

MAY NEWSLETTER



ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

May 2021 marks the 100th birthday of the Royal British Legion, the charity that supports the British Armed Forces members and veterans through its poppy merchandise amongst other fundraising events.



The Old Catton branch of this charity have organised a walking trail with stories of how the British Legion has helped people over the years.

They are also making a birthday poppy garden in Austin Way and our children are decorating leaves for the poppies.

All of this takes place on 8th May, starting at the Old Catton recreation ground where you will get a map of the trail (more information about this is on our school Facebook page).

HOLIDAY CLUB

We are delighted that our Cheeky Monkeys Holiday Club will open at Lodge Lane for the duration of the summer holidays. Sessions will be Monday to Friday from 22nd July until 3rd September but closed on 30th August for Bank Holiday.

This club is open to anyone from Reception to Year 6 from any school. Your child can attend for the whole day or just for the morning or afternoon. (7.00am-12.30pm or 12.30pm-6.00pm).



The cost is £25.50 for a full day (£22.00 for subsequent siblings) and £15.50 for half a day (£14.50 for subsequent siblings).

We will be running some themed weeks - Mr North will run a Sports Week for the weeks beginning 26th July and 23rd August, and other weeks are still being planned.

Booking information will be out soon.

CLASS PHOTOS

Please remember the deadline for ordering class photos with free delivery to school is Monday 3rd May and an email was sent from the school office with details on how to order.

STAFF NEWS

I am really sorry to tell you that Lucy Goodright will be leaving Lodge Lane, both Tiger Class and Cheeky Monkeys, on Friday 21st May to take up another post. She has been a dedicated part of the Lodge Lane team for seven and a half years and we will miss her hugely. I know that you will agree with me that her new setting is extremely lucky to be gaining such a wonderful member of staff and that their gain is definitely our loss.

We also had to say 'farewell' and 'happy retirement' to Denise Neave who left Cheeky Monkeys this week after 6 years of getting up very early to do Cheeky Monkeys Breakfast Club. Mr North will be taking over at both Breakfast and After School clubs to fill the gaps left by Denise and Lucy.

On a more positive note, we were delighted to hear the exciting news that Lauren Parkin had a baby girl last week and everything is going well for her and baby Erin.

SOCIAL MEDIA

We do a lot of work with the children about online safety but it has come to our attention that some parents are making negative comments about children in our school on social media. Although no names have been mentioned, people do read between the lines and come to their own conclusions which then leads to a lot of upset. There are always going to be children who find friendships tricky and who need support in understanding and managing their emotions. We put measures in place to support these children and as a result we see improvements in them as individuals and in their interaction with others. However, we are dealing with young children and things are bound to sometimes go wrong. I cannot tell you what to do or what not to do with regard to social media, but it would be much better if you let us know if you are unhappy about something that has happened at school rather than venting your frustration on social media - people find out what is being said and this leads to some parents feeling targeted and isolated.



Thank you for your support in this matter.

BIG TALK SURVEY

The Children's Commissioner for England would like all children and parents to complete a short survey called The Big Ask – it is to show the government what people think children need to live happier lives. If you would like to complete this survey and help your child take part as well, please follow this link

<https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/thebigask/>

FAMILY SUPPORT WORKER

Don't forget that Rachael our Family Support Worker can be contacted by email:

raitken6bra@nsix.org.uk She is available to work with parents as well as children, so if you need some support, please contact her and she will see if she can support you herself, or if not, she will signpost you to someone who can.

SPECIAL CENSUS LUNCH – THURSDAY 20TH MAY 2021

You will have received an emailed letter with information on the lunch changes on Thursday 20th May and Friday 21st May. Please send an email to the school office before Monday 10th May to confirm your child's order. The more children who have a school provided lunch on School Census Day instead of a home packed lunch, the more funding we secure for the school.

SUNFLOWERS

The children have all planted a sunflower seed for a competition being run by a local initiative 'Grow Your Own' project.



When the plants are strong enough, we will send them home for you to plant in your garden. There will be a gardening prize for the child in each participating school who grows the tallest sunflower. You will need to send us a photo of your child next to their sunflower and the height of the sunflower.

SCHOOL VALUE

Our school value for this term is **PERSEVERANCE** and there are plenty of examples of that going on in school every day. The children have done so well since they have come back to school, not just in their work but in finding their independence again, being part of a big class again, remembering all the daily routines and generally settling back into school life.

EASING OF RESTRICTIONS

We are still being very careful at school regarding COVID restrictions and are only easing things very gradually. Next week classes in each year group will be able to mix outside at playtime and lunchtime. Everything else will remain the same.

I am afraid we will not be holding any events for parents this term apart from a Y2 leavers outside singing event - see dates below. I understand this is very disappointing but we have done so well as a school to avoid an outbreak, and I do not want to jeopardise that.

VERBAL DYSPRAXIA AWARENESS DAY

Lots of our children at Lodge Lane receive support for one or more forms of speech and language disorders. This year we are going to celebrate **VERBAL DYSPRAXIA AWARENESS DAY**. Children with Verbal Dyspraxia have difficulty making and coordinating the precise movements needed to produce clear speech. This day is on Friday 14th May and children are asked to wear something blue on that day.

PARKING



We have had a few complaints from both parents and local residents regarding the parking again. Please can you remember to park considerately so that pedestrians, especially those with pushchairs, can walk past on the pavement. There should be no parking on any yellow lines or white zig-zag lines.

We are part of...

WENSUMTRUST

FOR CHILDREN, FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES

DIARY DATES



May		
Monday 3 rd	School closed for Bank Holiday	
Wednesday 5 th	'Friends of' Krispy Kreme doughnut order deadline - midday	
Friday 7 th	'Friends of' Krispy Kreme doughnut delivery	
Saturday 8 th	British Legion trail and poppy garden	
Friday 14 th	Verbal Dyspraxia awareness day	
Thursday 20 th	School census lunch	Please email the school office by Monday 10 th May with your child's order
Friday 21 st	Lunch menu change	
Friday 28 th	School closes for half term	
June		
Monday 7 th	School re-opens	
Monday 14 th	Science week starts	
July		
Thursday 1 st	Virtual Big Sing	
Monday 5 th	Sports week starts	
Monday 5 th – Wed 7 th	Height/weight/vision checks	Reception classes only
Monday 12 th	Leavers' singing – 2.00pm	Rockhopper Penguin Class
Tuesday 13 th	Leavers' singing – 2.00pm	Orangutan Class
Wednesday 14 th	Leavers' singing – 2.00pm	Hedgehog Class
Wednesday 21 st	Y2 leavers' party	
Wednesday 21 st	Last day of summer term	