

At Lobley Hill Primary School we aim to 'Be the Best We Can Be' through being curious, adventurous and respectful in order to achieve personal excellence.



22 July 2022

Dear Parents/Carers

As another year comes to an end, I wanted to thank you all for your continued support throughout the year. It has been wonderful to have everyone back in school for the full year without having any further lockdowns and this has enabled us to focus on children's mental health and wellbeing as well as their academic work. Our children have been incredibly resilient and worked extremely hard, I hope you are as proud of their progress and achievements as we are. Being able to do things face to face has been a bonus and enabled us to reintroduce many of the activities and extra-curricular events that enhance our curriculum, particularly during the summer term when the majority of restrictions were lifted.

Some of the events and activities we have done in the last few months include:

- Easter Egg Competition
- Dance Festival – children in Reception, Year 1, Year 3/4 and Year 5 participated at The Sage
- Family Forest School in Reception
- Athletics Festival
- Class visits to support and enhance their taught curriculum
- After school clubs
- Year 6 activity week with visits to Watergate Park, cinema, Sambucca restaurant and Whickham Thorns
- Year 5 - outdoor activities with Muddy Monsters
- Queens' Platinum Jubilee
- Healthy term activities include: Craig Heap, Hoopstarz, 3SIXTY Bike Stunt Team, Nick the Chef and Circus Skills
- Having coaches back in school to work with the children in PE, these include: Multi-skills, Tag Rugby, Basketball
- CHUF Fundraiser
- Visits to Beggars' Wood
- Class visits linked to taught curriculum

This year we were able to update the fixed play equipment in the Early Years Garden thanks to donations and fundraising. During the Easter holidays a new slide, basket swing and sand pit were installed and the children love exploring in their new outdoor environment. A special thank you to Tesco, Metro Radio, Slique Professional Hair Salon, Kulars (Nisa) and Waitrose and of course to our families and community for supporting our fundraising efforts through Christmas raffles, calendar sales and Spooky Day.



As the term ends we say goodbye to Miss Collins who teaches in Nursery, she is moving to Caedmon Primary School and Mr Wilson who teaches in Year 5, he is moving to Harlow Green Primary School. We would like to thank them for all they have done here at Lobley Hill and wish them lots of love and luck as they take on new adventures in their new schools – they will be missed very much.



We also say goodbye to our lovely year 6 children who are now ready to move onto new adventures in secondary school – thank you for being superb role models to everyone in school, an inspiration to our younger children and a fantastic group of hardworking, kind and caring pupils. We are so proud of all you have achieved and look forward to hearing of all the great things you do in your bright futures.

School Year 2022-23

In September we have made slight alterations to the timings of school day having removed the staggered start – school will start at **8.45am** for all children and finish at **3.30pm** for all children. Children in Reception and Year 1/2 can arrive and leave from either Key Stage 1 or 2 yard (depending on which is most convenient for parents/carers) and all children in Key Stage 2 will arrive and leave via the Key Stage 2 yard. This gives us a slightly longer day in school which enables us to fit more into our timetable ensuring children receive a broad and balanced curriculum in all year groups. Morning Nursery will remain as 8.30am-11.30am and afternoon Nursery 12.30pm-3.30pm.

All children need to be in full school uniform on the days they do not have PE. On PE days they must wear school PE kit.

School Uniform

- Black school shoes or boots (No trainers) Velcro fasteners are helpful for Early Years.
- Black or grey trousers, skirts or pinafore dresses (No leggings, jeans or sports trousers) Pull on styles are easiest for Early Years.
- Sky blue polo tops (with or without school logo)
- Royal blue cardigans or jumpers (with or without school logo) School fleeces are for outdoor use only.
- Blue and white summer dresses or black/grey school shorts
- Black, white or grey socks or tights
- No jewellery or earrings—only exception is a watch.
- No PE kit is required in Early Years
- Early Year and Key Stage 1 - The children must have a school book bag and spare clothes in a drawstring bag only please—NO RUCKSACKS
- Key Stage 2 – school book bag – No RUCKSACKS

PE Kit

- White t-shirt/polo-shirt
- Plain navy/black sweatshirt
- Navy/Royal blue or black plain shorts
- Navy/black plain tracksuit bottoms
- Black trainers/sandshoes

Please note for health and safety reasons we have a no jewellery policy in school – **this includes earrings**. I know many children like to get their ears pierced – if this is the case., please do so at the beginning of the summer holidays so that earrings can be removed once the children return to school in September.

Many of you will remember and have missed our children's performances over the last few years – this year we have decided to share these out across the year. Early Years will have their Winter Wonderland at Christmas and children in Year 1 and 2 will do a Christmas themed performance. Year 3/4 will carry out a performance at Easter and Year 5 and 6 at the end of the summer term. We will continue to do a range of activities at Christmas in all year groups that will involve parents and carers including Decorations' Day.

All other information about each year group can be found on our school website <http://www.lobleyhillprimaryschool.co.uk/parents-hub/year-group-information/>

We are excited to announce that during October half term, new fixed play equipment will be installed on the Key Stage 1 yard – Miss Thubron, our PE leader, has spent a lot of time choosing what she thinks will benefit our children to support their physical development progression from Early Years. These include:

- Swinging
- Climbing
- Cross co-ordination
- Physical, social-emotional and cognitive skills
- Core strength
- Development of the vestibular system (sensory system linked with balance, spatial orientation and posture)

- Social interaction



All fundraising next year will be to raise money to improve facilities on the Key Stage 2 yard for our older children.

I hope you all have a wonderful summer and hope the weather is kind and look forward to seeing you all again in September.

Yours faithfully

Johanna James

Johanna James
Headteacher