



LONG CLOSE SCHOOL

PEGASUS NEWS

SUMMER TERM

ISSUE 2

FRIDAY 5 MAY 2017

THE HEADMASTER WRITES...



For some assemblies I spend a long time preparing and find the message is not as well received as I would have hoped but for others I come up with an idea in a moment and it all seems to work out better than expected! This morning was one of the latter occasions. I grabbed a book I am reading called 'If I could tell you just one thing....' by Richard Reed which was to form the basis of my talk, but the exact plan was a little sketchy. The book contains individual pieces of advice from over 50 different personalities from modern society, each one of whom is asked for their one piece of advice to help people navigate the world around them. Very shortly our own Year 11 pupils will be heading out into the world beyond the LCS gates and they will find it to be very different than the one they have experienced over recent years. As I introduced the assembly I mentioned to Year 11 that I would be asking for their one piece of advice for those pupils who are travelling the path they have already trodden. This would be their last senior assembly so now was the time to give it! I then asked the pupils to give me random page numbers which would then lead me to some of the advice in the book. The first choice took us to the advice of Noella Coursaris Musunka, a model from the Democratic Republic of Congo, who as well as being on the cover of Vogue also runs Malaika, an organisation she founded, providing education and schooling to young girls in the DRC. Her advice is 'Any voice you have in this world, you have to use it. Whatever money you have the day you die, you die without it, so donate it. If you can only give an hour of your time, then do that'. I could not have chosen a better piece of advice for those pupils in Year 11 who are about to start their journeys into society. The second choice took us to Ahmad 'Kathy' Kathrada and Denis Goldberg. No one in the room was familiar with these names but they are two people who spent 27 years in prison on Robben Island alongside Nelson Mandela. They have dedicated their lives to overthrowing apartheid and racial prejudice and their advice concluded 'And ultimately, the fight for justice will inevitably lead to success. No matter what the sacrifices are'. This was then followed, (rather coincidentally) by the choice of a page that was about Terry Waite's experience of spending four years in solitary confinement, having himself travelled to help others in a similar situation. His advice is 'It's the same lesson I learnt in that cell. What you have to do is live for the day, you have to say, now is life, this very moment. It's not tomorrow, it's not yesterday, it's now, so you have to live it as fully as you can. Invest in every day.' Our final choice took us to the advice of Bill Clinton and he advises 'one of the most important things is to see people. The person who opens the door for you, the person who pours your coffee. Acknowledge them. Show them respect'. When I then returned to the Year 11 pupils to ask them for their advice I have to admit to being rather proud of the pupils here. Connor talked about how we are fortunate to live in one of the wealthiest part of one of the wealthiest countries of the world and encouraged pupils to appreciate it and make the most of it. Amaan talked about how we can choose our attitude towards life and we can choose to be happy and again encouraged the pupils to enjoy their time here. And so whilst I had taken my inspiration for this assembly from a book the Year 11 pupils proved that they too can be inspirational leaders of the future, and I wish them well over the coming months and years. My only challenge now is to decide what my one piece of advice would be.....

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AFTER SCHOOL CARE MOBILE NUMBERS

ASC team members can be contacted on the following numbers between 3.30pm and 6.00pm each day.

If you are running late to collect your child from ASC, please give the staff on duty a quick call to let them know. Thank you!

**Nursery, Reception,
Yrs 1 & 2:
07783 198 998
Years 3-11:
07986 316 132**

EARLY YEARS UPDATE BY MRS HARRIS

It has been super to see so many of our nursery parents this week as you attend parents meetings for your children. I know Green Room parents have their meetings next week. It is a super time for us as practitioners to reflect with you on the journey your children have been on with us in the Nursery. If you are not able to make the designated times please feel free to make appointments with your room leaders to see them at another suitable time.

Date for the Diary

We have a 'Meet the Reception team' information evening meeting at 4pm on Tuesday the 16th of May for any of our parents with children moving up into Long Close School Reception in September 2017. Please look out for An invitation letter that will be sent out to you with further information regarding the event.

YELLOW ROOM

The children in the Yellow room observed our real caterpillars with curiosity and excitement this week as we watched them wriggle and noticed they were much bigger than the last time they visited them in the Blue Room! The children then made their own small and big caterpillars, children were supported in choosing different sized circles to make them at the creative table.

The children recalled the story of 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar' as they played with the visual aids and puppets at the interest table and looked at our story display on the wall.

We practised our balancing and coordination skills by pretending to be very small by curling up in a ball, then growing taller as we stood on our tip toes, raising our arms above our heads, falling asleep again as we wiggled back down onto the carpet, then waking up and fluttering about pretending to be colourful butterflies using some colourful scarves!

GREEN ROOM

This week a child came into the nursery and asked a question. 'Why do the clouds rain?' This demonstrated a very complex and critical thought process. Everybody thought about why it rains and how the clouds form in the sky. Miss Hamblin spoke to the children and told them that the clouds are made up of tiny water droplets that we can't see and when the water gets too heavy it rains. We then went on to carry out an experiment using water, shaving foam and food colouring to demonstrate how it rains when the water becomes too heavy.

We have also been exploring our minibeasts topic further this week as we watched the caterpillars grow and begin to spin their silk. The children began to recall the lifecycle using soft toys to represent each stage.

The children have had lots of fun creating their own caterpillars using potatoes and carrots. They have been talking about size and how a caterpillar grows. They used the carrots for the small caterpillars and the potatoes for the fat caterpillars! During this activity the children have also been looking at the different parts of a caterpillar and its colours.



THIS WEEK IN EARLY YEARS

RED AND BLUE ROOMS

The children in Red and Blue rooms have started their 'school readiness program' this week with great excitement. They have shown the grownups how they want to learn some new really routines, learning to sit in a circle and get their own personal belongings ready for home time at the end of the day. The children also went on an exciting visit to the Reception classrooms on Tuesday exploring the resources and getting a feel of the classrooms.

After learning about Kandinsky paintings last week, it was lovely to see so many children bringing in their own masterpieces to share with their friends that they created at home over the weekend for their home sharing activity. We look forward to displaying them for all to see. This week the children have continued to explore with colour and printing using different mediums such as bubble wrap, cotton balls, rollers and water paint to create caterpillars and other mini beasts.

We have continued to explore how things grow, observing our caterpillars as they grow bigger and bigger and are already beginning to spin their cocoon. We have been discussing further what plants need to grow as we monitor and water our newly planted beans and exploring the nutrients they get from the compost and soil we are planting with.



RECEPTION

This week Reception welcomed some furry friends into their classroom...Caterpillars! We were all so excited to have them, we even gave them a name each! This inspired us to explore and investigate other minibeasts that we find outdoors. We read many stories and non-fiction books giving us information about slugs, spiders, butterflies, earwigs and many more. During the week the children completed many tasks around these bugs. We had minibeast phonics, where the words were so tiny, the children had to use magnifying glasses to see which red words the minibeasts had been learning in their lessons, we had to sort some minibeasts that had got caught in a spider's web, and we also used magnifying glasses to investigate minibeasts in our Reception garden. We listened to stories about 'The Bad Tempered Ladybird', 'Superworm' and 'Norman the Slug with a silly shell!' We particularly enjoyed hearing about Norman, we decided to help him by decorating a beautiful shell out of giant pasta for him, as well as a pin wheel shell sandwich, which we enjoyed eating on Friday afternoon. Reception have loved finding out about minibeasts this week and can't wait to see our caterpillars transform into beautiful butterflies.

PREP SCHOOL NEWS BY MS FIELD

KEY STAGE 1

Year 1

Last week in Year 1 the children talked a lot about Mr Pavey leaving Long Close. They had a lot of questions and were keen to look at his new school on the Internet. They were also interested to see a picture of Ms McBride, the new Head teacher from September.

During their English lesson the children were tasked with creating a newspaper story to let everyone know the news. This inspired some wonderful sentence writing which included ' Mr Pavey might miss us all in Long Close School..' 'I feel sad because he is going to a new super beautiful school!' And the teachers favourite, 'I wish Mr Pavey can stay for the rest of your life and never retire!' I am sure you will agree, some brilliant work from our young writers in Year 1!

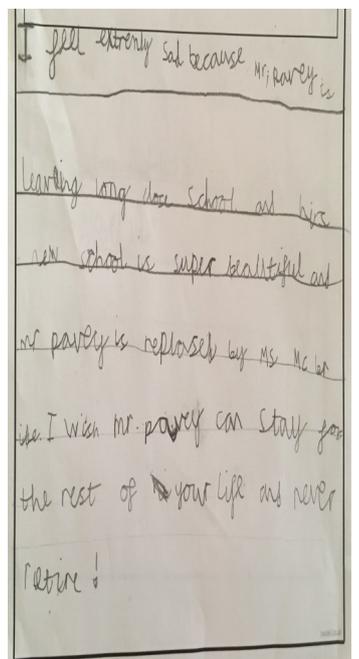
The highlight of the week was on Tuesday morning when the children were surprised with two visitors to the classroom; Mr Pavey and Ms McBride! The children were very excited and keen to talk to the visitors before the teachers jumped at the opportunity to take a photograph of them all!

From this one short visit the children already feel excited about next year and the challenges ahead!

Year 2

In Year 2 this week the children have been busy recapping their knowledge of subtraction. They started the week looking at the different vocabulary associated with subtraction such as minus, take a way, less than etc. and how all of these words result in making numbers smaller. The children then recapped over the different methods used to subtract numbers. Counting back, counting up, using their number bond knowledge and using a wide range of maths resources to help assist them with worded number problems. Towards the end of the week the children had great fun using this knowledge and applying it to subtraction board games. What fun!

Year 2 also had a special visitor this week, Kyon, Nayan Nakarja's puppy! Mrs Nakarja very kindly spoke to the Year 2 children about how to care for a puppy discussing a puppy's needs and what makes them a happy, healthy puppy. Year 2 had prepared a wide range of questions for Mrs Nakarja and Nayan to answer and we all learnt many new facts. The highlight of the visit was getting to stroke Kyon and feel how lovely and soft his fur was. Thank you so much to the Nakarja family!



PREP SCHOOL NEWS BY MS FIELD

KEY STAGE 2

Year 3

Year 3 have had a short, but eventful week! They have been concentrating hard on how to order and add fractions together and to use suffixes correctly in relation to past and present tenses. During Science, Year 3 have looked closely at the function of the different parts of a plant and are looking forward to planting their own seeds, to observe germination and the conditions that favour plant growth. The children were excited to learn about a new religion, Buddhism! They have decorated their own poster inviting people to celebrate Wesak, which is the main festival for Buddhists. Year 3 had a whale of a time on their trip today! They enthused over the artefacts from the Roman era and were eager to walk from venue to venue, exploring and discovering the wonderful things from the ancient times. What an exciting week!

Year 4

What a creative week Year 4 have had! In our DT lessons, we have been focusing on creating clay diva lights, as part of our cross curricular learning which focuses on India and Hinduism. The children have planned the style of their holder and the colours they hope to paint it with next week. Our creative juices continued to flow on Friday, when we had 'Spooks Theatre Company' leading a creative writing workshop. We know the children will have gone home full of excitement at the end of the day. In History, both classes have been learning about the Battle of Stamford Bridge. Did you know that a lone berserker stood guard on the bridge, preventing the Anglo Saxons from crossing and giving the Danes time to get ready for battle? It would be wonderful if each child could bring in a cereal box, for our DT project on clocks, by Friday 12th May.



Year 5

This week, Year 5 have worked very hard on their narrative poetry. The children analysed the poem 'Early Sunday Morning' and wrote their creations based on their own experiences. In geography, the children studied the rivers of the UK and discussed the features of a them. We have continued the ancient Greek work on the different city states and have reenacted the lives of Spartans and Athenians. None of the pupils wanted to be a Spartan child just in case they felt ill and were thrown down the mountain! This week's grammar work focused on relative clauses. The pupils identified relative clauses in sentences and used who and which to enhance the main clause. In RS, Islam has been the main topic and pupils learnt about the six articles of faith and the five pillars of Islam. We also looked at the different pilgrimages of Hajj and Umrah and we watched videos of what happens in Mecca during Eid. Some pupils have also been keen to share their own Muslim artifacts which made the lessons even more exciting! We look forward to beginning the topic of Hinduism next week and we would like to invite any parent or pupil who would like to share some of their religious objects and experiences of the religion with us.

PREP SCHOOL NEWS BY MS FIELD

KEY STAGE 2

Reflection on Last Term by Yr.5 students:

Y5 Trip: In January, Year 5 went to Stratford-Upon-Avon, the birthplace of William Shakespeare. We studied antique Shakespearean coins which we handled carefully with gloves. We entered a strong room with a wide collection of Tudor artefacts, including a beggar's license. We saw Queen Elizabeth's signature and used quill pens to write our names. Another activity was making hot bees' wax seals. As well as that, we had the opportunity to use some of the money to do some Tudor shopping. Using shillings and pennies was not so easy after all! The fantastic day finished off with a trip to the gift shop and a visit to Hall's Croft.

Choir: The whole of choir raced get tickets enabling us to be able to go to the O2 arena to perform at Young Voices Concert. The day was getting closer and practising the songs became a real challenge. Finally the day came and choir felt very excited to get on the bus. On the way, we stopped off at a service station, where some people put their money together to get a colossus cheese PIZZA, other people went to KFC, MacDonald and M&S. The moment when choir reached the O2 arena was a tense one as there was so many children there - just over 7000!

We sang: Sing, Pop Melody and Birdhouse in Your Soul amongst many others.

In February, our choir went to Wellington Collage. They spent 7 hours practising a variety of songs and then performed in front of the parents. There were many schools and it was an extremely nerve raking experience, yet a super-exciting one! Luckily, we were given a packed lunch and later hot sausages for dinner, yummy!

Sport: In netball, the year 5 team started off with heavy defeats. However, we improved as the season went on. This term we played St. Bernard's and Eton End schools twice each, resulting in a great victory. The girls in this season's team were Meera Tharper, Nikita Saini, Ophelia Edgson, Anisha Naidoo, Parri Gohil, Jasmine Bath, Husna Mahmood and Alisha Choudry. The boys' football team had many successes this term and only lost one match. They played Oratory School, St Mary's School, St Bernard's, Dair House, Khalsa Primary schools. The boys in this season's team were DT: In our DT lessons this term, we have created moving toys using cams. These changed the movement of the object. Our cam toys were in the form of dogs, swans and dinosaurs. We had to use a variety of tools and were extremely pleased with the results.

Curriculum Collapse Week: We had a fabulous times learning about pre-history. We made quilled dragon flies and papier-mâché volcanoes as part of the topic. As well as that, we took on a very creative approach and wrote a variety of poems based the story 'The Pebble in My Pocket'. To culminate the week, we performed 'The Mammoth Hunters' song in the final assembly. It was an amazing week!

We have thoroughly enjoyed this busy term and learnt a great deal!

Raheim Wahedally, Gabriel Joly, Ophelia Edgson and Malvika Kaujalgi

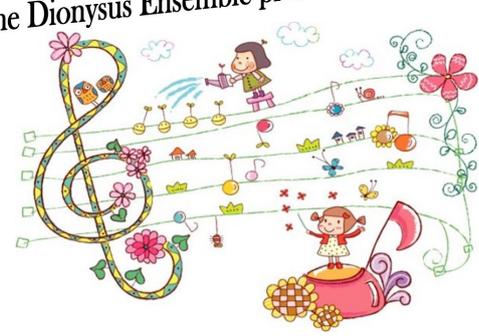
PEGASUS CERTIFICATE AWARDS:

1H Divya Ramesh
1S Harry
2M Aleeza Chowdhry
2W Eshan Mehra
3I Sameer Ahmad
3R Krish Patel
4M Suhani Jain
4R Diya Dosanjh
5B Gabriel Joly-Panayatiou
5C Aryan Sharma
6F Maria Bibi



MUSIC DEPARTMENT NEWS BY MRS BINGHAM

The Dionysus Ensemble presents



A Musical Adventure

11am, Monday 29th May 2017

Suitable for Ages 0-7
All Children £2 – Adults free
Book your place online at
www.amusicaladventure.co.uk

St Mary's Church, Church St, Slough SL1 1PJ

Children's concert with bite-sized music.
Get up, join in & dance.

Kindly sponsored by

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SENIOR SCHOOL NEWS BY MR MCCARTHY

YEARS 7-11 Parents Meeting—Cyber Safety/Social Media: What teenagers are really getting up to?

Wednesday evening was an interesting and open discussion on the issue of cyber safety and how to best control a child's innocence of becoming a victim of social media crime. The word TRUST came up a lot and PC Sloane from Thames Valley Police presented 'real-life' issues that are occurring amongst teenagers and younger children who are growing up in the world of the Internet and Social Media in their daily lives.

We are arranging a further talk for those parents who could not make it. If you have any concerns, or would like to discuss further please contact Mr. McCarthy.





SCHOOL NOTICES AND MATCH REPORT

OPEN DAY—SATURDAY 6 MAY 2017, 10.00-12.00 NOON

We would like to invite you to come and see your child's school in action at our next Open Morning on Saturday 6 May 2017, 10.00-12.00 noon. Ms Melissa McBride (appointed Headteacher from Sept 2017) will be addressing visitors at 10.15am before tours of the school start with our pupils from 10:30am. Mr Pavey will also be attending to welcome new and current parents.

All pupils are required to attend the event and will need to be in full Summer uniform (unless taking part in Sports where full PE kit will need to be worn). Should your child not be able to attend, please inform their form tutor asap. Details of pupil activities will be given nearer the time.

SPORTS FIXTURES FOR W/C 6 MAY 2017

U9 Rounders v St.Bernards (h)
U13 Cricket v Claires Court (h)
U11 Rounders v St.Bernards (h)

GOOD LUCK!

For the Yr. 6 SATS and Yr.10-11
GCSE exams.

Remember to use Firefly for
useful revision tips.

SCHOOL EVENTS FOR W/C 8 MAY 2017

Mon 8 May—Yr. 6 SATS Week
Thurs 11 May—Yr. 7-10 PSHE Day
Fri 12 May—Yr.5 Trip to the British Museum
Yr. 8 Trip to Mars Conference Centre

PTA NEWS

Summer Sports Carnival

We are very glad to see the sun has finally made an appearance, and the good news is that it's just in time for some great new playground equipment that we have ordered for the children to enjoy. More on our fundraising efforts is below, but this week we



wanted to say a big **THANK YOU** to everyone who has helped us to work towards the fundraising target set this year. We are very excited to be giving something back to the children to make their school life even better!



£3800

We're almost there!!

→ £1500



With our events run to date we have Managed to raise an impressive £1,800. This money along with the rest we are hoping to raise will be funding a number of things including:

NEW playground equipment and storage Two all-weather table tennis tables! Leavers events for year 6 students and year 11 students.

The playground equipment and table tennis tables will be making an appearance soon so look out for them. The children will be spoilt for choice with cricket bats and balls, hula hoops and basketball hoops amongst other things. We hope you agree that this is money well spent!



Stay in contact with us-

Join the PTA Facebook page



longcloseschoolpta@gmail.com