

# September Newsletter

## WELCOME BACK!

Welcome back to the new school year! We hope you all had a wonderful summer and managed lots of fun, as well as some rest too. It was so lovely to see all of the children's smiley, happy faces on the first morning, ready to see their friends and their new teachers. Hopefully all the children will settle in well, but if there are a few teething issues, as sometimes happens, please do come and talk to us. Our staff team are very experienced and are more than happy to help if there is something troubling you or your child. Our door is always open.

Don't forget that our doors open at 8.30am and children should be in school, ready to start at 8.50am. If you are late and the classroom doors have closed, please go through the main office and sign your child in rather than knocking on the door.

Please read this newsletter very carefully. There is a lot of information in it and we would hate you to miss anything you need to know. All the dates for this year so far are at the bottom of the newsletter and any new ones will be added each month. These are also available on the calendar on our website for the rest of the school year.

## STAFF CHANGES

Just before the summer holidays, we were absolutely delighted to be awarded funding from the local authority to increase the staffing levels in Butterfly Room, our provision for our children with the highest needs. The provision will be for children from Lodge Lane, Garrick Green and Arden Grove Infant Schools. We are so excited to be able to extend the provision we started last year and to be able to make it even more effective for the children.

In addition, Monika Yallop decided to move on over the summer and has taken up a new role in a new school this September. Monika has been a valued member of the team for many years working both with children with SEND and in classes and has made a valuable contribution to the school. Although she will be very much missed, we wish her lots of luck in her new role.

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This has meant we have been busy recruiting staff over the summer holidays and we are so pleased to be welcoming Helen West, Holly Sear and Katrina Cook to the Butterfly Room team to work alongside Sophie Bryant, Pixie Mobbs and Manuela Martin - our existing team. Congratulations also to Manuela Martin who will be increasing her hours to full time and will be the EPL (Educational and Pastoral Lead) in Butterfly Room. All of these wonderful people are extremely skilled with working with children with complex needs and we know that they will have a really positive impact on the children they are working with.

In Leopard Class, we are pleased to welcome Hannah Woodruff as the EPA on Mondays and Tuesdays and Kerry Hales on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. This means that Jonathan Beevor will be freed up to work in his role as Cover Supervisor, and will be mostly found covering teachers where necessary, supporting in Reception and providing some children with the additional support that they need.

As you know, Sarah Spears will be Head of School and will be your daily point of contact for any questions, concerns, queries about the day to day running of the school or to help with anything you need. She will be working in Hedgehog Class on Mondays and Tuesdays and we are so pleased to welcome Tash Read to Hedgehog Class on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. Tash is an experienced teacher and we know she is excited about working at Lodge Lane. We also welcome Sarah Waterfield to the team as Executive Headteacher – see below for a hello from Sarah and more information about her role.

We know that you will extend a Lodge Lane welcome to all of our new staff and congratulations to everyone on their new roles.

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## Hello from Sarah

Dear Parents and Carers,

I'm so pleased to be joining the Garrick Green and Lodge Lane teams this year. It's been a lovely start, meeting the children and staff in what I like to call my *extended school family* – as I'm also still Executive Head at Arden Grove Infant & Nursery, where I've worked for 11 years, including the last 5 as Headteacher.

I'm passionate about creating happy, nurturing schools where children feel safe, valued, and excited to learn. For me, school should be a place where curiosity is encouraged, successes are celebrated, and children grow in confidence and I know this is the ethos of the three schools I will be part of.

The children will know me as Sarah – it's how I've introduced myself – and although I'll be splitting my time between three schools, I want the children to feel I'm part of the team even if they don't see me every day. I'll usually be at Arden Grove on Mondays, Garrick Green on Tuesdays, and Lodge Lane on Fridays, though there will be some flexibility. Please keep using your usual ways of contacting the school; the team will always keep me updated.

Over the coming weeks, I'll be spending time in classrooms, out on the playground, and hopefully chatting with many of you at drop-off. Please do say hello – I'd love to hear your thoughts and ideas.

Thank you for such a warm welcome already. I'm excited for the year ahead and feel very lucky to be part of these wonderful school communities.

Warm regards,

**Sarah Waterfield**

Executive Headteacher

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## **WEBSITE AND FACEBOOK**

School life is very busy and it can be tricky to keep up with events and all the things you need to remember, especially if you have more than one child and especially if you have children in other schools too! To help you with this, all the information you need is on our website. <https://www.wensumtrust.org.uk/lodgelane>

The calendar and newsletter sections are there for any information you may have forgotten or that you need to know in advance. The calendar for the whole year has been completed and any extra dates will be added as they are set.

If you click on an item on the calendar, it will give you more details of the event.

Newsletters are emailed to you each month and at the bottom of the newsletter, you will always find the dates that are coming up. Hopefully this is helpful in helping you to keep up with what you need to know.



Our Facebook page 'Lodge Lane Infant School' has a new photo regularly showing things we have been doing in recent days/weeks. Please like and share these posts so that we reach a wider audience.

Our other Facebook page 'Friends of Lodge Lane' is a public group and reminders and other information will be posted here. If you have not yet joined, please do so if you can.



## **SAFEGUARDING AND CHILD PROTECTION**

Because of our day-to day contact with the children we are particularly well placed to observe outward signs of abuse, changes in behaviour or failure to develop. We have a duty to protect children from abuse; however, our role is in recognition and referral, not investigation or intervention. We are required by law to follow procedures laid down by the Norfolk Safeguarding Children Partnership if we see signs which suggest that one of our pupils may have been the victim of abuse. Use of the procedures in this way in an obligation placed on the school by legislation and in no way infers that any parent/carer is being accused of wrong-doing.

Lodge Lane is registered with Operation Encompass. This means that Norfolk Police will contact the school concerning any domestic incidents which involve the families of our children the day after the incident occurred.

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## ATTENDANCE



Alongside this newsletter, you will also receive a letter about attendance and as you know it is something that we monitor carefully. We have a statutory duty to ensure attendance is as good as it possibly can be and we have policies and procedures that we have to follow by law and as part of effective safeguarding practices.

We are constantly trying to keep our school attendance in line with the national average but we need your support to do this. We are aiming for 95% attendance - last year we achieved this figure exactly! A lot of absence was due to genuine illness, but a lot was also due to holidays or odd days off here and there which we are really trying to avoid.

If your child is too ill to attend school, please ring the office to inform us. If they are off because of sickness or diarrhoea, then they must stay off for 48 hours after the last 'incident'

We are very aware that a lot of parents will still choose to book holidays in term time due to the cost. We understand that this may be the case but please be honest with us if this is what you have decided to do as it can be very stressful for a child to be asked to say they were poorly when that wasn't the case. Y1 parents should be aware that their children will be practising and doing their phonics screening check straight after May half term for 2 weeks.

The Y2 Leavers' show is on 30<sup>th</sup> June and 1<sup>st</sup> July - children who are on holiday in the weeks leading up to this will miss all the rehearsals and the singing practice so it will be very difficult for them to fully participate in the show.

## MEDICATION

If your child needs antibiotics administering, please go to the office to complete and form and drop the medication off.

## DRINK BOTTLES

All children need a named water bottle every day – please stick to water and not juice.

## WELLIES

All children need to have a pair of named wellies at school which they should leave at school all week.

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## **BOOK BAGS**

Children need to bring their book bag and reading book to school every day. A lot of our books were ruined last year because of drink bottles leaking in book bags so please use the book bag just for books and carry drinks separately. If your child's book is damaged beyond repair at home, we will ask you to pay for a replacement.

## **UNIFORM**

Please help us by making sure that every item of uniform is named. It is surprising how much lost property we gather each half term and obviously it is very difficult to return it if it isn't named. Even if your child's name is written in in a sharpie, this will help! It takes staff a very long time to work out who each item belongs to and obviously the children are so young, they can't really help us!

Please note that children should be in the correct uniform each day, including on PE days when they should wear joggers, leggings or shorts and a white t-shirt with a school jumper or cardigan. Please don't send them in football tops, hoodies, tracksuit tops etc. Please also note that children shouldn't be wearing jewellery, friendship bracelets etc and please keep their book bags free of bulky key rings as it means they won't fit in their trays.

## **READING BOOKS**

In Y1 and 2, your child's class teacher has been busy reading with your child to assess their current reading level. Most children will then be placed in a Guided Reading group with children of a similar ability, and will bring home their Little Wandle reading book for the week to practise reading at home with you on a Friday. You need to return this book the following Friday please so it can be changed.

In order to place children in the correct group at a level that is right for them, they may bring home a reading book which they have previously read. If this is the case, please don't worry - it is good for them to revisit previous books to build up their fluency. They will then move on to new books which they have not had before when we feel they are ready.

Please note: children in Year 2 who are fluent readers will choose from the coloured book bands and from a selected choice of chapter books in time and can change their books whenever they are ready rather than waiting for a Friday for their book to be changed.

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**WARNING**

**FOOD ALLERGY**

**ALLERGIES**

Please remember that we are a **nut free school** - some types of chocolate spread and cereal bars contain nuts so please check the ingredients before you send any of these products to school. If you wish to send your child with chocolate spread, we will need to see a photograph of the ingredients to ensure this is nut-free.

Due to a child's allergy, we are also a **chickpea free school** so please do not send any humous etc in packed lunches.

**CAR PARK**

Just a reminder that the school car park is just for staff so please do not use it at drop off or pick up times unless you have asked permission from the Head of School. Thank you. We will also keep the gate closed at drop off and pick up times and so we ask you to please enter and exit the site via the pedestrian gates only.



Please do not walk across the car park with your child as we have had a few near misses and are keen to keep everyone safe. If you do need to enter the car park to pick up your child for an appointment, please close the gate behind you to keep the site secure.

**CONTACT DETAILS**

Please remember to let us know if any of your contact details change or if you want school newsletters and other letters to be emailed to more than one parent.

**INFORMATION SESSIONS FOR PARENTS**



As always, we will be holding curriculum meetings for parents. There will be one for each year group. This year they will be led by the teachers. They are a really helpful way of finding out what your child will be doing, how the curriculum is designed and how you can help your child at home. It is really beneficial to attend the session if you possibly can. We understand that for working parents this can be very difficult so there will be slides available if you are unable to attend. However, it is hard to convey what we say in person in these slides so it is best to attend if possible

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## CHILDREN STARTING SCHOOL IN SEPTEMBER 2025

If you know anyone whose child is due to start school next September, please encourage them to come and have a look round. We are holding some open day sessions on the following dates and times. No need to book – just turn up.



  
Lodge Lane Infant School  
Everyone Learning Together...

**Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> October**  
9.30am - 11am

**Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> October**  
6pm - 7.30pm

**Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> October**  
1.15pm - 2.45pm

**No need to book,  
Just turn up to any event!**

Email: [office@lodgelane.norfolk.sch.uk](mailto:office@lodgelane.norfolk.sch.uk)  
Call us: 01603 413946

Find out more...  
[www.wensumtrust.org.uk/lodgelane](http://www.wensumtrust.org.uk/lodgelane)

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## OUTDOOR AREAS

Staff spend a lot of time before school getting activities and resources ready in the outside areas so please ensure your children do not start playing with whatever is out there. We know that it is all very tempting, especially for younger siblings, but it is very disheartening for staff to go out to do some learning with their children, only to find that what they have set up and organised has been spoilt. Please also don't allow children to play with sports equipment on the back playground before or after school, including balls etc as we have unfortunately had some parents and grandparents hit with balls in the past. Thank you!

## VOLUNTEERS

If any of you or a family member or friend could spare a couple of hours a week to volunteer at our school then we would be very grateful.

We need volunteers to listen to children read, to help with outdoor learning and we would also love someone to volunteer to keep our library tidy. Children use the library every day and are not great at putting books back in the right place or the right way up, despite lots of training!

If you are interested in any of these roles or any other voluntary role that you think you'd like to offer then please email Belinda - [office@lodge.lane.norfolk.sch.uk](mailto:office@lodge.lane.norfolk.sch.uk) and she will discuss it with you.

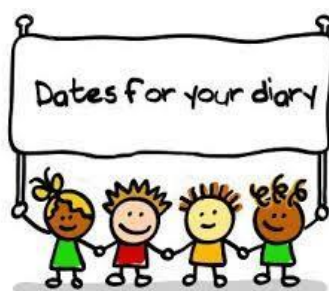
## HALF TERM

School closes for Half Term on **Friday 24<sup>th</sup> October.**

and the children come back on **Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> November.**

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<b>SEPTEMBER</b>			
24 <sup>th</sup>	Y2 Info session for parents	1.55-2.55pm	School Hall
26 <sup>th</sup>	Y1 Info session for parents	1.55-2.55pm	
30 <sup>th</sup>	YR Info session for parents	1.55-2.55pm	
<b>OCTOBER</b>			
2 <sup>nd</sup>	YR Screening - National Child Measurement Programme	YR will receive details via email	
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Open Event for Prospective Parents	9.30-11am	School Hall
8 <sup>th</sup>	YR Phonics Session for Parents	8.55-9.55am	School Hall
10 <sup>th</sup>	Flu Immunisations		
15 <sup>th</sup>	Open Event for Prospective Parents	6-7.30pm	School Hall
21 <sup>st</sup>	Open Event for Prospective Parents	1.15-2.45pm	School Hall
24 <sup>th</sup>	Last day School re-opens 3rd November		
<b>NOVEMBER</b>			
3 <sup>rd</sup>	School reopens		
4 <sup>th</sup>	School photos		
4 <sup>th</sup>	Y1 and Y2 Parent Open afternoon	2.20-2.50pm Details to follow	
5 <sup>th</sup>	Y1 and Y2 Parent Open afternoon	2.20-2.50pm Details to follow	

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**NOVEMBER continued.....**

6 <sup>th</sup>	Y1 and Y2 Parent Open afternoon	2.20-2.50pm Details to follow
10 <sup>th</sup>	Panda parent/teacher interviews	8.40-11.40am
10 <sup>th</sup>	Turtle parent/teacher interviews	1-5pm
11 <sup>th</sup>	Hedgehog parent/teacher interviews	8.40-11.40am
11 <sup>th</sup>	ALL classes – parent/teacher interviews	3.30-6.30pm
12 <sup>th</sup>	Tiger parent/teacher interviews	8.40-11.40am
12 <sup>th</sup>	Turtle parent/teacher interviews	4.00-6.30pm
13 <sup>th</sup>	Owl parent/teacher interviews	8.40-11.40am
13 <sup>th</sup>	Flu Immunisations – 2 <sup>nd</sup> catch up session	
14 <sup>th</sup>	Leopard parent/teacher interviews	8.40-11.40am
14 <sup>th</sup>	Turtle parent/teacher interviews	3.30-4.30pm
14 <sup>th</sup>	Children in Need non uniform day	
21 <sup>st</sup>	Friends of Lodge Lane Winter Fair	After School

**DECEMBER**

8 <sup>th</sup>	YR Nativity	Tiger and Panda	2pm
9 <sup>th</sup>	YR Nativity	Tiger and Panda	2pm
10 <sup>th</sup>	Y1 Christmas play	Owl and Turtle	2pm
11 <sup>th</sup>	Y1 Christmas play	Owl and Turtle	2pm
12 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas Jumper Day		

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<b>DECEMBER continued.....</b>			
18 <sup>th</sup>	Y2 Christmas carols in the hall	Leopard and Hedgehog	2.30pm
19 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Last day of term</b>		
<b>JANUARY</b>			
6 <sup>th</sup>	<b>School reopens</b>		

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## OPEN EVENING 2025

TUESDAY 21 OCTOBER

TOURS WILL TAKE PLACE AT:

3.30pm

4.15pm

5pm

To book a tour please...

Follow this [Booking Link](#)

Call us: 01603 426550

Find out more...

[www.wensumtrust.org.uk/firsidejunior](http://www.wensumtrust.org.uk/firsidejunior)



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**FOOTBALL CLUB**

# **FIREWORKS**

*Night*

**@LAVARE PARK**

Buxton Road, Norwich, NR6 7GD

**WEDNESDAY 5TH NOV**

**5PM - 10PM**

FIREWORKS AT 7:30

**LICENSED BAR & FUNFAIR**

**Single Ticket £5 / Family Tickets £15**

(1 adult, 3 children OR 2 adults, 2 children)

Raising funds for the  
Clubhouse development



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