



**Loudwater Combined School**

*Learn, Create, Succeed*

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# LOUDWATER UPDATE

## Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2024

Dear Parents,

### Important Dates

**Monday 12<sup>th</sup> February – Friday 16<sup>h</sup> February** – Half term break

**Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February** - Y6 visit to Flackwell Heath Library

**Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> February** – Book Fair in School (see below for more details)

News from the classes this week:

### Foundation Stage

In Phonics this week, Foundation Stage has recapped all the sounds we have learnt this term. We have been very excited to have completed the first Sounds Mat, and have already started on the second one, which we will complete at the end of this school year. We have also learnt the Tricky Words her and they.

In Literacy we have completed our work on the Gingerbread Man. We have all written the words that he said as he ran away from all the other people in the story.

In Maths we have continued working on odd and even numbers. We have also been working on double numbers and working out what they come to.

In our topic work we have been learning about the Cottingley Fairies. This is a true story that happened over 100 years ago. We have been to the woods where we photographed fairies and then we changed the colour on the computer to make them black and white, like Elsie and Frances's photos. We have talked about why their photos were black and white.

After the half term we will start our topic about bears. To start it off we will be looking at our teddy bears, so we would really appreciate a photograph of your child's favourite bear (Or cuddly toy, if they don't have a teddy). If you could put one in their book bag over half term, that would be great, or if it is easier - email the photo to me or the school office.

Thanks, as always for your 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

The highlight of our week has been our DT project where we had to make a healthy snack. We all loved making our very own couscous snack by chopping, snipping and adding vegetables. There were safety rules we had to follow and we all did a brilliant job!

In English, we have continued to enjoy the story of 'Stanley's stick'. We wrote our own adventure story for Stanley's new stick. We had some super ideas. In guided reading, we enjoyed 'The Tiny Seed' by Eric Carle. This tells the story of the dangers a seed faces before it grows into a beautiful flower. In phonics, our focus sounds have been or written as oor and or written as augh (caught). Our focus words to read and spell have been once and please. We have been reading sentences with these words and matching them to pictures.

In Maths, we have been busy doubling numbers and finding near doubles. An example of a near double is  $5 + 6$ . The easy way to work this out is to double the 5 and add 1. We have also been continuing to practice our number bonds to 10 and 20.

In art we enjoyed creating our own textile version of a bird or insect in the style of Joan Miro.

Useful websites

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

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/hit-the-button>

## **Year Two**

In Phonics, we have been revising the rules for making a contraction e.g. what is = what's. We have read contractions and written contractions, including the expanded form. We have read the contraction in context to decide which words have been contracted in the sentence. In Guided Reading, we read the next chapter of 'The Diary of a Killer Cat'. We used our retrieval skills to extract information from the text. In English, we planned and wrote our own version of the Rumpelstiltskin fairy tale.

In Maths, we have been focusing on quizzes to show what we have learned and what we need to learn next. We also completed the next few lessons of our Multiplication and Division unit. In these we learned how to use the 'x' sign to multiply two numbers and we used arrays to represent our calculations.

In PSHE, we discussed and set our goals for the future! In Computing, we made predictions about where our Beebot Robots would land on a map, after we had given it some instructions. We also enjoyed a DT day where we planned and made a portable snack. We designed and made our own wrap. We then evaluated how successful it was. I hope you enjoyed tasting it! In PE, we learned how to make a frog jump and used these successfully in a race.

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

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/times-tables/coconut-multiples>

## **Year Three**

In English this week, we have been continuing to look at instructions. We have practised writing command sentences using imperative verbs and improving them by including adverbs and adjectives to make our sentences more descriptive. We have really enjoyed planning and designing our own Seawigs, inspired by our class text 'Oliver and the Seawigs', and have ended the week by writing instructions explaining how to make one.

In Maths, we have been learning more about length and perimeter. We have been converting and comparing measurements using meters, centimetres and millimetres. We have also been measuring and adding lengths.

In PE, we have continued learning about different types of splits in gymnastics, as well as applying the basic skills in small-sided hockey games. In Computing, we have been using coding to create music using different sprite instruments. In PSHE, we have completed our learning about family changes. In Art, we have been looking at the still life paintings of the Dutch painter Pieter Claesz. We were really impressed with how realistic his paintings were and initially thought they were photos. After looking at many of his artworks carefully and studying his style of painting, we had a go at painting our own still life with fruit, flowers and a glass. The glass was particularly challenging to paint! In Music, we completed our Latin dance unit by practising our salsa steps, and watching several Cuban songs being performed. We accompanied these songs using our own rhythm on percussion instruments.

<https://trockstars.com/>

<https://learnenglishkids.britishcouncil.org/listen-watch/short-stories/lion-mouse>

## **Year Four**

This week in Year 4, we have had a busy time with assessments as it was assessment week. We put our knowledge to the test in maths, spelling, grammar and punctuation, as well as reading. In our English lessons, we have been working on our Coraline stories. We carefully plotted our stories using a story mountain and incorporated the different plot points from our story plans. We continued with show not tell sentences with the characters that we have created, bringing our stories to life.

In mathematics, we completed our unit on multiplication and division. We applied our understanding of factors to solve correspondence problems. We also tackled various calculations efficiently by using the most suitable multiplication method.

During our Art lessons, we sculpted birds using clay. We then added vibrant colours to our sculptures by painting them with acrylic paints. Design Technology allowed us to explore the realm of delicious dips. We sampled a variety of them, and following a recipe, we created our very own hummus. It was great to see how simple ingredients could come together to make a tasty dip. In PE, we honed our hockey skills through small-sided games. Applying our knowledge and techniques, we had an opportunity to showcase our teamwork and sportsmanship. In our gymnastics lesson we worked on different movements, including the shoulder stand and cartwheel. We incorporated these movements into our routines, creating performances to show all that we have learned in this unit of work. In our computing lessons we created our podcasts by recording the different parts and using our editing skills.

<https://www.bbcgoodfood.com/recipes/hummus>

## **Year Five**

We have worked very hard this week and completed the Spring Term assessments in Maths, Reading, Spelling and GPS (Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling). As soon as these have all been marked we will be able to bring them home.

In addition to this, we have also planned, drafted and proofread an independent narrative quest adventure inspired by Vashti Hardy's novel: '*Brightstorm*'. This week has also been a Design & Technology focus week. In our first lesson, we tasted and described six different cooked seasonal vegetables including sweet potato, parsnip, tender-stem broccoli, carrot, onion and swede. We then learnt and practised cutting techniques (bridge hold and claw grip) on cucumber and honeydew melon and were able to eat the fruit afterwards! Next, we worked in small groups to prepare, chop and cook seasonal vegetables for a nutritious and economical vegetable soup. We had to compromise on our vegetable choices and many of us who thought we disliked soup, ended up really enjoying what we had made. Lots of us have said we think we could prepare a soup for our families to try over the half term break. Don't panic parents as we also had to wash and dry up in our cooking lessons so are more than capable of doing this at home!

Remember to keep up with your Maths Whizz over the half-term break: [Online Maths Tutor For 5-13yr Olds | Mathematics Tutor | Whizz Education](#)

Please have a look at the following reading recommendations for Year 5. Remember that reading or team-reading an enjoyable but challenging book can help us to expand our vocabulary and improve our reading fluency and comprehension. [Best Books for Year 5 | Ages 9-10 | The Reader Teacher](#)

After half term in PSHE, Year 5 will be learning about how we will grow and change, and this links directly to our future Science unit based around the human life cycle.

Over the next few weeks, we will be learning about:

- Some of the physical changes experienced during puberty.
- The scientific vocabulary for external male and female body parts/genitalia.
- What happens during menstruation (periods).
- What is meant by ejaculation and wet dreams.
- The importance of personal hygiene during puberty.
- How and why emotions may change during puberty.
- Who we can ask if we have further questions about puberty.

This curriculum content is statutory and does not form part of the RSE (Relationships and Sex Education) Curriculum. However, if there is anything further you would like to know about this unit of learning please contact Mrs Cunnington.

## **Year Six**

In English this week we have written, edited and proof-read our balanced arguments for the question – Graffiti – vandalism or acceptable art? We made sure that we had an equal amount of points and evidence for and against graffiti to show that our writing was not biased so that the reader could make up their own mind. In Spellings we have been revising the spelling

pattern for words ending with -sure and -ture. In Guided Reading, we have been reviewing our recent reading assessments.

In Maths, we have continued our algebra learning. We have formed expressions eg  $2y + 1$ , substituted in values for the unknown, written and used formulae and formed equations eg  $2y + 1 = 7$ . This is new learning to Year 6 and although some aspects of algebra have proved to be challenging, we have all worked really hard to secure our understanding.

Our Art unit has been focused on textiles and we have used Calendulas Cloak by Jann Haworth as our inspiration. We have created a 'soft sculpture' using 4 pieces of material to represent the 4 seasons. We practised our sewing skills, focusing mainly on running stitch and back stitch. In PSHE we have been explored how online content is targeted to the reader and thought about 5 ways to stay safe when searching online. In RE we have consolidated our learning on the various religions and world view creation stories by discussing who has responsibility for caring for the world. We also considered whether human life is more important than other life. In Computing we created our own falling game using variables. This week we have been enjoying the music of Take That.

Website

Maths Whizz – See link below

<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.

KS2 Arithmetic

A great site – Arithmetic questions available as a free resource in the Primary section.

<https://mathsbot.com/>

### **Usborne Book Fair**

I am delighted to let you know that Usborne Books will be in school on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> February. The children will have an opportunity to look at the books during the afternoon. If you are able to come to school to look at the books with your child, we will be delighted to see you after school in the hall. If, however, you are unable to attend, you can either choose a book from the complete online catalogue at [www.readingtree.co.uk](http://www.readingtree.co.uk) and send in details to school, or let your child choose books from the display for you to order online. Please use this link to order and pay by BACS <https://forms.gle/2R4YiwsY1pff8YNa8>

We have chosen Usborne Books, not only because of the quality of their, but also because of their generous free book package. If a total of £600 is spent, we will have £360 in free books for our library! So please use this opportunity to stock up on books, not only for your family bookshelf, but also for birthdays or other gifts!

Books can be bought and taken away on the day. Any orders placed will be ordered and back to school in the next couple of weeks. You can pay with cash or debit/credit card. I hope you will feel able to support this event.

### **Punctuality**

We are always pleased to see so many children waiting in the morning for the gates open so they can come to school. Most of our children consistently arrive on time – or sometimes earlier for breakfast club, Nesy or OT club – and we greatly appreciate this. Children who are at school on time are able to engage with a variety of learning opportunities as soon as they get into class. Each class teacher aims to create a range of learning tasks across the week to support children in consolidating or deepening their understanding of things that they have already learned. Research shows that this kind of regular practise supports children in remembering what they have learned in the longer term.

Children who do not get to school punctually are not able to take advantage of these opportunities and I would urge those parents who are not always able to get their children to school on time to think about what their child could be missing. Although we never draw attention amongst the children to the time that they arrive, being the last or one of the last to go into class can be a challenge for some pupils, creating anxiety around their start to the day. We also notice that a number of children who, whilst they do not arrive late, are frequently one of the last to arrive meaning that they too are not accessing this learning at the start of the day. If there is anything

we can do to support you in getting your child or children to school more punctually, please do not hesitate to ask either Gemma or myself.

### **Pupil Premium Eligibility**

The Pupil Premium is additional funding that the government gives to schools for each pupil on roll where their parents receive certain benefits. The money is spent on that pupil to support their education, and is for the school to determine how it is spent. As well as the money the school receives, your child may be eligible for a free school meal even if they are in Key Stage 2. Your child or children can get a Free School Meal or the pupil premium if you, your partner or the child is receiving one of the benefits below:

- Income Support
- Income Based Jobseekers Allowance (JSA(IB)) - Not JSA(Contribution based)
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance (ESA(IR) support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Child Tax Credit, provided you are not entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual income (as assessed by Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs) that does not exceed **£19,995**.
- The Guarantee element of State Pension Credit.
- Universal Credit

Parents can apply for free school meals through the school office; this is a quick and simple process. All you need is your National Insurance Number, date of birth, name and child's details and an eligibility check can be carried out using Buckinghamshire Council's Eligibility Checking System, this will confirm if details have been matched or not. It will not tell us what benefits you are in receipt of, dates when a benefit was awarded or say how much you receive. The check should be complete within 5-10 working days. If you would like to check your eligibility please let the office know.

### **Internet Safety**

During this week, all our children have watched the Internet Legends Internet safety assembly. This is the link for information for parents if you wish to watch the video again with your child or would just like more information: <https://youtube.com/live/zGfMFGGr8JZI?feature=share>

Please also see attached to the newsletter information from Cyber Choices who are offering webinars to support parents awareness of possible dangers for children and young people and how to stay safe online.

### **Achievement Award Winners**

	Foundation Stage	Year One	Year Two	Year Three	Year Four	Year Five	Year Six
02.02.24	Hadi	Millie-Lou	Bentley	Ahil	Justyna	Jake	Leo
09.02.24	Aubrey	Braylee	Avaya	Noemi	Emily	Esme	Kata

**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
02.02.24	Dylan K Ruairi	Eshal Evie	Scarlett Sienna	Jake Noemi	Emily Oliver	Jake Jensen	Narin Callum
09.02.24	Amina Dylan K	Carrie Sarah	Sam Rose	Marley Lillie J	Thomas Diya	Charlie Ryan	John Hyukjoon

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

	Times Tables Rock Stars/ Maths Whizz
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02.02.24	Ronnie – Y3 Kallia – Y4 Aoife-Rose, Elliotte, Brooklyn – Y5 Julia – Y6
09.02.24	Christopher – Y3 Alyssa – Y4 Aoife-Rose – Y5 Eleithya – Y6

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

	Reading Eggs	Accelerated Reader
02.02.24	Finn – FS Harry – Y1 Sam -Y2	Mark – Y3 Amelia – Y4 Samuel – Y5 Hyukjoon – Y6
09.02.24	Liam – FS Harper – FS Julia – Y1 Holly – Y2	Marley – Y3 Aadya – Y3 Scarlett – Y4 Binon – Y5 Joseph – Y6

### Attendance

	Foundation Stage	Year One	Year Two	Year Three	Year Four	Year Five	Year Six
02.02.24	86%	87%	92%	87%	99%	95%	90%
09.02.24	93%	96%	92%	93%	90%	95%	93%

### Attendance for the first half term of Spring 2024

🎉 Well done to **Year Six** for having the highest attendance during this half term!

### The following children all received certificates for achieving 100% attendance

Foundation Stage	Year One	Year Two	Year Three	Year Four	Year Five	Year Six
Saraya	Zoe	Janeil	Nyah	Marcellus	Caleb	Joshua
Harper	Rudi	Ailbe	Marius	Scarlett	Paige	Tilly
Leo A	Emma	Evie	Albert	Lucy	Imogen	Elizabeth
Leo C	Carrie	Jessica	Noemi	Lakshmitha	Ryan	Breagha
Ruairi	Miley-Rose	Bentley	Elsie	Tilly	Emily	Kealan
Aubrey	Lilly	Harrison	Oscar	Justyna	Mei	Evan
Stefan	Yan	Prince	Ahil	Mason	Samuel	John
Eddie	Eshal	Sithuli	Jake	Diya	Darcy	Narin
Frankie	Dexter	Sienna	Felicity	Thomas	Denise	Julia
Jacob	Lacey	Maya	Abbie	Magda	Kelci	Callum
Liam	Amelia	Jamie	Maisie	Kallia	Evalyn	Charlie
Finn				Dylan	Isla	Freddie
Nancy				Pippa		Ruby
				Ruben		Mark
				Raees		Finley

## Punctuality

Number of children arriving after their class start time.

	Foundation Stage	Year One	Year Two	Year Three	Year Four	Year Five	Year Six
02.02.24	1	1	6	2	2	4	0
09.02.24	1	0	3	3	1	0	2

## House points for the week

	Beethoven	Mozart	Tchaikovsky	Elgar
02.02.24	243	226	264	248
09.02.24	144	167	186	188



## Pen Licenses

Justyna - Y4  
 Ollie - Y4  
 James - Y4  
 Scarlett - Y4  
 Mason - Y4  
 Lucy - Y4

## Vacancies for learning support assistants

We currently have vacancies for support assistant roles. Three roles are available and are all part time. Two roles are to work with a pupil in Key Stage 1 and the other to work with a pupil in Key Stage 2. You can find out more information on our website [here](#)

## Update from Gemma (Family Support Adviser)

Gemma's contact details: Work mobile number: 07792 142825.School email: [gnortheast@loudwater.bucks.sh.uk](mailto:gnortheast@loudwater.bucks.sh.uk)

### The Nurturing Programme – Mental Health Support Team

The Nurturing programme will be run by the MHST at Millbrook Combined School from February to May and it is available to parents and carers at Loudwater Combined School.

It will focus on the following areas:

- Understanding why children behave as they do
- Recognising the feelings behind behaviours
- Exploring different approaches to discipline
- Finding ways to develop co-operation and self-discipline in children
- Learning the importance of looking after ourselves.

For more information, please look at the attached leaflet.

If this is something which you would like to explore further, please contact me and I can help you to complete a registration form.

**Mental Health Support Team**  
 The Nurture Programme

**FAMILY LINKS**  
 The Centre for Emotional Health

**What does it Cover?**

**Understanding:** Why children behave as they do

**Recognising:** The feelings behind the behaviours (theirs and ours)

**Exploring:** Different approaches to discipline

**Finding:** Ways to develop co-operation and self-discipline in children

**Learning:** The importance of looking after ourselves.

Children are rewarding, stimulating and fun, but, looking after them can be stressful and challenging.

The Nurture Programme helps deal with those challenges so that you can have a calmer, happier life.

A tried and tested programme, it helps us think about what we do, why we do it and how it makes us feel.

Venue: Millbrook Combined School (Millbrook Community Hub)  
 Time: 9.15am - 11.15am  
 Start Date: Monday 19th February 2024  
 End Date: Tuesday 7th May 2024  
[www.oxfordhealthtrust.uk/camhs/bucks/mhst](http://www.oxfordhealthtrust.uk/camhs/bucks/mhst)  
[bucks.mhst@oxfordhealthtrust.uk](mailto:bucks.mhst@oxfordhealthtrust.uk)  
 01895 824 565

## Mental Health Support Team – Anxiety workshop for parents and carers

**Mental Health Support Team**  
Buckinghamshire

**UNDERSTANDING AND OVERCOMING CHILDHOOD ANXIETY FOR PARENTS AND CARERS**

- Introduction to anxiety
- Common types of anxiety
- Anxiety & neurodiversity
- Practical strategies to manage anxious feelings

Register for virtual sessions delivered via Teams by scanning the QR code below

Monday 26th February 2024  
13:00-14:30

Repeated

Monday 26th February 2024  
18:00-19:30

www.oxfordhealth.nhs.uk/camhs/bucks/mhat  
bucksmhat@oxfordhealth.nhs.uk  
01865 901 566

As a school, we would like to bring to your attention some information about an upcoming virtual parent workshop based on understanding and overcoming childhood anxiety.

The Mental Health Support Team will be running this workshop after the half term break on Monday 26th February at two different times (1.00-2.30pm and 6.00-7.30pm) and it is accessible to all parents and carers.

The workshop will cover the following areas:

- An introduction to anxiety
- Common types of anxiety
- Anxiety & neurodiversity
- Practical strategies to manage anxious feelings

If you are interested in joining this workshop, please simply scan the QR code on the attached leaflet.

If you have any questions about this workshop please contact me.

## **Friends of Loudwater School – FOLS**

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.

### **Sierra Sports Development**

We are pleased to announce that Mr Williams and Sierra Sports will be running a sports camp at Loudwater this coming February Half Term. Click the link below to book your place.

[Holiday Camps | ssdcamps \(sierrasports.co.uk\)](https://www.sierrasports.co.uk/holiday-camps)

For the flyer, please click [here](#).

### **Wycombe Wise Owls**

Support in learning – please see [here](#).



## Rail Awareness Safety – Simon Frazer, Principal at Guilsborough Academy

Primary school version: Suitable for KS1: <https://learnliveuk.com/ks1-primary-school-safety-talk/>

Primary school version: Suitable for KS2: <https://learnliveuk.com/network-rail-primary-school-safety-talk>

### LOUDWATER COMBINED SCHOOL Calendar of events for 2023-24

<p><b><u>Values Assemblies</u></b> All Start at 9.05am 24.1.24 Honesty Year 1 28.2.24 Love Year 3 23.5.24 Trust Year 2 26.6.24 Self-belief Year 6 18.7.24 Friendship Foundation Stage</p>	<p><b><u>January</u></b> 4<sup>th</sup> &amp; 5<sup>th</sup> School closed – training days for teachers 8<sup>th</sup> Children return to School</p>	<p><b><u>February</u></b> Week beginning 5<sup>th</sup> Parent /Teacher Consultations 12<sup>th</sup> - 16<sup>th</sup> Half term break 19<sup>th</sup> Return to School</p>
<p><b><u>March</u></b> 1<sup>st</sup> Notification of Secondary School Places 7<sup>th</sup> World Book Day 8<sup>th</sup> Book Character Dressing up day 7<sup>th</sup> Parents’ Forum 7pm Week beginning 25<sup>th</sup> Parent /Teacher Consultations Y6 27<sup>th</sup> Y5 Hispanic Evening for parents 28<sup>th</sup> School closes at 2pm for Easter Break</p>	<p><b><u>April</u></b> 15<sup>th</sup> Children return to School Week beginning 22<sup>nd</sup> Parent /Teacher Consultations (FS-Y5)</p>	<p><b><u>May</u></b> 6<sup>th</sup> Bank Holiday 13<sup>th</sup> Year 6 SATs Week 20<sup>th</sup> Year 5 Assessment Week 27<sup>th</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup> Half term break</p>
<p><b><u>June</u></b> 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><b><u>July</u></b> 2<sup>nd</sup> Secondary School Induction Day (Y6) New Parents Meeting 12<sup>th</sup> Sports Day 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><b><u>Class Assemblies Spring term</u></b> 9.05 Start 18<sup>th</sup> January - Year Six 25<sup>th</sup> January – Year Two 1<sup>st</sup> February – Year Four 29<sup>th</sup> February - Year One 7<sup>th</sup> March – Year Five 14<sup>th</sup> March – Year Three 21<sup>st</sup> March - Foundation Stage</p>