all our families for supporting reading at home and logging your child's progress on BoomReader. Your support makes such a difference, and it is lovely to read your comments about how the children are applying their Phonics learning at home! In Maths, the children have been developing their understanding of numbers, while PE and Music have provided plenty of opportunities to explore, create and have fun. We are incredibly proud of everything the children have achieved in just seven weeks. They have worked so hard, made new friends and embraced their first term at school with such enthusiasm. What a wonderful start to their Reception journey! Next term, we look forward to diving into our exciting new topic, 'Underwater Explorers'. We hope you all enjoy a lovely and well-deserved half-term break!

CLASS UPDATES

Year 1

What a wonderful first term we have had in Year 1! The children have settled into their new routines beautifully and have made a fantastic start to their learning. It has been lovely to see their confidence grow as they become more independent and embrace the many exciting opportunities that Year 1 has to offer. We are incredibly proud of all they have achieved so far! In English, the children have been busy developing their writing skills. Inspired by our original class text, they wrote their own imaginative 'Knock, Knock' stories, using their creativity to develop characters and ideas. We also explored Hidden World: Ocean, which inspired the children to create their own information texts about different animals. They have worked hard to share facts and present their ideas clearly. In Maths, our focus has been on place value within 10, helping the children to recognise, represent and understand numbers. We have also explored addition and subtraction within 10, developing their confidence in solving calculations and explaining their mathematical thinking. Our Science learning has explored the five senses and the body parts that help us to see, hear, smell, taste and touch. We have also begun to investigate the changing seasons and the differences we can observe in the world around us. In PE, the children have been developing their fundamental movement skills, building coordination, balance and control. During PSHE, we have discussed how friendships are formed and what it means to be a good friend, including showing kindness, sharing and supporting others. In History, we travelled back in time to discover prehistoric animals! The children explored different species, learnt about their characteristics and investigated how and why these fascinating creatures eventually became extinct. It has been a joy to see the children approach their learning with such enthusiasm and curiosity. Thank you for your continued support throughout this first term.









Year 2

Year 2 have had a fantastic start to the year with lots of learning and lots of fun! Of course our highlight has to be our trip to Morwellham Quay as part of our History learning. The children really blew the staff away with their thoughtful questions and their great knowledge of Victorian Britain. It was a wonderful experience for them to see what they've been learning in the classroom come to life. In our English lessons this term, the children began the year writing stories based on the book Stuck by Oliver Jeffers. The children showed real imagination and enjoyed writing stories that will make other children laugh. We then moved onto instruction writing and learned how to use imperative verbs and adverbs in our writing. Over this term, Year 2 have written some great pieces. In Maths this term, we have been working hard on growing our knowledge of place value, addition and subtraction. Everyone has been working really hard to learn new concepts and it has been great to see the children using resources like Base 10 and bead strings to support their understanding. In Science, the children have loved learning about the needs of survival for different animal groups while in PE, we have been improving our fundamental skills in running, throwing and jumping. Across all areas of learning, Year 2 have shown lots of resilience and determination. Well done for an excellent start, Year 2!

CLASS UPDATES

Year 3



Year 3 has had a fantastic start to the year, and this term we have been thoroughly enjoying our History learning about Prehistoric Britain. The children have been fascinated by life in the Stone Age and full of curiosity and enthusiasm. A highlight of the term was our visit to Kents Cavern, where the children were able to bring their learning to life and discover more about our prehistoric past. We have also been making connections across the curriculum. In Art, the children created their own incredible cave paintings, while our class reading helped us imagine what life was like in prehistoric times. In English, the children became non-fiction authors, writing informative texts about extinct animals from the Stone Age. They did a wonderful job researching their subjects and are now ready to write their final piece. In Maths, we've been focusing on place value, addition and subtraction. The children have been developing their understanding of numbers and building confidence as they work through calculations. Year 3 should be very proud of all they have achieved so far. We're looking forward to seeing their learning and confidence continue to grow in the months ahead!

Year 4

What a busy and exciting first term we have had in Year 4! In English, the children were captivated by our magical unit, Leon and the Place Between. They let their imaginations run wild, writing their own incredible stories about the mysterious lands people might visit when magicians make them disappear! In Science, we have enjoyed exploring the wonderful world of living things, learning about different plants and animals and discovering how to group and classify them. In Art, we have explored the work of a variety of talented artists, including Nicola McBride and Sarah Graham, who create realistic artwork inspired by sweets. The children had great fun creating their own colourful collages before using them as inspiration for their own drawings. In History, we have thoroughly enjoyed travelling back in time to Ancient Rome! The children have been particularly fascinated by the Roman gods and goddesses, as well as the remarkable story of Boudicca.

Alongside all of our wonderful learning, there was also our residential trip to Magdalene Farm! We were so proud of the children's determination, resilience and growing confidence. What a fantastic start to Year 4. We are incredibly proud of the children's enthusiasm, creativity and hard work, we can't wait to see what the rest of the year brings!







BE KIND *BE* DETERMINED, *BE* PROUD

CLASS UPDATES

Year 5

What a fantastic start to the year it has been in Year 5! Class 5LL have settled in beautifully and enjoyed a busy month of learning across all subjects. In English, we've been reading Incredible Edibles, exploring unusual foods and imaginative ideas. The children have also written instructional texts, using imperative verbs, numbered steps and safety tips to create guides for elephant toothpaste and fizzy bottle rockets. We are also thoroughly enjoying How to Train Your Dragon in Whole Class Reading, exploring exciting adventures, character relationships and important messages about bravery and believing in yourself. In History, we travelled back to the fascinating Benin Kingdom in West Africa, learning about the powerful Oba, its art and trade, and its eventual decline. The children were amazed to discover that Benin City still exists in Nigeria today. In Maths, we have strengthened our understanding of place value, including partitioning and rounding numbers up to one million. We have also practised adding and subtracting and are now exploring multiples and factors, building confidence with these important skills. In PE, we have developed our netball skills, focusing on passing, shooting, teamwork and finding space in attack and defence. In French, we have been learning numbers up to 31, saying our birthdays and discussing our favourite days of the week. Finally, in Art, we have been inspired by architecture, developing our sketches by focusing on scale and proportion. A brilliant, energetic start to Year 5 - well done, 5LL!











Year 6

6LG have had an excellent start to their final year of Primary School! In English, after creating our own narratives for the wordless book Flood, children have loved exploring non-fiction texts from the 'Welcome to the Museum' series, particularly Animalium. Inspired by this, we have researched and written our own habitat pages in the same formal style. In Maths, we have been developing our skills with the four operations and are proud to have added long division to our skill set. We have also been thoroughly engaged in our first Whole Class Reading novel, Wolf Wilder, and are excited to discover what happens next! In Science, we have explored how living things are classified, created our own classification keys and begun investigating the fascinating world of microorganisms. We have enjoyed developing our volleyball skills in PE and building our collage and photography skills in Art, using technology to digitally alter images and emulate different artists' styles. In History, we have explored how Britain changed during the Industrial Revolution and the challenges these transformations brought for working-class people. Our visit to 'Bridging the Tamar' helped us discover how new technology transformed life in Plymouth. In French, we have been learning to speak and write about our lessons, when we study them and our opinions.

Our PSHE learning has helped us understand how our brains work and how to respond to stressful situations. We have explored rumination, neural pathways and the power of positive habits to improve our mental health. Great work, 6LG!

COMMUNITY BIKE HUB

Laira Green Primary School
Shaping hearts, minds and futures

Borrow a bike. Get moving. Feel better.

Active Travel Healthy Living

We have a selection of adult and children's bikes that families can borrow for a week –

Friday to Friday!



All you need to do is contact the office.

- More active travel
- Healthier families
- Stronger communities
- A greener future

Small steps. Big benefits.

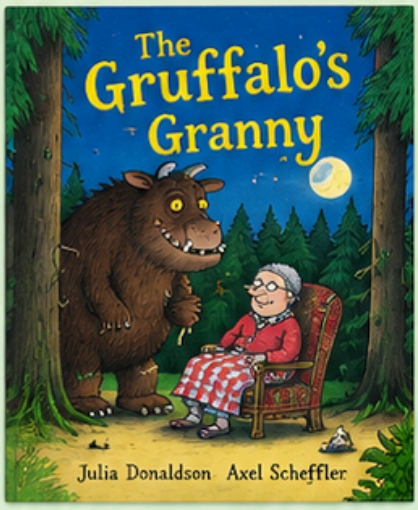
Great Books for Every Child

Read ♥ Imagine ♥ Grow

Stories for every stage, from little readers to big dreamers!

Different stages, same magic... BOOKS!

EYFS (Ages 3–5)



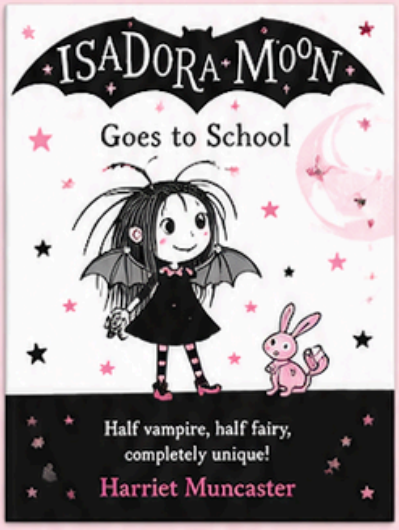
The Gruffalo's Granny

By Julia Donaldson & Axel Scheffler

A delightful, rhyming adventure full of courage, kindness and a very clever granny!

Perfect for building early reading skills and loving books!

KS1 (Ages 5–7)



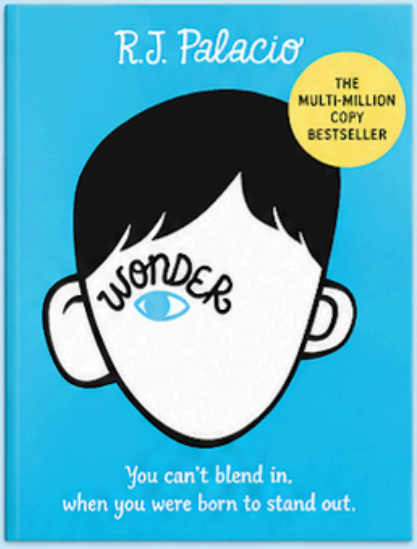
Isadora Moon Goes to School

By Harriet Muncaster

Meet Isadora Moon – part vampire, part fairy, 100% herself! A magical and funny story about friendship, school and being different.

Great for building confidence, imagination and independence!

KS2 (Ages 7–11)



Wonder

By R.J. Palacio

A truly heartwarming and thought-provoking story about kindness, acceptance and the power of being yourself.

Perfect for bigger readers, important conversations and a love of real-life stories.

♥ Little readers... big imaginations!

Good books – open big worlds

♥ The right book at the right time can change everything.

PTA COFFEE CLUB



Every Tuesday 8:45-10:00 in the DELL centre

Come along for a chat and a coffee.

Babies and toddlers welcome.

£1 per week.

Inclusion Update



Mrs Trembath is our Inclusion Leader and SENDCo.
If you have any questions or worries about your child, she is 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.

PARENT AND CARERS

Coffee and Chat

Mrs Trembath will be holding an informal drop in session to offer support to families, and provide a friendly, welcoming space to talk about any worries or concerns you may have about your child.
Whether you have questions about your child's needs, attendance, or their general wellbeing, Mrs Trembath is here to help.
Please feel free to pop in, have a chat and let us know how we can help.
We look forward to seeing you!

Wednesday 11th November

9am-10am
The Dell Centre



inclusion@lairagreen.plymouth.sch.uk

Inclusion Update

What is a Young Carer?

A Young Carer is someone under the age of 18 who is caring for a family member or friend who is ill, disabled or has mental health difficulties. A Young Carer often takes on practical and / or emotional caring responsibilities.











Do you think that you your child is taking on caring responsibilities at home?

Please let us know via the google form.

We can provide support, and welcome them to our Young Carers weekly club 'ME TIME' - giving children the chance to spend time with others who understand, and take part in fun activities!









inclusion@lairagreen.plymouth.sch.uk

cfhd
Children & Family Health Devon

Livewell Southwest

Children, Young People and Families Neurodiversity Wellbeing Team

We offer a free, confidential advice line for children, young people and families on the Neurodiversity Pathway in Plymouth, Devon and Torbay.

Advice can include:



- Anxiety
- Diet
- Friendships
- Sleep
- Linking with other teams and services in your area
- School difficulties
- Support strategies

Contact us: 01752 435404 **Monday - Friday, 09:00-17:00**

Have your say:

Share feedback to help us improve our services. Use the QR code to complete the questionnaire.

We support people to lead independent, healthy lives

inclusion@lairagreen.plymouth.sch.uk

Attendance Update

Attendance - holiday requests

We understand that booking family trips during the school holidays can be very expensive, and we recognise the frustration this causes. However, missing school can impact on your child's learning progress, friendships, confidence and development of personal skills.

Please remember we are unable to authorise holidays within term time (unless in exceptional circumstances).
We kindly request that you plan holidays/leave of absences during school holidays to minimise disruption in learning

Thank you so much for your continued support in helping your child make the most of every school day.

Holiday Penalty Notice

The Local Authority may issue a penalty notice for 10 unauthorised sessions (equivalent to 5 school days) within a rolling 10 school week period.

- A penalty of £80 (if paid in 21 days) or £160 (if paid within 28 days of being issued) will be issued per child, to each adult within the household.
- If a second penalty fine is issued to the same parent for the same child within a 3-year rolling period, the fine will automatically rise to £160 with no option to pay the lower rate of £80.
- If a parent then commits a third offence in a 3-year rolling period, other enforcement options may be used.







Laira Green Primary School
Shaping hearts, minds and futures

inclusion@lairagreen.plymouth.sch.uk

A Term in Pictures



















A Term in Pictures

















