



Loudwater Combined School

Learn, Create, Succeed

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LOUDWATER UPDATE

Friday 10th May 2024

Important Dates

Monday 13th May – Thursday 16th May – SATs week for Year 6

Monday 13th May – Year 5 visiting Flackwell Heath Library

Thursday 16th May – Y6 Residential Information Meeting

Tuesday 21st May – Reading Museum Trip for Year 3

Thursday 23rd May – Parents' Forum 7pm (see below for more details)

Some things to note:

Dolce – School Meals

Please be aware that we are reconsidering our school meal options from September and we would advise parents not to have a balance on their accounts that cannot be spent by the end of this term.

Names in Clothing

As the weather gets (slightly) warmer, the children are taking off coats and jumpers or hoodies. Please could you check that these items in particular are still clearly named and that new items are named before you send your child in wearing them.

Term Dates for Academic Year 2024/25 can be found [here](#)

Ofsted Visit

I am sure you are aware that this week Ofsted visited us on Wednesday and Thursday. Thanks to everyone, parents and children, who completed surveys to enable the inspectors to have a good understanding of our school community. The children were absolutely amazing throughout the two days, as they are always, and were able to speak knowledgeably to the inspectors about our school. I would also like to thank parents for the overwhelming positive comments I know they shared with the inspector on the playground on Wednesday. It takes approximately 30 working days for the report to be shared with all staff and parents, so we will be in touch when we are able to provide you with further information.

News from the classes this week:

Foundation Stage

We have had a lovely week in Foundation Stage. The sun has shone, our butterflies have emerged and we watched them flutter away.

In Phonics this week, we have learnt the new sounds "air" & "ure", as in chair / cure. We have also learnt to read the Tricky Words "have" & "there".

In Literacy and Expressive Arts & Design, we have been looking at the collage "The Snail", created by Henri Matisse. We learnt that it is a very large collage, and that Matisse started making collages when he found it harder to paint due to illness. We have started to make our own collages in the style of Matisse's work, and we are writing about "The Snail" too. In Guided Reading, we have enjoyed the story of What the Ladybird heard.

Our Maths learning this week has been about taking away. We have been using the currant bun song to help us understand subtraction, and have shown this using ten frames. We will continue with taking away next week.

The Reading Eggs programme has been provided by the school for us to use at home. You can access it via this website. Your individual login is in the front of the orange Home Reading Record book.

<https://readingeggs.co.uk/>

Year One

This week we have been introduced to our new English text. It is 'A First Book of Nature' by Nicola Davies. It is a beautiful book that we will be continuing to enjoy over the next 2 weeks. This week we have been busy investigating the nature around Loudwater School. We found evidence of foxes and badgers; we have seen tadpoles, butterflies and birds. We have also identified many of the interesting plants that we have around our school. We will be writing our very own information booklet about the nature and this week we have written an introduction to it.

In phonics, we have been reading and writing words with the sounds tch (as in hatching) and zh (made by s, si, ge as in treasure, television and collage)

In Maths, we have been busy doubling numbers and making equal groups. We have also been learning that odd numbers are made with an even number and an odd number.

We are excited that we have a new History topic. It is all about homes in the past. This week we have been learning about different homes that people can live in and thinking about what all of these homes have in common.

In PSHE, we have been learning about keeping ourselves safe around strangers in real life and online.

Useful websites

<https://readingeggs.co.uk/>

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/hit-the-button> (great for number bonds but also for doubling, focus on doubles to 20)

Year Two

On Tuesday, we enjoyed a day trip to Amersham Museum. We learned lots about toys from the past and explored old toys by touching, describing and asking questions about old toy artefacts. We then became toy makers and made a peg doll, thaumatrope and a cup and ball. You will have the opportunity of visiting our 'Class Toy Museum' after school in a couple of weeks.

In Phonics, we have been learning the sounds: 'c' as in cool, 'k' as in kite, 'ck' as in tick, 'ch' as in mechanic, 'r' as in run and 'rr' as in mirror. In Guided Reading, we have enjoyed the book 'Toys and Games' by Sally Hewitt. We have used our retrieval skills to find out about old toys from the 1950s and 1970s. In English, we have practised writing information sentences about owls. We have focused on using sentence openers, technical vocabulary and conjunctions. We have also planned our information texts about owls, which we will share with Year 3.

In Guided Maths, we have been making 20 e.g. $13 + 7$, $16 + 4$ and $12 + 8$ etc. In Maths, we have continued our fractions learning with a focus on thirds. We have explored finding thirds of a shape, number and set of objects. Our key learning is that thirds means to divide a whole

into three equal parts. Dividing a whole into three equal parts could be an activity to practise at home e.g. dividing a cake or a number of sweets.

In History, as well as our museum visit, we have looked at pictures of old dolls and teddy bears and ordered them on a timeline from oldest to newest. We looked at clues to help us decide how old they were. Some of the clues were the material they were made from and how worn they looked. In Computing, we composed a piece of music using Chrome Music Lab. In PE, we developed our fielding skills, including wicket keeping.

<https://readingeggs.co.uk/>

Year Three

In English this week, Year 3 have been practising writing from the perspective of different characters in the story of The Three Little Pigs. We used first person pronouns and wrote in the past tense trying not to be caught out by irregular verb endings.

In History, we have started learning about education. We looked at photos of the original Loudwater School, which was built in 1875 and learnt about what life was like for children in Victorian times. We did a hot-seating activity where the children pretended to be either a chimney sweep, a fruit picker or a worker in a mill and the rest of the class quizzed them about the dangers of their jobs.

This week in Maths, we have been learning about Time. We have learnt how to read Roman numerals up to 12 and have been telling the time using analogue clocks. We have also been telling the time in 5 minute intervals. We have used mini clocks to help us understand the minute past and minutes to the hour. In Computing, we have been using desktop publisher to create a poster. We used some of the tools to add and delete content, and to change the font size and style. Next week we will be designing posters. In PSHE, we have been learning about planning a healthy and balanced diet. We have learnt how to shop for healthy food and discussed what we can do to stay safe in the kitchen. We also compared and discussed the pros and cons of ready-cooked meals vs home-cooked meals. In PE, we learnt different types of passes in Handball and applied them in small-sided games.

Year Four

During our English lessons, we have continued using the text 'Why the Whales Came' by Michael Morpurgo. We have continued to read the story and inferred the characters' feelings, especially after getting lost in the fog and ending up on the mysterious Samson Island. We have thought about the importance of protecting whales and found out that some countries still actively hunt whales. We have thought of persuasive reasons to try to convince people to contribute to the conservation of these marine mammals. In order to make our arguments more convincing, we have used powerful adjectives in our expanded noun phrases and used conjunctions to write multi-clause sentences.

During our Maths lessons, we have finished off our work with decimals. We have put decimal numbers into ascending and descending order by comparing the digits with the highest value first. We have found out how to round decimals to the nearest whole number. We have also found out how to write one-half, one quarter, and three quarters as a decimal, linking this to our knowledge of tenths and hundredths.

In our History lessons, we started our new topic, the 'Railway Revolution'. We found out how goods were transported before trains and the advantages and disadvantages of this. We also learned about the Industrial Revolution and how the need for transport became more important during this time, leading to rapid developments in UK transport.

During our Spanish lessons, we have been practising our comprehension skills of a Spanish text describing likes and dislikes of animals. In PE, we have continued to practise our skills in both rounders and tennis. In Music, we continued to learn the song 'Favourite Song' and find out about different types of folk music played by Mumford and Sons and Bob Dylan.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/z94r3j6#zyjsn9q>

Year Five

In English this week, we have drafted and published our persuasive letters from the main character from Shaun Tan's *The Arrival*. Mrs PC is looking forward to reading these and being able to identify all of our focus features. In Guided Reading, we are now focussing on Elizabeth Laird's novel: 'Oranges in No-Man's Land', set in war-torn Beirut, Lebanon. Before reading the first chapter, we learnt about the context of the Lebanese Civil War (1975 – 1990) and empathised with civilians caught up in the fighting.

In Maths, we finished our Statistics unit and look forward to starting a new Shape unit of work next week. In Guided Maths, we continue to practise long multiplication, short division and adding & subtracting decimals with a different number of decimal places.

This week we began a new History unit of work about The Shang Dynasty. We found out when and where this civilisation existed and saw archaeological evidence proving that the Shang were real as, prior to 1899, they were thought to be a myth! In addition to this, we learnt about the structure of Shang society and learnt about how settlements around the Yellow River were organised. To demonstrate our learning, we each designed and labelled our own Shang city.

In Rounders, we developed and practised our backwards batting technique and base runs linked to this. In RE, we furthered our knowledge of pilgrimages by focussing on Hindu spiritual journeys to Varanasi, for example. We are now able to identify many similarities in the reasons why Christians, Muslims and Hindus may choose to go on a pilgrimage and how they might feel afterwards.

Click here to explore KS2 2D Shape objectives and useful videos: [2D shapes - KS2 Maths - BBC Bitesize](#)

Year Six

In English this week we have been editing and proof-reading our Charles Darwin biographies. When editing, we have worked hard to improve our writing by looking at the way we have started our sentences and ensuring we have used the most precise verbs, adjectives and adverbs. In Guided Reading, we have been practising how to answer some of the different types of questions that we might encounter in next week's assessments. In Spellings, we have been reviewing the use of apostrophes and created four rules to help us know when they should and should not be used.

In Maths, we have continued our learning on angles by finding missing angles in a triangle and explored quadrilaterals, discovering that their angles add up to 360°. We investigated finding the internal angles of polygons.

In History, we have started a new unit of learning based on our local history. We started by discussing the industries from the past that the Loudwater area is most well-known for – Paper making and chair making. We have started to explore the chair making industry of High Wycombe through a range of sources both primary and secondary. In PSHE, we focused on what is meant by a positive, healthy and loving relationship by exploring different types of relationships and the qualities, values and behaviours within them. In our Computing lesson on 3D modelling, we have used Tinkercad to create a desk tidy. We used all of skills from previous lessons and learnt how to create a hollowed-out cylinder. In RE, we consolidated our work on the UN Rights of the child and compared scenarios to the Articles of these rights.

Maths Whizz – <https://whizz.com/>

This forms part of the weekly home learning each week. The expectation is that 60 mins will be completed in total each week – this is measured from Friday to Thursday.

Local history website – great resource for our History unit – Local History

<https://www.localhistorygroup.org.uk/>

Year 6 Residential visit

This is fast approaching! We would like to invite parents and children to an information meeting on Thursday 16th May at 7pm. The purpose of the meeting is to outline the itinerary for the week and ensure that parents know what children will need to bring with them for the visit and what is not needed; it will be a device-free week. Please could we also remind parents that the balance of payment needs to be paid before the residential on the 10th June. If this presents anyone with any challenges, please speak to myself or one of the office staff and we will do all we can to help; our aim is that all of the Year 6 class will attend the residential. Please sign up on the Gateway to confirm your attendance.

Book Review

Please see [here](#) for a book review by Miss Underdown

Achievement Award Winners

	Foundation Stage	Year One	Year Two	Year Three	Year Four	Year Five	Year Six
03.05.24	Gunes	Evie	Evie	Harry	Tilly	Amine	Joseph
10.05.24	Gunes	Lacey	Dyuthi	Lillie J	Amelia	Azhaan	Mark

The following children have been recognised in achievement assembly for their good behaviour:

	Foundation Stage	Year One	Year Two	Year Three	Year Four	Year Five	Year Six
03.05.24	Harper Dylan S	Josiah Shaylee	Jess Bryony	Jake Eesa	Jaden Lucy	Mei Samuel	Callum Tilly
10.05.24	Liam Margot	James Rudi	Natan Prince	Mark Noemi	Miley Marcellus	Evalyn Mei	Max Narin

The following children, in KS2, have made particular efforts with Tables Rock Stars/ Maths Whizz:

	Times Tables Rock Stars/ Maths Whizz
03.05.24	Felicity – Y3 Alyssa – Y4 Amine – Y5 Eleithyia – Y6
10.05.24	Albert – Y3 Lakshmitha – Y4 Elliotte – Y5 Elizabeth – Y6

The following children have made particular efforts with Reading Eggs or Accelerated Reader.

	Reading Eggs	Accelerated Reader
03.05.24	Adam, Hallie – FS Faizan – Y1 Blake – Y2	Frankie – Y3 Thomas – Y4 Samuel – Y5

		Ruby – Y6
10.05.24	Hadi, Liam – FS Daisy – Y1 Dyuthi – Y2	Yanis – Y3 Rahin – Y4 Kelci – Y5 Finley – Y6

Attendance

	Foundation Stage	Year One	Year Two	Year Three	Year Four	Year Five	Year Six
03.05.24	95%	95%	93%	95%	93%	98%	98%
10.05.24	97%	97%	97%	96%	93%	97%	92%

Punctuality

Number of children arriving after their class start time.

	Foundation Stage	Year One	Year Two	Year Three	Year Four	Year Five	Year Six
03.05.24	2	1	3	1	3	2	6
10.05.24	2	0	3	2	1	4	5

House points for the week

	Beethoven	Mozart	Tchaikovsky	Elgar
03.05.24	287	295	338	323
10.05.24	234	265	276	268

Parents' Forum Meeting – PSHE Curriculum

Since September 2020 Personal, Social and Health Education has been a compulsory part of the school curriculum. Before the introduction of this curriculum, we consulted with parents to make them aware of the content of the curriculum and enabled them to ask any questions about the subject matter to be covered. We would like to offer parents this opportunity again as we recognise that there are many parents whose children have started school since 2020. The PSHE curriculum will be the main agenda item at the Parents' Forum meeting on Thursday 23rd May at 7pm. Attached to the newsletter is an overview document of the PSHE curriculum for your information. There is also information on the school website:

http://www.loudwater.bucks.sch.uk/web/personal_social_and_health_education_pshe/672103

Lending library – Adults Lending Library (ALL)

Our new lending library is now up and running. This is for adults and will be available for parents to borrow books to read themselves. We hope that over time parents will make use of our lending library and find it a useful resource. See the attached flyer for more details. On Tuesdays, we will continue to make our stock of second hand uniform available. On Wednesdays, our games lending library will be available at the front of school.

Online Safety

We have added some useful resources to our website. These are from the Online Safety Centre and provide information for parents about You Tube, Tik Tok and Roblox. You can find the information [here](#)

Yours faithfully

Clare Cunnington

Mrs C Cunnington

Head teacher

Disclaimer

From time to time, we are asked by a range of organisations to give out leaflets. We always agree if we think this could be of interest or benefit to the children. However, we do not endorse any of these organisations and parents should always check their credentials carefully to make sure children would be safe and well looked after.

LOUDWATER COMBINED SCHOOL

Calendar of events for 2023-24

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>May</u></p> <p>6th Bank Holiday 13th Year 6 SATs Week 16th Information Evening for Y6 residential 7pm 20th Year 5 Assessment Week 23rd Parents' Forum Meeting 7pm 27th – 31st Half term break</p>		
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>June</u></p> <p>3rd School Closed Training Day for teachers 4th Children return to School 10th – 14th Year 6 residential 10th – 14th Assessment Week Y1, Y3 & Y4 28th School Closed Training day for teachers</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>July</u></p> <p>2nd Secondary School Induction Day (Y6) New Parents Meeting 12th Sports Day 13th FOLS Summer Fete 16th Reserve Sports Day 22nd 7.00pm Y6 Leavers Production 23rd 9.30am Y6 Leavers Assembly School closes at 2pm for summer break</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Values Assemblies</u></p> <p>All Start at 9.05am 23.5.24 Trust Year 2 26.6.24 Self-belief Year 6 18.7.24 Friendship Foundation Stage</p>