



**Loudwater Combined School**

*Learn, Create, Succeed*

Head teacher:

Mrs. Clare Cunnington

a: School Way, Kingsmead Road

Loudwater, High Wycombe

Buckinghamshire

HP11 1JJ

t: (01494) 524919

e: [office@loudwater.bucks.sch.uk](mailto:office@loudwater.bucks.sch.uk)

w: [www.loudwater.bucks.sch.uk](http://www.loudwater.bucks.sch.uk)

## LOUDWATER UPDATE

Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2024

### Important Dates

**Monday 6<sup>th</sup> May** – Bank Holiday – School Closed

**Monday 13<sup>th</sup> May – Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> May** – SATs week for Year 6

**Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> May** – Y6 Residential Information Meeting

### 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 which cannot be spent by the end of this term.

#### **Snacks for After School Club**

If your child is booked in for after school club, please try to ensure they have a snack with them which they can have after school time ends.

#### **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. If your child takes it off at school and it is not named, you may well not get it back.

#### **Parking/ Driving up School Way**

**We are seeing the same families driving up to the school instead of walking.**

This is a private road for residents and staff of the school only. This applies even if you are bringing your child in for breakfast club, are late to the school or collecting from after school clubs. Please park on Kingsmead Road safely or at the car park and walk to the school. Please could we also ask you to be aware that there are a few parents who do drive up the hill for exceptional reasons; if you think this should apply to you please contact the office.

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

### News from the classes this week:

#### **Foundation Stage**

In Phonics this week, Foundation Stage has learnt the new sounds "oi" & "ear", as in boil / fear. We have also learnt to read the Tricky Words "were" & "when".

In Literacy, we have enjoyed the non-fiction book "Slugs and Snails". We have learnt lots of facts about slugs and snails, and have written some of these facts down to make our own class book. We have also made a snail garden and are observing the snails. We are investigating which type of food snails like to eat best. We put in cucumber, carrot, tomato and lettuce. The cucumber disappeared very quickly. The carrot has now all gone. There is still a bit of tomato left, but all the lettuce is still there. We have concluded that

they like cucumbers best, which is a surprise, as we knew they liked leaves, so we thought the lettuce would be their favourite.

Four of our caterpillars are in their chrysalides, but one of them has emerged as a beautiful butterfly. We were expecting it to take longer than it has, as it is only about a week since they started to form their chrysalides.

Our Maths learning this week has been about addition. We have been using 10 frames with double sided counters, to show how to add 2 numbers together. We have been saying the number sentence that we have created. We have also been checking our number recognition and formation, and counting beyond 20.

We would like to say a big thank you to the parents who walked with us to Flackwell Heath library on Monday. We have got some lovely books to share in class and we couldn't make the journey there, without extra adult support.

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 completed our work on 'Hansel and Gretel'. We have really enjoyed both of the versions that we have shared. This week we have been sequencing Bethan Woollvin's version of the story. We worked in pairs to do this. We then wrote sentences to match the pictures that we sequenced. We wrote them in the past tense. This was a bit tricky but we worked hard and wrote some amazing sentences. We have also worked hard on planning and writing our very own version of Hansel and Gretel. We have written them to share with our families so I hope you enjoy them.

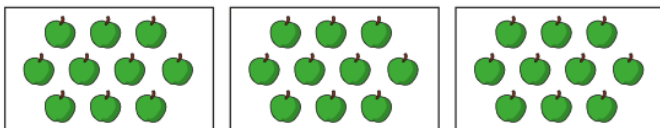
In Phonics, we have been reading and spelling words with gn and wr. We identified the fact that both of these sounds have a silent letter. Our focus words this week have been Mr and Mrs.

In Guided Reading, we have loved the story of 'The Storm Whale' by Benji Davies. This is a lovely story that we have all thoroughly enjoyed. We have been working really hard at retrieving clues from the text and from the pictures. We were very glad that the story had a happy ending!

In Maths we have been focussing on finding equal groups. We have enjoyed playing dice games and drawing representations to support our learning. We have also been finding totals by adding equal groups and writing number sentences to match our pictures.

Here is an example...

- How many apples are there?



Use ten frames and counters to help you complete the sentences.

$$10 + 10 + 10 = \underline{\quad}$$

There are          apples altogether.

In Science we have enjoyed observing the changes in our cress and most of us also enjoyed tasting it! We then sequenced the lifecycle of cress.

In PSHE we have been reminding ourselves how to keep safe around people we do not know. Useful websites

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

<https://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/resources/phase/2/picnic-on-pluto> (choose any phase as we have covered them all!)

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/times-tables/coconut-multiples> (keep practicing the multiples of 2, 5 and 10)

## Year Two

In Phonics, we have been revising the sounds: 'n' as in name, 'nn' as in dinner, 'kn' as in knee, 'gn' as in design, 'm' as in man, 'mm' as in hammer and 'mb' as in thumb. In Guided Reading, we have finished reading 'The Owl Who Was Afraid of the Dark'. We used the reading skills of inference and retrieval to think about how Plop has changed over the story and why these changes have occurred. Please see [here](#) and [here](#) for some of our published writing.

In English, we have begun a new writing unit. We are learning how to write an information text about owls. We explored examples of information texts about owls and looked at their features. Then we learned some technical words related to owls e.g. talons, prey and camouflage. We also learned how to write informative captions to match different pictures of owls. Finally, we explored the purpose of sub-headings and sorted owl facts into categories using sub-headings.

In Guided Maths, we have been learning how to find missing numbers e.g.  $9 + \underline{\quad} = 15$  or  $15 - 9 = \underline{\quad}$ . We learned that you can use addition to count on or subtraction to count back. In Maths, we have started a new unit of learning on Fractions. We have identified half and a quarter of a shape, number or amount.

In PSHE, we discussed the importance of sleep and what might keep you awake and help you to sleep. In Science, we learned what the seven signs of life are and what a habitat is. We considered which habitat some animals live in and why they are suited to that habitat. In Computing, we used art to represent a piece of music before composing our own musical art on ChromeMusicLab using the Kadinsky tab. In PE, we have developed our bowling skills by practising the techniques used when bowling overarm and underarm.

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

Maths home learning – practise cutting food items or a number of objects into 2 equal parts to make half or 4 equal parts to make quarters.

### **Year Three**

In English, Year 3 have been writing their own fables, each with a moral lesson. The setting of these fables varied, from lush, green forests to bustling towns. The children used adjectives and adverbs to introduce and describe their animal characters and direct speech to help bring their characters to life and move their stories along.

In Guided Reading sessions, we have continued reading "Storm," reflecting on Annie's decisions and contemplating whether they would make similar choices in her shoes.

In Maths, we have been learning about money this week. We have learnt how to convert pounds and pence, and learnt about the value of different types of money. We have also learnt how to add and subtract money using various forms of methods and resources. In addition, we have learnt how to find change from amounts. In Computing, we have continued learning about Desktop Publisher. This week, we have been learning how to use place holders to create templates for leaflets and invitations. In PSHE, we have been learning about making healthier choices with selecting food and drinks. We discussed scenario cards and made the healthier choice for each scenario. We also learnt some techniques on how to overcome negative influences.

In Science, Year 3 delved into the fascinating world of rocks and soil formation. They learned about the processes behind fossilisation and soil formation and carried out an investigation to show the composition of the soil in the school grounds. In PE, we have continued learning the basic skills about Rounders and Handball.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/class-clips-video/true-stories-mary-anning/zn7gd6f>

[How much have I spent? - BBC Bitesize](#)

[Times Tables Rock Stars: Play \(ttrockstars.com\)](https://www.ttrockstars.com/)

### **Year Four**

We have continued with our text 'Why the Whales Came' during our reading and writing lessons this week. We have read up to the point in the story where Gracie and Daniel are stuck on Samson Island. We used the cliff-hanger at the end of this chapter to predict what might happen next and write our own next chapters. For this, we have tried hard to include setting descriptions, correctly punctuated speech and suspense writing.

In our Maths lessons, we have continued with our work learning about decimals. We have worked hard to secure our understanding of tenths and hundredths by using place value counters and place value charts. We partitioned decimals into tenths and hundredths in different ways, for example  $0.47 = 0.4 + 0.07$  and  $0.47 = 0.3 + 0.17$ . We also looked at how we can add decimals up to one whole, and compared two decimals by using greater than, less than and equal to symbols.

During our Science lessons, we continued learning about electricity by building circuits and incorporating a switch. We learned about how the switch breaks or completes the circuit which allows the electricity to flow through it. In our other science lessons, we analysed the different invertebrates that we have found in our school environment, and thought about the impact that humans have on living things habitat's, and steps we can take to support living things. In Computing, we learned the difference between a repeat procedure and a count-controlled loop, and practised instances in which we would use these two different instructions. In our PSHE lesson we thought about what responsibilities pet owners have to look after their pets. In our PE lessons, we refined our fielding skills in rounders by thinking about team positioning and blocking the path of the ball. We also practised our backhand shots in tennis. In our music lesson, we played the chords C, G and A minor on a count of 4, along with the chorus from *Favourite Song*.

<https://trockstars.com/>

## Year Five

In Guided Reading and English lessons this week, we have been empathising with the main character in Shaun Tan's graphic novel: 'The Arrival'. We thought carefully about the challenging and positive experiences he goes through in the story and what he might include in a letter to his wife and daughter persuading them to join him. We practised writing structured short paragraphs beginning with a fronted adverbial and tried hard to include high-level conjunctions such as *despite* and *although*. In addition to following this structure, we ensured we linked to an experience we identified and then used it to encourage his family to join him. Here is an example: *When you arrive, you may be surprised and perhaps a little shocked by the array of new foods here although I know we will enjoy tasting them together and I can't wait.* In Spellings, we began a new unit of work on homophones and near-homophones including tricky pairs: aloud/allowed descent/descend.

In Maths, we continued with our Statistics unit where we have practised reading and interpreting graphs and tables.

In Science, we finished our 'Life' documentary scripts (in which we compared and contrasted life cycles across the animal kingdom) and recorded this as a blog/podcast with our partner. In our Earth & Space lesson, we learnt how our planets move around the Sun and discussed which force keeps them in Space (gravity). In RE, we considered why Muslims might go on the Hajj pilgrimage to Mecca and made contrasts and comparisons with the Christians' experience on The Two Saints Way pilgrimage we learnt about last week. In Rounders, we developed and practised our over-arm throwing technique and combined this with a focussing on fielding efficiently.

Watch *The Arrival* by Shaun Tan again here to ensure you are fully prepared to draft your persuasive letters from the man to his wife and daughter next week:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XJc3Ew2CBEE>

## Year Six

In English this week we have continued to write our biographies of Charles Darwin focusing on his school life, voyages and discoveries. We have worked hard to include complex sentences which include a relative clause, using adverbial starters and a range of 'add' and 'but' conjunctions such as: as well as, in addition to, furthermore, however and despite this. In Guided Reading, we have been reading chapters 3 to 6 of Darwin's Dragons by Lindsay Galvin, focusing on the vocabulary used and the reading skills of retrieval, inference, prediction and summarising. In Spellings, we have been reviewing homophones such as stationary/stationery, profit/prophet and principal/principle.

In Maths, we completed our learning on Statistics by calculating the mean of a set of data. We learnt that the mean is the average of a set of data and that it can be calculated by adding all the data together and then dividing the total by the number of data items. We then started a

new unit – Shape – where we measured angles using a protractor, calculated angles using the knowledge that angles in a right-angle add up to 90°, adjacent angles on a straight line add up to 180°, angles around a centre point add up to 360° and that vertically opposite angles are equal. We have also explored angles in a triangle and have recognised that they add up to 180°.

In Science we have started a new unit of learning – The Circulatory System. We looked at the main parts (heart, lungs, arteries and veins) and their functions within the system. We have also explored blood. We looked at the components of blood and their functions eg red blood cells – carry oxygen around the body. We then made blood using different foods eg rice krispies and apple juice to represent the different parts. We also wrote haiku poems to describe the role of red blood cells, white blood cells, platelets and plasma. In PSHE we have extended our learning about puberty by considering the changes that might occur alongside it, including moving to secondary school and the new feelings, roles and responsibilities that accompany becoming more independent. In our Computing lesson on 3D modelling, we have used Tinkercad to rotate objects in three dimensions, duplicate objects, and then use grouping and ungrouping to manipulate many objects at once. We then combined these skills to create our own 3D name badge. In RE, we looked at the UN Rights of a Child and discussed scenarios which could affect us and those around us. This week in class we have been enjoying the music of Aretha Franklin.

Website

Maths Whizz – See link:<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 next 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 16<sup>th</sup> 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 10<sup>th</sup> 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 Harris.

Last week's book review by Miss Weston has also been attached [here](#) again as some families had issues accessing the link.

### Citizen of the Month

	Foundation Stage	Year One	Year Two	Year Three	Year Four	Year Five	Year Six
03.05.24	Eddie	Yan	Jamie	Lillie J	Thomas	Jensen	Julia

### Value of the Month Awards

	Foundation Stage	Year One	Year Two	Year Three	Year Four	Year Five	Year Six
03.05.24	Leo C	Daisy	Avaya	Zak	Kallia	Mannan	Eleithyia

### Achievement Award Winners

	Foundation Stage	Year One	Year Two	Year Three	Year Four	Year Five	Year Six
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03.05.24	Gunes	Evie	Evie	Harry	Tilly	Amine	Joseph
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**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

**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

**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

### 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%

### 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

### House points for the week

	Beethoven	Mozart	Tchaikovsky	Elgar
03.05.24	287	295	338	323

### Free Parenting Clinic

*This information is from Anisa Lewis, a parenting coach, who Gemma has recommended in the past.*

The Early Years (3 to 8 year olds) 9th May @12.30pm

The Early Years of a child's life are about discovery, independence and emotions. It can be an incredibly trying time in our parenting journey as our children need us for so much and are pushing boundaries left, right and centre. We can often feel underqualified for what our children are throwing at us and do not know which way to turn.

Join Anisa (Parenting Coach) on the 9th of May for her monthly Free Parenting Clinic, this talk is focused on the Early Years (3 to 8-year-olds) and what we can do to support ourselves and our young people.

Join us on Zoom, for the 30-minute talk.

Book here:

<https://anisalewis.as.me/theclinic>

or

email: [hello@anisalewis.com](mailto:hello@anisalewis.com) for the booking link

(The Clinic is recorded and the replay is sent out to all who register to attend)

### **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 23<sup>rd</sup> 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](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.

### **Let Me Play**

Please see the attachment [here](#) for details of the May and Summer fun days they are holding

### **Robot Reg**

Please see [here](#) for a leaflet regarding phonics classes held by an external company.

### **Adult Learning Opportunities**

Please see [here](#) for details of adult learning opportunities in Bucks.

**School Support Courses**

Please see [here](#) for details of courses available to book.



## LOUDWATER COMBINED SCHOOL

### Calendar of events for 2023-24

<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>April</u></b></p> <p>15<sup>th</sup> Children return to School Week beginning 22<sup>nd</sup> Parent /Teacher Consultations (FS-Y5)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>May</u></b></p> <p>6<sup>th</sup> Bank Holiday 13<sup>th</sup> Year 6 SATs Week 16<sup>th</sup> Information Evening for Y6 residential 7pm 20<sup>th</sup> Year 5 Assessment Week 23<sup>rd</sup> Parents' Forum Meeting 7pm 27<sup>th</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup> Half term break</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>June</u></b></p> <p>3<sup>rd</sup> School Closed Training Day for teachers 4<sup>th</sup> Children return to School 10<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> Year 6 residential 10<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> Assessment Week Y1, Y3 &amp; Y4 28<sup>th</sup> School Closed Training day for teachers</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>July</u></b></p> <p>2<sup>nd</sup> Secondary School Induction Day (Y6) New Parents Meeting 12<sup>th</sup> Sports Day 13<sup>th</sup> FOLS Summer Fete 16<sup>th</sup> Reserve Sports Day 22<sup>nd</sup> 7.00pm Y6 Leavers Production 23<sup>rd</sup> 9.30am Y6 Leavers Assembly School closes at 2pm for summer break</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Values Assemblies</u></b></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>