



## **LYNGFORD PARK PRIMARY & NURSERY**

BIRCHAM ROAD, TAUNTON, TA2 8EX

TEL: (01823) 284912

E-mail: [office@lp.huish.education](mailto:office@lp.huish.education)

Headteacher: Mr N Arnold

Deputy Headteacher: Mr L Upham

Designated Safeguarding Lead: Kim Barratt

*'Believe. Achieve. Be proud.'*

**Spring Term**

**Newsletter 1**

**10<sup>th</sup> January 2025**

Dear Parents and Carers

**Happy New Year!** We all hope you had an enjoyable festive break.

The weather has turned very cold and wintry, but much easier than many places across UK! Children must come to school in uniform and with appropriate additions (coat, scarf, gloves, 2<sup>nd</sup> pair of socks and hat too if possible). Whilst there is little suggestion snow is coming, if we do have severe weather, we will only ever close if it is not safe for children (not enough staff, site is dangerous, heating fails etc). Should we ever make that last-resort decision, it will be posted on class dojo as early as possible. **Parents are encouraged to check dojo regularly.**

### **Year 3/4 Trip this week – SUCCESS!**

On Wednesday, despite the cold weather, all children came to school wrapped up appropriately and staff lead them all for a walk around Taunton to support their new Geography and writing topics. Everyone achieved the challenge and 6 miles later, returned proud of their achievements. Following the trip, there will now be fantastic opportunities to discuss and write about all they observed and heard. Thank you to those parents who helped with the trip.

### **Clubs will start from Monday 13<sup>th</sup> January**

The club letter was sent out this week on dojo – please see the letter for more details and book up using MCAS.

### **School Meals – late orders will have implications**

As a reminder, please ensure you order your hot meal by the deadline. Meals are ordered in 3-week blocks. The deadline is always midnight on the Monday for the *following* week. (Always ordering a week in advance).

Therefore, if you miss the deadline, you will need to provide your child with a packed lunch for the whole week as meals are made to order – and there are rarely leftovers!

### **Class Dojo**

An essential method of communication for all parents to know what is happening. Staff will post information and news on this platform and if you have any minor issues, this can be used to ask questions. If you are not set up on Class Dojo, please speak with your child's class teacher who will invite you to join the group. Newsletters are sent via dojo.

**Whilst you can contact teachers on dojo, please do not expect an answer out of working hours.**

### **Uniform – polite reminder...**

**Thank you to the vast majority who come to school in full uniform and look appropriately smart.**

For the small number of children not in full uniform, we kindly ask parents to address this. Good routines are essential for all. There is a small range of pre-loved uniform available in emergency – please speak with Kim if needed. We do not retain any footwear for hygiene reasons.

### **Morning Starts: 8.40 – 8.50am – reminder...**

**Thank you to those who always arrive by 8.50 each morning.** As a direct result, your child settles, starts their morning learning and are ready for the day! Children who arrive late very often struggle to settle as quickly, and miss out on vital learning time – which will impact their progress if this happens repeatedly.



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### Home Reading...YOUR CHILD NEEDS YOUR HELP, PLEASE...

Following analysis of home reading records over the **Autumn Term in KS2**, please help improve this concern:

**Percentage of 5+ reads:** Red Oak 93% / Silver Birch 46% / Rowan 53% / Beech 47% / Whitebeam 55%  
**We expect parents to hear their child read 5+ times per week for 15-20 minutes per session.**

**Well done Red Oak** and hopefully their KS2 SATs reading paper will be positive. However, in other year groups, whilst some children are obviously doing extremely well, around 50% of each class in KS2 are missing out.

**Please contact your child's class teacher if you need support to help improve reading at home.**

### Attainment from Autumn Term – each KS2 year.

**Whilst 70%, 71% and 74% are encouraging, more home reading will raise attainment further.** The 61% for Year 6 is positive as this is from end of year 2023 SATs paper, and the Year 6 completed it in December.

Year	Attainment		
	September Baseline	Autumn Term	Progress
6	64%	61% (Based on 2023 KS2 SATs paper)	-3%
5	67%	71%	+4%
4	73%	74%	+1%
3	66%	70%	+4%

**Nut Allergy. We are a NO NUT school.**  
**This includes Nutella, Snickers and some chocolate spreads!**

### Morning Gates open 8.40am and shut at 8.50am.

Children in Reception and KS1 use Bircham Road gate. KS2 use Luxhay Close gate.  
Please kindly avoid driving down Luxhay Close to ensure the safety of all children.

### Attendance Clarification

**Term Time Leave Requests will not be authorised in ALMOST ALL CASES.**  
**It is NOT THE DECISION OF THE SCHOOL, but clear directives from Government.**

Exceptional circumstances are extremely rare and ONLY include emergency services / forces personnel with proof of enforced holiday period OR holiday industry employees with proof of this being the ONLY time period allowed by the employer – which is hardly ever the case.

**The Local Authority (LA) decide when issuing Penalty Notices.**

As a school, we inform the LA of unauthorised absences, and if 10 unauthorised absences over a 10-week period is breached, the LA may then issue a fine. Fines do not come to our school budget, but to the Local Authority.



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## **Starlyngs – Wraparound Phone Number: 07493 977 397**

Our office closes at 4pm on a daily basis, including the phone lines.

Please call the above number when you wish to collect your child, and they will be brought to the main gate. After 4.30pm, collection is from the Nursery gate. You still need to call the above number or buzz the Nursery gate.

Best wishes for a great Spring Term!

Kind regards

*Nick Arnold*

**Nick Arnold**  
**Headteacher**