



# Lickey Hills Primary School and Nursery

## Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> May 2021

Dear Parent/Carers

Many thanks to all of you who have had your Parent Evening telephone consultation with your child's teacher during this month. The teachers enjoy the opportunity to talk to you about your child and their progress, we are also currently writing Annual Reports which will be with you on the 9th July. I hope the telephone appointments have been helpful and whilst we look forward to having face-to-face meetings in the school building in the future, we are going to keep telephone calls as an option as we appreciate that sometimes parents have unavoidable commitments or are working away. For those of you who were unable to take calls, please do contact the school, we know that school and home working in partnership can have a huge impact on your child's achievements both academically and socially.

I must remind you that the school drive is used by the Language Base taxis and parents with blue badges during school drop off times. Some of the Language Base taxis have to leave before the drive is clear of pedestrians to collect children for other schools. I have had to remind several Year 5 and Year 6 children about crossing the school drive with care and vigilance: stopping, looking and then crossing. We had a 'near miss' last week where a child arriving late did not cross with care. During the summer holidays Mr Gittens will be painting a zebra crossing on the drive to help both drivers and pedestrians. In the meantime please **remind all children to walk on the footpath and to stop and look before crossing the school drive**. Please ensure your child is with you and not running ahead. Although most of you are keeping your children close by and in sight at all times, which is exactly what we want and very much appreciate, this is not always the case for everyone and it needs to be. I do not want to be in the position where I am having to write to you because one of our children has been injured. I therefore know that I can rely on everyone's support with this crucial, safety message.

That just leaves me to say have a lovely half term everyone and I look forward to seeing you all when we're back!

Kind regards,

Miss Salisbury



### School Events:

Since the most recent Government announcement and loosening of restrictions in wider society, the Leadership team has discussed the implications for our school community over the remaining school year. There have not been any further changes in the guidance for schools and we are reminded by the local authority and public health to continue to follow the school's current Risk Assessment (see website 'Covid' drop down tab). Therefore we have made the decision that we will progress with **Sports Day** for our children but this year we will not invite parents/families to watch. I know you will be disappointed but I hope you understand our position; we are still working in year group bubbles, adhering to strict hands, face and space rules and for the safety and wellbeing of our children and making very minimal changes so that our school can continue to remain open to all. **Transition Meetings for new families, current reception and Year 2 parents** will go ahead by Zoom. We have moved the YR and Y2 meetings into the evening so that working parents are able to attend too. We are currently busy planning for a full return to 'normal school' in September, all being well. Hopefully, by then, we will all be in position for everyone to make a fresh start with new routines. I will write to you all next half term to let you know what the September return will look like. **Please check the calendar on the school website for dates and times.**

**Please note amended dates for the Diary below - all dates are also on the school website.**

### Golden Book Stars

Evie B(1SH)	James E(1SH)	Olive SB(1SH)
Freya L(1SH)	Freddie H(1SH)	Freddie R(1SH)
Charlie M(1SH)	Viren D(1SH)	Jacob B(1SH)
Kai AJ(1SH)	Charles S(1SH)	Sophie B(1SH)
Harriet S(1SH)	Parker BM(1SH)	Freya G(1SH)
Stanley R(1SH)	Riley M(1SH)	Billy M(RHB)
Ellie A (RHB)	Ollie J(RHB)	Anna-Mae P(RJR)
William E(RHB)	Barnaby E(RHB)	Owen O(RHB)
Abbie S(RJR)	Lois M(RHB)	Nancy B(RHB) ★★
Danny J(2RF)	Lexi B(2HB)	Kyle H(4HC) ★
Macey H(4HC)	Daniel A(RJR)	Erin W(RJR) ★

### Diary Dates

**28.05** - TED Day  
**07.06** - Return to School  
**07.06** - Year 6 PLG  
**14.06** - Whole School Class photographs  
**16.06** - Year 2 Botanical Gardens Trip  
**23.06** - Sports Day  
**24.06** - Sports Day  
**14.07** - Reserve Sports Day  
**15.07** - Reserve Sports Day

# What have we been up to this fortnight?

## Nursery

The nursery children have been experimenting with textures using salt and PVA glue to coat our Very Quiet Cricket pictures prior to painting them. We have also explored the sounds we can create using the instruments to represent the minibeast in the story of The Very Quiet Cricket and retold the story with our instruments. As our minibeast topic draws to a close with The Very Greedy Bee, we have made headbands of our favourite minibeast to wear for our fabulous finale, where we hope to parade around the nursery playground wearing them, weather permitting!

## Reception

Reception have loved our dinosaur theme, which has continued and we have now discovered a seed packet, which didn't have dinosaurs but an alien! When we return we are going to zoom off into our rocket into space. I wonder if we will start speaking gobbledegook! Meanwhile we have been working so hard with our phonics and using them in our reading. Please keep practicing the digraphs and trigraphs in phase 3 as it is really making a difference. Hoping everyone has a lovely half term after such a busy time. Well done everyone!

## Year 1

Year 1 have had a wonderful week. We have been writing book reviews after finishing our class text 'George's Marvellous Medicine' and have been reflecting on what we liked and disliked about the story. We have also been consolidating topics of our learning before the half term, such as throwing and catching in PE, programming algorithms in computing and reflecting on just how much nursing has changed since Florence Nightingale's era. We can't wait to see what next term holds!

## Year 2

What a busy half term Year 2 have had! As we head into the break we have been concentrating on the wildlife of Peru: comparing the plants of the Amazon to the trees surrounding our school and covering the Lickey Hills, researching the wildlife of the rainforest and writing animal fact files in our English lessons. We have even used Peru as inspiration for music. This is all building up towards our fantastic school trip after half term when we will have the opportunity to explore the "tropical rainforest" and "desert" of the Botanical Gardens in Birmingham. We can't wait!

## KS2

On Tuesday 25th May, Year 4 children ventured out of school for the first time in what seems like years. And what a trip we had! Each class spent hours on the Droitwich canal bellboating. Bellboats are large, stable boats that can hold 10 children and up to 2 adults. They require good teamwork to power along and the children showed this in abundance. Yes we had cries of "I'm tired!" and "My arms are aching!" (and that was just Mrs Chivers!) but despite all of this the children kept paddling and thoroughly enjoyed it. We were so impressed with the hard work they put in, the perseverance and the politeness of all of the children - shouting "Good morning" and "Good afternoon" to members of the public who were walking along the canal!

The purpose of the visit was both to improve their teamwork skills but also to give the opportunity for children to see what they are studying in theme lessons in action. Our theme is Islands in Danger and is based around climate change and plastic pollution. Andy, our guide for the day, picked out a bucketful of plastic bottles as we went along which showed that this is a local problem. We also had an interesting encounter with a family of swans! Although exhausted afterwards, both children and staff had a great day and it was lovely to hear comments like "That was the best trip ever!" from the children. Well done Year 4!

Mr Weston

## Language Base

LB have been bringing to a conclusion all of their half term's work. As always, the enthusiasm of all of the pupils has been brilliant and ensures that the Language Base at Lickey Hills continues to be a positive environment for each pupil.

LB1 have used the text, 'The Bear and the Piano,' to explore their emotions as well as write a number of different non-fiction text type genres. We included lots of speaking and listening activities to persuade an audience and I am so proud to say that we have some future Oscar winning contenders in the making. Maths explored shapes and money. Please be aware that all of the class enjoyed spending in the LB1 shop!

LB1 will also be saying 'Goodbye' and 'Good Luck' to a pupil who will be returning to Dr. Kirby's class after half term. The pupil has been a real joy to teach and we all wish him luck in his new adventure.

LB2 have really enjoyed exploring their Literacy texts this term. They studied the theme of relationships and the skill of inference. Additionally, the pupils in Years 3, 4 and 5 have loved studying the topics of light and Yr. 6 had the theme of evolution as their focus. Italy has been our theme for our Geography studies. This is continuing after half term. Please note, there may be some requests for holiday destinations.

All pupils in LB have worked so hard this half term. We hope you all have a very relaxed and restful break and we will see you when we return.

## The Hive

Thank you to all of the parents who have shown interest for the summer holiday club. Over Half term, I will be working on an itinerary, which the children will enjoy! Prices will also be available on the first week back after half term.

We are hoping that when the children arrived at the Hive this morning they were pleasantly surprised with their "break the rule breakfast"! Not a normal start to a Thursday morning but it was fun and fitting with the day ahead.

Have a lovely half term break; we look forward to seeing everyone back after a well-earned rest.

Miss Lynch

