



LONG CLOSE SCHOOL

PEGASUS NEWS

SUMMER TERM

ISSUE 5

FRIDAY 26 MAY 2017

THE HEADMASTER WRITES...



On Monday evening in the Pavey household stress levels had been pretty high. GCSE Mandarin and Latin falling on the same day, as well as end of year exams for the other children were creating tension and arguments on a scale not really seen before. By the time my eldest was leaving for the 'worst day of her life' on Tuesday morning everything had been firmly put in perspective by the horrendous events from the following evening. During the school day on Tuesday we reflected on how we should approach the tragedy with the school

children and decided to have an assembly for Year 3-10, with the younger children in KS1 discussing it in their forms. At times such as these I seek the counsel of others wiser than me and thankfully there was a lot of online help around exactly the topic that I have grappled with before – how to approach such horrors with very young children. The key messages were to be factual (without too much detail), highlight how rare these events are, clarify that this particular situation is now over, and to reassure the children that there is someone to talk to if they are worried or anxious about something. This may be a parent, another adult, a teacher or a friend. We are also making online counselling services available to our children through our Firefly pages for anyone who feels they would benefit from this (for this or any other reason). Finding the right words and the right messages can also be a challenge – and this is where I turn again to help from other people. The following words come from David Walker, the Bishop of Manchester. I read them to the children in assembly on Wednesday as they fully support our own beliefs here at LCS. "[This is] how we respond to atrocities. We open our hearts. That's often the immediate response. The challenge is to make that a long lasting response. "I chair a meeting of all the faith leaders from Greater Manchester. We know each other very well, we're very used to coming together and sharing with one another at a very deep level. We all have the interests of the city and one another at heart. We're united. And at a local level within communities in Manchester there's good relations between the mosques, the synagogues, the temples and different faith communities and those with no faith at all. We will keep those channels of communication open and particularly reach out to anyone who might be vilified as a result of last night. "There's always after an event like last night a tendency to create blame by association. And so we must make clear that is not the way we behave or react. The guilt for last night belong to the perpetrators and the perpetrators alone. It doesn't go beyond them. "My message to the Muslim community is: you are one with us. Just as you were yesterday, you are one with us. Part of us. A vital part of us. You will go on being a vital part of us. "You will be part of how we together respond to last night, how we together repair the damage, rebuild what's destroyed and and go forward as the fantastic, diverse community we are. "Already this morning, when I first made a comment on social media, the trolls were up and about and presenting their malign influence. But they are a very tiny minority and one we need to isolate in this. "Most of us are good at distinguishing what is the truth in this. We know, again and again, a little phrase: love wins."

I could not have expressed my own sentiments more clearly than this. Manchester has shown how to come together as a community, how to react to a tragedy and how to look to build bridges and move forwards. We remember Manchester and everyone affected by the events of Monday evening in our prayers. I wish you all a restful and enjoyable half-term.

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**“THANKYOU
PTA FOR OUR
NEW
PLAYGROUND
EQUIPMENT!”**

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

We have had a fabulous half term it has raced by and we have another super busy half term ahead of us so I think a rest is in order! We have quite a few diary dates in the calendar for the Early Years children so please keep an eye on the calendar, Firefly noticeboard and read your school comms for information and events reminders. We will be sending our current Yellow and Green room parents Transition letters straight after half term so that they are able to help their children adjust to the moves into different internal nursery rooms in September. The children will be spending Tuesday mornings playing in their new rooms so that they have the opportunity to feel more settled with the transition in September. The Red and Blue Room parents who are transitioning into Long Close Reception will receive a communication during the week of the induction day on the 30th of June informing them of their children's new class teachers. This will allow you to have a conversation at home with your children to support their exciting induction afternoon and transition journey into full time school. Our current Reception children will also find out who their new teachers are during the week of induction afternoon via a letter sent home in your child's book bag. As in Reception the Year 1 teachers work together and enjoy many activities and lessons together. Sun safety reminder. Please make sure your children have a labelled sun hat and sun cream in school, apply cream before your children arrive in school whenever possible.

Happy Half Term! Mrs.S.Harris

YELLOW ROOM

In the Yellow room this week the children have been using their imagination as they explored the different role-play activities. The children have been shopping, using hand-bags, pressing buttons on the electronic computers, tills and mobiles to support their play and exploring the home-corner kitchen, making 'tea' and 'cooking.' The children have also listened to the story of 'The Tiger Who Came to Tea,' this week. We then recalled the story when having a role play tea-party with our own tiger!

The children have kept cool this week having lots of fun filling and emptying vessels using cups in the water tray, watching it run and splash down the water wheels in the sunshine.



GREEN ROOM

The children have had a fantastic time this week painting their dinosaur egg, they have used a range of colours and explored what happened when they were mixed together. The children first chose and used 2 colours and then began to add and mix more. The result was a brown dinosaur egg! We are now wondering if the dinosaur will hatch over the half-term



holiday. As the weather has been so beautiful the children have made the most of it as they explored shapes in the garden. We have been using the shapes to create a variety of arrangements such as rockets, cars and houses. We then went on to play a 'shape game' which involved the children having to pick up or jump on the shape that was called out by a grown up. Have a lovely half-term holiday!



THIS WEEK IN EARLY YEARS

RED AND BLUE ROOMS

We have celebrated the release of our butterflies into our nature garden with interest this week. The children hope to see them soon using the binoculars and magnifying glasses on their minibeast hunts! We soon cheered ourselves up after saying goodbye to our butterflies as we decided to have some fun with the face paints choosing many different animals to be painted onto our faces and arms to transform us.

The children soon got into character and we had some super roaring tigers, wriggly caterpillars, fluttering butterflies, creeping spiders and spotty ladybirds parading around the nursery and acting out some wonderful roleplay scenarios with their peers. Mrs. Harris couldn't believe the wonderful shows she received at her office door!

The children have enjoyed role playing in our new post office area this week, pretending to be postal workers sorting out post. Postmen and women writing and delivering letters and parcels to both adults and peers. Some of the children wrote letters to their family before posting them in the post box whilst others served customers in the post office.



RECEPTION

The week began in Reception with a mystery to solve. When entering the classroom we discovered giant footprints all over the classroom! which led to two objects which looked like eggs. The children speculated as to what they were and who they belonged to. To our surprise, by the afternoon the eggs hatched and we found two baby dinosaurs inside! No one in reception had ever had dinosaurs as a pet, so we thought we needed to find out a little more to be able to take good care of them. We discovered dinosaurs lived many many years ago with their being many different kinds, triceratops, stegasaurus, velociraptor being just a few. There were meat eaters, 'carnivores' and plant eaters, 'herbivores,' this led to a discussion of what diet we had and many of us said we ate both, making us omnivores! Reception spent the rest of the week enjoying lots of dinosaur activities, making fossils from salt dough, designing our own dinosaurs using pasta shapes, measuring dinosaur footprints, exploring dinosaur slime and reading many books about them, including our favourite 'Dinosaurs love underpants,' By Claire Freedman. We ended the week by making a dinosaur hat and having a 'dino' party, we had lots of fun stomping like dinosaurs and sharing our loudest roars in the garden!



PREP SCHOOL NEWS

KEY STAGE 1

Year 1

There was much excitement this week in Year 1 as our Geography and Science topics came to an end. This half term in Geography the children learnt all about mapping skills, culminating in this week's lesson where the children were asked to direct their partner using a map to where they hid treasure! In Science we have been talking a lot about Plants and growing. Last week the children looked closely at leaves through microscopes and this week they were naming different parts of a flower. It was also super to see that many children had grown the tomato seeds that were sent home over the Easter holidays. and they are nearly bearing fruit!



Year 2

What a fabulous half term the Year 2 children have had! The children have worked so hard revisiting lots of concepts in maths and English consolidating and perfecting their skills. After all the hard work and efforts they have put in, a well-deserved treat was needed! Today the children visited Upton Court Park for a fun filled morning with their peers. This was followed by watching a movie of their choice whilst eating some yummy popcorn! Well done Year 2! Year 2 ended the day by saying goodbye to the beautiful butterflies that hatched earlier in the week. The children sent good luck messages as the butterflies flew away wishing, 'Willow', 'May', 'Rose' and 'Ronaldo' all the best!



PEGASUS CERTIFICATES 16 MAY—20 MAY:

1H Ekam Kaur
1S Ronav Virmani
2M Maia Soponaro-Dar
2W Kierat Bhandal
3I Kara Bains
3R Aidan Larkin

4M Rohan Dhariwal
4R Prabhveer Mundra
5B Dauood Saba
5C Aaron Lall
6F Harvey Sohal
6O Nathan Hallett



PREP SCHOOL NEWS

KEY STAGE 2

Year 3

Year 3 have taken full advantage of the glorious weather and have enjoyed group reading outside as well as various fact- collecting activities on the school site. Excitement has erupted on the arrival of the long awaited, beautiful butterflies which emerged this week from their chrysalises. In maths the children have had fun estimating and measuring the weight of rocks and objects around the children. They have now developed a more realistic idea of how much everyday items weigh. The pupils were fascinated to learn about animals which have already died out and have studied in some depth reasons why certain creatures have become extinct which has made them understand how vulnerable some species are today.

Year 4

As part of our Year 4 RS topic, both classes have been learning about the different Hindu festivals, Holi and Diwali. They watched film clips and took brief notes about how and why each festival is celebrated. Following on from this, the children wrote some informative letters about Diwali. Revision has been the name of the game in our mathematics lessons, where both classes have been recapping on the Year 4 topics. Some children are still a little wobbly on their times tables and division equivalents. Please can everyone try their best, over the half term, to revise these. We hope everyone enjoyed the painted candle holders that the children brought home this week. Everyone felt very proud of what they have created. The revision packs have all gone home, but please ensure children revise the topics in their class books, ready for assessment fortnight.

Year 5

The children were delighted to discover how plants germinate! Please remember to collect seeds over half term as we will be beginning our growing competition after half term. We terminated the topic of Hinduism learning about the main deities and the key beliefs of moksha, karma and reincarnation. We were so impressed with the artefacts that the pupils brought to school to share with the class. In Geography, we have learnt about the amazing power of waterfalls. This week we have discussed with the children the expectations of the revision and have given them revision packs for Grammar and Maths. Also, the children will be able to study from their books using the revision prompt sheets. We further suggest that they read through and revise from their old History, Science, RS and Geography books. We hope that you enjoy the half term sunshine!

Year 6

Year 6 have planned, design and are now in the process of making board games for year2. These are both fun and educational! In DT their wood sawing skills have been put to the test and gas masks boxes have been completed in History. This week has been writing week as all pupils have taken advantage of the opportunity to complete the last pieces of SATs work before put forward for moderation.

SENIOR SCHOOL NEWS



**YEAR 10 EXAMS WILL COMMENCE ON
5 JUNE NOT ON 12 JUNE.
All information is available on Firefly.**

PLEASE LOOK AT FIRELY FOR INFORMATION ABOUT EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING

NSPCC

KOOTH[®].com

FREE ONLINE ADVICE FOR YOUNG PEOPLE



SENIOR PUPIL WORK SHOWCASE

By Arun Ramtale- Yr. 10

My heart stops for a moment before I realise the horrible predicament I am in. Before I know it the sand is at waist level already and falls through my fingers, just like Joseph did last summer. I'm clawing away, trying something, anything to get out of this hell, as my forehead is submerged, I drop to a floor and my ears ring and I can barely utter a whimper or noise.

A few minutes pass as I regain my senses and the smell is metallic like a 5p coin, men approach me, attired in gas masks and hazmat suits. My head space is so incredibly confused, I cannot resist the grips of these men, and they throw me into another room, on my knees.

My eyes meet the aspects of this room, and I cannot begin to comprehend what is there before me. The men leave, I get up, half limping, to see what these things were. Pods. With other people suspended within them, with my white hair and my blue eyes. I turn my head to the wall and in tens of floodlights, a billboard-sized swastika, and a drooping feeling in my stomach becomes apparent.

SCHOOL NOTICES AND MATCH REPORT

SPORTS NOTICES

Please note that Rounder's club on Thursday 8 June is cancelled due to the Yr. 6 PGL.

U9 v Dair House Match Report – Tuesday 23/05/17:

Although the weather looked pretty grim at the start, Long Close U9s performed superbly on Tuesday afternoon. During the first innings of 'pairs cricket' where each team starts on 200 runs, we took 10 wickets with fantastic bowling from Yuvraj Sanga and Laksh Bajaj that led to Dair House finishing on 214 runs. The second innings could only be described as 'sensational' as Long Close scored 113 runs with excellent batting from Jeevan Pangali, Aadam Saba and Abdullah Iqbal.

The final score was 313-0 to 214-10!

-Mr Dunford

PUPIL BELONGINGS

Please can you ensure that all items of school clothing are labelled clearly with your child's name. If parents can please check all items of school uniform over the holidays to ensure that you have your own child's uniform and return anything not belonging to them to the main office.

Thank you.

SUMMER UNIFORM

Summer has at last arrived! Please ensure your child returns after half term in our full summer uniform - details can be found on our website. As a reminder for the Prep School this **includes: summer dresses for the girls; and short sleeved shirts for all boys and short trousers for boys in Years 1 to 5.**

LITTER IN UPTON COURT CAR PARK

It has been brought to our attention, the litter in the car park by the pupil entrance has increased. Whilst we benefit from a large, free, close-by car-park, this is not owned by the school and we have raised this issue with Slough Borough Council.

HAVE A LOVELY BANK HOLIDAY HALF-TERM, WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU ON 5 JUNE.

PTA NEWS

2 weeks to go till the Summer Sports Carnival!!!

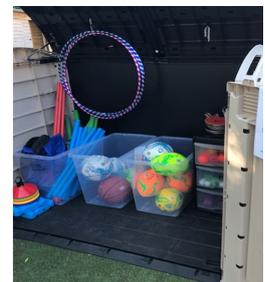


The plans for the Summer Sports Carnival are coming together and we hope you are all looking forward to the day as much as we are!



Last week we had the pleasure of reviewing all of the entries to the programme cover design competition and picking a winner was a hard job, so was picking a winner from each year group. The winner's details will be announced on our Facebook page this evening so look out for more details on there!

THANK YOU!! Those of you who were at school this morning or afternoon hopefully saw the excitement on the children's faces and ours(!) when we unveiled the equipment we have bought with funds raised through various PTA events. Every event ticket/tuck shop sweet/Mother's & Father's day gifts bought have all made a difference for our children so thank you for your participation in all our events!



Stay in contact
with us:



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