



Lawns Park Primary School

Lawns Park: Learning Positivity, Learning Perseverance,
Learning Patience, Learning Politeness.

Headteacher. Mr S Chapman
info@lawnsark.org.uk

December Newsletter 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

There is a magical quality to being part of a primary school in the build-up to Christmas. The sense of awe and wonder which comes with the job at this time of the year is second to none. I'm sure that those of you who celebrate Christmas are only too aware of the amount of organisation that goes into pulling it all together in your home. That is why I am so deeply appreciative of the staff at Lawns Park who have **persevered** over the past couple of months to be able to bring together a celebration of Christmas for nearly 240 children. This is no mean feat and requires significant **patience**! We have had a thoroughly entertaining December filled with fantastic learning opportunities, magical performances, community visits, singing, parties, Christmas dinners and so, so much more. I am always proud to see our children representing our school with such **positive** and **polite** attitudes in the community and we have certainly been out and about this month making sure that the name of Lawns Park is reflected upon with pride. Following a visit to perform carols at a local care home recently we received a card at school from a member of the public which commented:

"I feel compelled to write to you to not only compliment the children on their performance (which was excellent) but also on their behaviour and interaction with the residents which was impeccable and quite emotional to witness. The children were a credit."

This, for me, is what Christmas is all about – our children bringing joy to others with simple kindness. So, on that note, I would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas and we will see you in 2025 for lots more hard work, excitement and fun. Happy New Year, Mr Chapman

OFFICE REMINDER FOR PAYMENTS

Please can all parents make sure that they have downloaded the app for 'School Gateway'. This is our NEW online payment system which parents will use to make all payments. Please also ensure the following apps have been downloaded, Schoop, Sims Parent. Thanks, kind regards, the Office Team.



EVERY CHILD, EVERY DAY – ATTENDANCE MATTERS

Parents have a legal duty to ensure your child attends school regularly.

This means that your child must attend every day, unless:

Your child is too ill to attend that day.

You have been given permission by school due to exceptional circumstances.

Your child cannot attend because of a religious observance.

These are the only circumstances where school can permit your child to be absent. If you are having difficulties with your child's attendance and you would like to speak to a member of staff then please phone school and ask to speak to Mrs Miles, Mrs Dean or Mr Chapman.





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Friends of Lawns Park



We have had a very busy couple of months.

Let's start with our art Christmas card project. We donated brand new felt tip pens to every class and with these the children created the most beautiful Christmas designs. These were then used to decorate items like cards, magnets and other types of products. You then purchased them (thank you) and we raised £118 in commission.

You have also shown your support by downloading the ASDA Rewards app and by signing Lawns Park Primary School up and swiping every time you shopped. That all helped us raise £482.68. This was an amazing amount and we are very grateful!

Then we ended the half term with our annual Christmas Fair and what a lovely afternoon we had. It was lovely to see so many of you come out and support us on a cold December Friday. The children were so excited and they loved meeting Olaf and Elsa, as well as Santa, and they all had fun playing on the games, having their face painted and especially bouncing on the Christmas bouncy castle. This has raised just over £1000!

We would like to thank you for your continuing support and would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas from the Friends of Lawns Park team.





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ONLINE SAFETY

As children get ready to unwrap internet-enabled gadgets this Christmas, we are encouraging families to discuss staying safe online. Advice about the best way to keep children safe is available from a range of websites, including the NSPCC.

Among the top tips are:

Keep tech use visible in the home in shared family spaces so you are aware of what your child is accessing.

Explain how children can use privacy settings to make sure only approved friends can see posts and images, and warn them about sharing personal information.

Check if any of the mobile apps they use have location services enabled and disable this if they do not want to be tracked.

Show them how to report offensive comments or block people who upset them.

Check 'tagging' settings so that when others are posting or sharing photos online, your child's identity is not revealed.

Have regular safety conversations, encourage your child to come and talk to you if they see anything that upsets them.

Ask them to show you which games they are playing and any social media apps they use, what they like about them and talk about how to use them safely.





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Performing Arts

KS2 Performing Arts Christmas Production 2024

Key Stage 2 performed their Christmas production 'A Fireside Nativity' to a packed audience in our school hall (or was it Lawns Park campsite?) on Tuesday. The acting and singing were of West End quality! Well done to all the children and staff involved.

KS1 Performing Arts Christmas Production 2024

Key Stage 1 performing arts club produced their first ever Christmas performance with a festive rendition of The Grinch! Our KS1 collective only started out in Autumn Term of 2024 but they swiftly set their sights on putting on a show and what a show it was! Well done to the children and staff and we can't wait to see what they come up with next.

KS2 Choir

The performing arts choir have been out and about during the festive period bringing cheer and goodwill. The children performed at Farnley Cricket Club, The Greggs factory, St John's Church and a local care home during the past month and gave a fantastic account of themselves.

KS1 Lunchtime Music Club

The children have been exploring a variety of instruments and improvising to create lovely music. As you can see, we have had lots of fun!!





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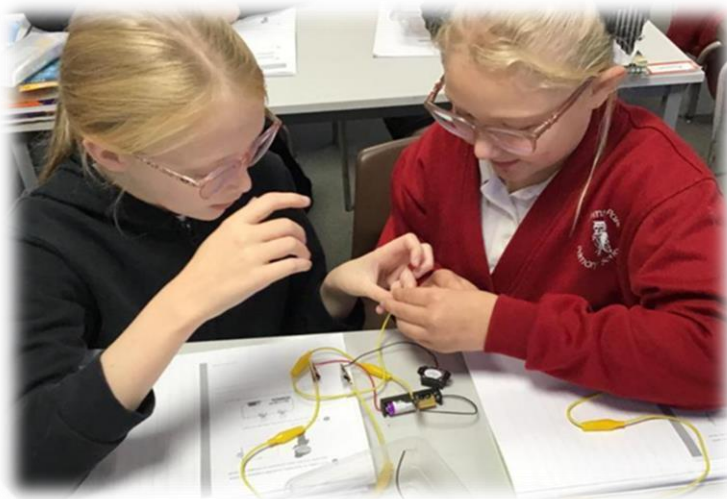
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Year 6

Autumn 2 in Year 6

The weeks have flown by and we have covered so much in class! In Science we have been bright sparks, learning to control electrical circuits, adding components and experimenting with what happens to lights and buzzers. We created gadgets in Design and Technology to meet the needs of our customers. We wrote about them and pitched our ideas to the audience. Recently we have been studying images in the graphic novel *The Arrival* and writing amazing atmospheric pieces. We became web designers and created our own websites. In Art, we studied Frieda Kahlo and her exotic pictures. Maths has been all about mastering the four number operations and we had a go at our first round of SATs Papers without flinching! Over Christmas, we have written an exciting story for younger children and enjoyed making a moving toy. How did we fit so much in?!

Next, we can look forward to a tropical time in the jungles of South America and throw some light on the Science topic of Light, as well as conquer fractions in maths and becoming digital artists in Art and Design lessons.





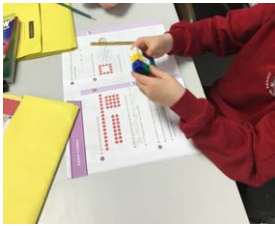
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Year 5

What an incredible term we have had in Year 5! We have travelled through space, immersing ourselves in the life of astronauts by writing detailed diary logs and crafting letters back to Earth asking for help—our imaginations truly soared to new heights. Our enthusiasm for the topic of space has been unmatched, and it has been amazing to see everyone so engaged and inspired. We also had the fantastic opportunity to visit Farnley Academy to watch *We Will Rock You*, which was an unforgettable experience filled with music and fun. Back in the classroom, we tackled the challenging fractions unit with determination and perseverance, proving that no problem is too tricky for us. It has truly been a term to remember, and we can't wait to see what adventures await us next! 🚀





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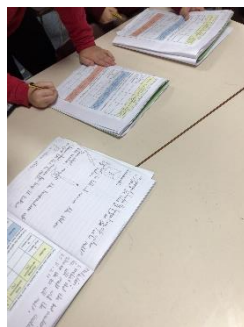
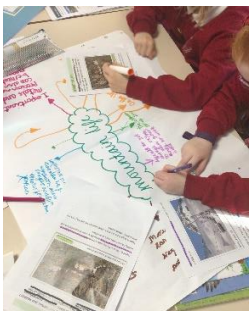
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Year 4

Wow! Year 4 have had a brilliant half-term full of exciting learning and positivity! In English, we have written some amazing atmospheric narratives based on the book 'The Wolves in the Walls' and a brilliant Christmas themed story, taking inspiration from traditional tales. In Geography, we have been expanding our knowledge on mountains. The children have worked really hard to master using atlases, using keys to find information. In art, they have painted some phenomenal pictures based on the work of Claude Monet. In science, the children conducted an experiment on how quickly ice melts in different water temperatures. They blew me away with their ability to hypothesise and collect data. Of course, we cannot forget the children's Bikeability sessions. They really impressed everybody with their perseverance and reflected amazingly on the school with their polite attitudes. Lastly, I needed to mention the fact the Year 4 did the whole school proud with their dedication and patience when we raised money for Children in Need - it was a valiant effort which took them hours and led to a 11,900cm long line of coins! What a fantastic half-term Year 4! Have a wonderful Christmas and come back ready and raring for an even more exciting half-term.





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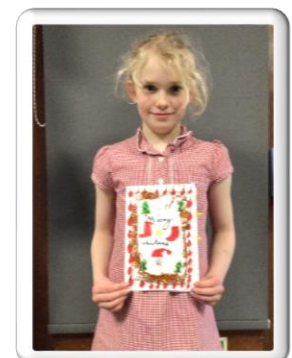
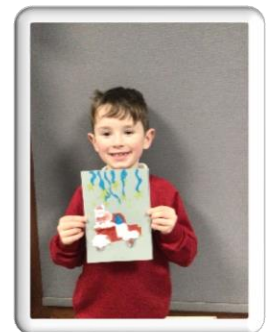
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Year 3

Year 3 have had a busy half term. From reading about the Iron Man to painting Starry Night by Van Gogh we have had tremendous amounts of fun together! We have been fully absorbed in our Iron Man project and the pupils have produced some incredible character descriptions and narrative about Iron Man's adventures. Let's not forget about all the times-table practice this term too! We have been mastering our 3x,4x and 8x times-table, learning lots of songs and practising recalling.

Next term, we will be moving onto the Bronze and Iron Age we will be comparing and contrasting the differences with the Stone Age from Autumn 1. We will also be writing Miss Ball's favourite - the alternative story of the Three Little Pigs. Have a lovely Christmas all of you. The Year 3 team can't wait to see you back in the New Year.





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Year 2

Year 2 have done some fabulous learning this term, beginning with our new topics in Science, Geography and Art and being almost completely taken over by our Christmas performance come the middle of December. The term began with Children in Need, where we competed as a class to try and make the longest possible line out of coins. Our class managed to make an incredible 70m worth of coins in a line, raising a large amount of money for a great cause. In Geography, we have been learning all about the United Kingdom - from capital cities, the seas surrounding us or famous landmarks. The children really enjoyed watching birdseye view videos and using atlases to aid their learning and are definitely becoming keen geographers. And last, but by no means least, the Christmas play. As a team we have been so impressed by how well the children learned their lines and the song lyrics so quickly. Each and every one of the children shone in their roles and should be super proud of both performances they produced - it really set the tone for the rest of the term and brought a smile to everyone's faces. From all the Year 2 staff, we hope you have a wonderful Christmas and a happy New Year.





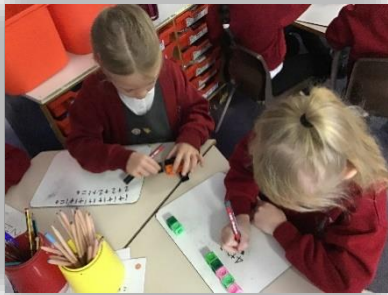
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Year 1

Year 1 have had a very busy Autumn 2! We have been learning how to add and subtract within 10 using concrete resources and pictures. We can now write addition and subtraction statements confidently when given a part-whole model. We have also been learning our number bonds to 10 and will continue to embed these in the spring term. In English, we started the half term by focusing on the traditional tale of Hansel and Gretel. We then gave this a twist by changing the character of the witch. The children were incredibly creative so we have had stories of wicked cats, gingerbread men and even an evil pig! We are finishing the half term with a Christmas narrative whereby the children will be writing about a magical bauble that enables them to travel to the North Pole. In Art, the children have built upon their skills from last half term and focused on another abstract artist. We completed some whole class artwork that is now proudly on display in the classroom and then the children designed and painted their very own Kandinsky inspired piece. Finally, the children have really given their all to the Christmas play, 'The Dinky Donkeys'. Thank you to everyone who supported with lines, singing and costumes - we really appreciate all of your hard work. Have a wonderful Christmas and we will see you in the New Year!





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Foundation Stage

Foundation Stage have had a fun-filled half term of learning. Our half term began with us recalling and sharing our Bonfire Night experiences. We explored with printing in art, creating an explosion of colour in our learning.

Through the story of The Gingerbread Man, we learnt many new skills, storytelling, sewing to make puppets and cooking when we made some very tasty Gingerbread people - thank goodness they didn't run away!

Finally, as Christmas approached, we put on a fabulous show for our parents and carers and even had a visit from Santa Claus himself! Merry Christmas everyone.





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Benchball at the Farnley Academy

Benchball at The Farnley Academy.

A group of Year 4 students represented Lawns Park at a recent Benchball training session. They demonstrated all of the Lawns Park Values; Positivity, Perseverance, Politeness and Patience, as they took on board advice and guidance from coaches and sports leaders. They went on to play against Castleton Primary School applying all the skills they had been shown. We couldn't be prouder of them. Well done to all who took part.



Bikeability Year 4

Year 4 worked with the Bikeability Team to develop and practice all the essential safety skills needed to keep themselves safe when riding their bikes in the community. The Bikeability Team were keen to express their thanks to the children for their dedication and commitment to taking on their advice and guidance. Well done, everyone.





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Key Dates up to January Half-Term

Main dates for Spring 1 January				
Spring 1 week 1 January	Monday 6 th January 2025	School opens for Autumn 2 term		After school clubs begin this week
	Thursday 9 th January 2025	Y1 + Y6 Zoolab Experience		
Spring 1 week 2 January	Monday 13 th – Friday 17 th January	RSB Big School Birdwatch		
Spring 1 Week 3 January	Friday 24 th January	Training Day		
Spring 1 Week 4 January	Monday 27 th January	Y5 Residential Parents Meeting 2.30pm – 3.15pm		
Spring 1 Week 6 February	Wednesday 12 th – Thursday 13 th January	Y5 Residential – High Adventure Activity Park		

If you have any comments/questions/feedback, please do not hesitate to get in touch.
schapman@lawnsark.org.uk

Kind regards,

The Lawns Park Team