

Dates for the diary

Please see attached dates sheet for important dates for the rest of this academic year. These dates will also be added to this section as we move through the year.

12th Jan: Y1 trip to London Zoo

16th Jan: 9.00 - 9.45: Parent Gym taster session. All welcome

17th Jan: Y2 trip to London Fire Museum

19th Jan: Y1 fundraising cake sale

23rd Jan: Parent Gym sessions start

25th Jan: Y2 Spelling parents' workshop

26th Jan: Y1 Phonics parents' workshop

6th Feb: Reception 2 Parent Cafe - Maths through play

7th Feb: Reception 1 Parent Cafe - Maths through play

8th Feb: e-safety parents workshop

7th - 9th Feb: Y4 School Journey

12th - 16th Feb
Half term break

19th - 23rd Feb: Book Week, including Books for Breakfast for each class (see dates on separate sheet)

23rd Feb: Book week dressing up day

29th March: Last day of Spring term


30th March - 13th April
Easter break

16th April: Children back at school

Attendance


Our attendance figures for the last week of term and the first week back are not as good as we would like. Our overall school attendance (excluding Nursery) was 91.33%. Every day at school counts so we look forward to improved attendance in every class over the next fortnight. The class attendance figures for last week were:

Year 5J:	96.17%
Year 2:	96.04%
Year 4:	95.47%
Year 5O:	92.92%
Reception 1:	91.15%
Year 6:	90.85%
Year 3:	89.8%
Year 1:	87.3%
Reception 2:	82.34%




School success starts with attendance

PTA Winter Fair 2017



Thank you to everyone who gave their ideas, time, energy, donations and contributions to our annual Christmas/Winter Fair! We made a fantastic profit and so now just have to decide how to spend the money to benefit the children. Thanks for your ongoing support.

ParentGym 


Not long now until our taster Parent Gym session. Do come along to have a coffee and a biscuit and find out what Parent Gym is all about. The taster session is next Tuesday (16th January) from 9.00 - 9.45 and then the sessions start on Tuesday 23rd January from 9.00 - 11.00 am for a period of six weeks. All welcome.

Expansion plans

The plans are now online and can be viewed here: <http://bit.ly/2qI0IbX> The consultation ends on 25th January. A recent blogpost summarising the reasons for expansion and why we think the plan meets our design brief is here: <http://bit.ly/2qHANuu> As stated before, parents who want to see the large images we have of the plans can see Sean for an appointment. Detailed images are on Lewisham's website.

Safeguarding

To safeguard - to protect from harm or damage with an appropriate measure



As you know, we are always assessing and updating our safeguarding procedures to ensure that children and adults in school are protected from harm. One of the measures we have made huge progress with is limiting the number of unsupervised adults entering the school, particularly at the beginning and end of the school day. Please continue to support this aim by not entering the school via the playground doors (e.g. into the corridor or through the classrooms) to use the toilet, collect lunch boxes or go to the office.

Governor news:**Governor training and development - Laura Jolly, Co-opted governor****Governors**

The Department for Education Governance Handbook says the Governing Body should have the range of skills to

"...provide confident, strategic leadership and to create robust accountability, oversight and assurance for educational and financial performance." In order to fulfil this requirement the Governing Body is in the process of compiling a Development and Training Framework. This will lay the foundation for us to complete a Governing Body Development Plan. Development has always been a focus for governors but a more structured approach aims to optimise the value added as a result of this development.

The Framework will be a document enabling governors to achieve the following outcomes: governors know what training they are expected to attend including training recommended for induction, LINK roles and committee roles; governors know what training and development tools are available to them, and; induction for new governors is outlined.

The Development Plan will be set on an annual basis and progress against it will be monitored throughout the year. Development objectives will be set in consideration of the school's needs (e.g. in the context of the School Improvement Plan) and it will address identified skills gaps and/or Ofsted feedback.

The aim is to have the Framework in place and completion of a skills audit ahead of the Governors Development evening in February. During that evening we will be working on setting the Development Plan for 2018.

News from Nursery and Reception

Happy New Year! It's been great to see all the children return so confidently; full of news about their holiday adventures and excited to see their friends! Reception have quickly shown a new interest in art galleries and the artist Matisse. We have been learning about his life and creating our own Matisse masterpieces. We hope to have an EYFS gallery up and running by the end of this half term. As keen learners of stories by heart they have begun revisiting an old favourite ('Dear Zoo') and will be using it to inspire further learning this week. Nursery have been delighted to share their Christmas experiences and have been expressing this via paintings and drawings. We are also very excited to be welcoming our new January starters into Nursery this week and have been discussing ways that we can help them to settle and feel welcome!

Josie Hall**News from Y1, Y2 and Y3**

Y1 are excited about their trip coming up this Friday to London Zoo to kick start their learning. They'll be seeing a range of animals from Africa to supplement their new topic, Amazing Africa. In Y2 we've started our topic, The Great Fire of London, through storytelling, drama and building our own houses ready to burn! Y3 transformed their cloakroom into a cave and filled it with cave art and have found out what life was like for a child in The Stone Age. They have been asking lots of interesting and thoughtful questions about their new topic, Stone Age to Iron Age, and are looking forward to discovering the answers.

Emma Dodsworth**News from Y4, Y5 and Y6**

Happy New Year from all of us in Key Stage 2! It was wonderful to see the children on Wednesday after a lovely Christmas break and the learning has already begun in earnest. Y4 have begun their new topic of 'Islam: Past and Present.' The children brought in some fantastic home learning and have already begun to think about the origins of Islam. Y5 have also started a new topic in which the children will be considering how life was shaped by the Victorian era. Y6 have continued their topic learning from before the break and will continue to consider how children across Europe were affected by the outbreak of the Second World War.

Andy McPartland**The INCLUSION NEWS****Inclusion News**

This term the inclusion team are busy analysing the progress of every child across the school so far this academic year and reviewing the teaching and interventions we put in place for the Autumn term, to measure their impact and effectiveness. Over the next two weeks, I will meet with all teachers and teaching assistants to make plans for the coming term to strive to ensure every child makes good progress this year. As always if you have any queries regarding anything inclusion related then please feel free to email me at dfielding@ashmead.lewisham.sch.uk Alternatively you can find me in the playground most mornings and afternoons.

David Fielding - Assistant Headteacher for Inclusion

Dates for parents - 2018

Month	Date	School Event
January	Tuesday 16th	9.00 – 9.45: Parent Gym taster session. All welcome
	Friday 19th	3.30: Cake sale – fundraising for Y1 trip to London Zoo
	Tuesday 23rd	9.00 – 11.00: Parent Gym session 1
	Thursday 25th	9.00 – 9.45: Y2 Spelling workshop for parents
	Friday 26th	9.00 – 9.45: Y1 Phonics workshop for parents
	Tuesday 30th	9.00 – 11.00: Parent Gym session 2
February	Monday 5th	9.00 – 9.45: Reception 2 parent café – Maths through play
	Tuesday 6th	9.00 – 11.00: Parent Gym session 3
	Wednesday 7th	9.00 – 9.45: Reception 1 parent café – Maths through play
	Wednesday 7 th – 9th	Y4 on school journey
	Thursday 8th	9am – e-safety parent workshop (KS2 parents)
	Friday 9th	<i>Last day of half term</i>
FEBRUARY HALF TERM MONDAY 12TH – FRIDAY 16TH (INCLUSIVE)		
February	Monday 19th	First day back at school
	Monday 19th	8.30 – 9.00: Books for Breakfast Y4
	Tuesday 20th	8.30 – 9.00: Books for Breakfast Y2 and Y3
	Tuesday 20th	9.00 – 11.00: Parent Gym session 4
	Wednesday 21st	8.30 – 9.00: Books for Breakfast Y5
	Thursday 22nd	8.30 – 9.00: Books for Breakfast Y1 and Y6
	Friday 23rd	8.30 – 9.00: Books for Breakfast - Reception
	Friday 23rd	Book character dressing up day
	Tuesday 27th	9.00 – 11.00: Parent Gym session 5
	Tuesday 6th	9.00 – 11.00: Final Parent Gym session and celebration
	Thursday 15 th	3.50 – 6pm Parent-Teacher meetings
	Tuesday 20th	3.50 – 7.30pm Parent-Teacher meetings
	Friday 23rd	3.30: PTA Spring fundraising event (details TBC)
	Monday 26th	9.00: Home learning parent workshop – Y1 and Y6
	Tuesday 27th	9.00: Home learning parent workshop – Y5
	Wednesday 28th	9.00: Home learning parent workshop – Y4
	Thursday 29th	9.00: Home learning parent workshop – Y2 and Y3
Thursday 29th	<i>Last day of half term</i>	
EASTER BREAK FRIDAY 30TH MARCH – FRIDAY 13TH APRIL (INCLUSIVE)		
April	Monday 16th	<i>First day back at school</i>
May	Thursday 3rd	INSET day – school closed to children
	Monday 7th	May Bank Holiday – school closed
	Wednesday 23rd	6pm: Family Science workshop
	Friday 25th	2.30: Y6 Science showcase for all parents
	Friday 25th	<i>Last day of half term</i>
MAY HALF TERM MONDAY 28TH MAY – FRIDAY 1ST JUNE (INCLUSIVE)		
June	Monday 4th	<i>First day back at school</i>
	Friday 15th	KS1 Sports Afternoon
	Friday 22nd	KS2 Sports Day
	Friday 29th	EYFS Sports Afternoon
July	Thursday 5 th	3.50 – 6pm Parent-Teacher meetings
	Tuesday 10 th	3.50 – 7.30pm Parent-Teacher meetings
	Tuesday 17th	7pm - Y6 Production
	Friday 20 th July	9am: Leavers' assembly
	Friday 20 th July	<i>Last day of term</i>
Other dates to be confirmed: Class trips, music assemblies and PTA events		