

24h January 2020

Dear Parents

It has been a rather lovely week at Loxwood. Well done to the Talented Athlete's. A visit to the Weald this week meant that I had a chance to speak to Mr Meany who organises these events; he was very impressed with the children and their contribution to the event. Well done. We have had some sickness in the school, staff included! It is that time of year - but just to remind everyone to take care of themselves, wrap up warm, wash hands (those little ones in particular!) and get plenty of rest.

General dates

February 13th	Last day
February 14th	INSET day
February 17th—21st	Half Term
February 24th	Year 6 Bikeability starts
February 25th	Pancake race 2.30pm
March 2nd—6th	World Book Week
March 10th	Parents' Evening 3.30 – 6.20pm
March 11th	Parents' Evening 3.30—6.20pm
March 19th	Year 1 & 2 trip
March 23rd	Year 5 & 6 trip
April 3rd	Last Day
April 20th	Return to school

Talented Athlete

On Wednesday, 11 talented athletes from Year 5 and Year 6 went to The Weald. They had options of choosing to participate in a variety of sports, after they had picked 2 they went off in small groups and competed against other schools. After a short break they all went into the hall and all the schools joined in together doing basketball and Hockey. The children had a great time beating their personal scores.

Pancake race

Our annual pancake race will be held on Shrove Tuesday, February 25th, on the playground at 2.30pm. Parents are welcome to come and cheer the children on!

Years 5 & 6 Residential—parents meetings

There will be a meeting for parents of current year 4 & 5 children on Wednesday 29th January at 3.15pm to discuss next academic year's residential trips to Little Canada and Sayers Croft. The meetings will take place in Class 5 (for CURRENT Year 4 children) and in Class 6 (for CURRENT Year 5 children). We will start as soon as possible after the end of the school day and children are welcome to attend with their parents.

Children and their use of social media

Loxwood School is part of a locality group of schools, all of which feed into The Weald Secondary School. There are 9 primary schools within the group and we work closely together to improve and develop provision within our schools. As you will be aware from national news there is a growing concern about the increase in instances of children mis-using social media. This includes children as young as years 5 and 6. This can then intensify in secondary school. At Loxwood we have not had any significant instances brought to our attention, however an audit of your child's usage may highlight something that you were unaware of. Below are some of the concerns raised by local headteachers and a few suggestions you may wish to investigate

- Year 5 & 6 children using Facebook, Instagram (legal age for an account is 13) or Whatsapp (16) - the setting up of these accounts has meant that a child has already lied on line about their age, a particular risk if their accounts are public.
- Children messaging each other late at night - it is advised that children 'hand -in' their devices prior to bedtime
- Some parents are unaware of their children's online activity - there are a range of apps that can be used to track your child's usage

For advice we would recommend

Child Safety Online: A practical guide for parents and carers whose children are using social media (gov.uk)

Online Safety—NSPCC

Internetmatters.org

We will continue to teach the children about e-safety as part of the national curriculum to support your child in keeping themselves safe on line.

Did you know.....

We have a new chair of Governors. Actually we have two, Ibi El Mograhby and Wayne Schofield are co-chairing our governing body. Governance is a legal requirement for state maintained schools, however governors are completely voluntary and we are fortunate to have a dedicated group of individuals from different aspects of the community.



INSET days for this Academic Year

Friday 14th February 2020

Monday 1st June 2020

Monday 20th July 2020

Half Term / End of Term Holidays 2019/20

Christmas Holidays December 23rd – 3rd January

Half Term February 17th – 21st

Easter Holidays April 6th – 17th

Half Term May 25th – 29th

End of Term Friday 17th July



Forest School Dates

On your child's Forest School day they can come to school in their Forest School clothing for the whole day, please ensure they are wearing long sleeved tops and trousers – even if the weather is warmer. They will also need suitable footwear, e.g. wellies and a rain coat. If you are able to help on Forest School dates, please see the school office.

Forest School Dates

Wednesday 29th	Year 3
Tuesday 4th February	Year 5 *
Wednesday 5th	Year 4 *
Wednesday 12th	Year 6
Wednesday 26th	Young Explorers
Wednesday 4th March	Year 1
Wednesday 11th	Year 2
Wednesday 18th	Year 3
Tuesday 24th	Year 4
Wednesday 25th	Year 5
Wednesday 1st April	Year 6

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CHILDREN WHO RECEIVED A CELEBRATION CERTIFICATE

Young Explorers	Sophie for Participation, Etta for Contributions and Connie for Creativity
Oak Class	Evie for Commitment and Truda for Confidence
Willow Class	Sofia for Diligence and Libby for Motivation
Rowan Class	Dylan for Presentation
Sycamore Class	Hannah for Conscientiousness and Osman for Responsibility
Mulberry Class	Danny for Effort and Tyler for Creativity
Chestnut Class	



The winning house this week is...

Malham