



Lapal

Primary School

Newsletter

November 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

We hope this newsletter finds you well. November has been an exciting and bustling month at Lapal, filled with enriching experiences and engaging events for both pupils and parents. I am delighted to share some of the highlights from the past month:

Parental engagement—November kicked off with two well-attended Parent Evenings, providing you with the opportunity to meet your child's class teacher, celebrate their successes, and discuss the next steps we have set in their learning. It was heartening to see the positive engagement between parents and teachers, as well as the chance to view your child's work and experience their classroom environment first-hand. In addition, our reception parents participated in the 'Funky Fingers' parent workshop, a hands-on session aimed at enhancing fine motor skills in our youngest learners.

Competition and enrichment—We're proud to share that some of our pupils showcased their talents at a maths competition at King Edward's High School this month. This event not only fostered a sense of healthy competition but also provided valuable learning experience for our children. Well done to everyone who competed.

Educational trips—Our commitment to providing a well-rounded education is evident through the curriculum-linked trips that have been taking place this term. The most recent highlights include the Year 2 visit to Hanbury Hall for a history excursion, the Year 6 trip to the Think Tank for a science-focused adventure, and the Year 4 author visit where students had the privilege of meeting Matt Lucas and listening to extracts from his new Christmas book 'The boy who slept through Christmas'.

Communities coming together—Remembrance and Anti-Bullying Week were marked with whole-school assemblies this month, fostering a sense of unity and understanding among our children. Our Friends of Lapal also hosted a fantastic community event—a fashion show—that not only brought families together but also raised a massive £838.40 towards funding events and resources for our children. We appreciate your support in making this event a success. Please see details about how you can get involved later in this newsletter.

As we approach the festive season, we encourage you to stay updated on school events by checking our [school calendar](#) on the website. Additionally, be on the lookout for important messages via ParentMail, as we have lots of exciting plans leading up to Christmas.

We appreciate your continued support in making Lapal a vibrant and enriching learning community.

Kind regards

Mrs Turner

(Executive Headteacher)

Diary Dates

Autumn 2022 Term starts

6th Sept

Half term

30th Oct - 3rd Nov

Term ends

22nd Dec

Spring 2023 Term starts

8th Jan

Half term

12th Feb - 16th Feb

Term ends

22nd March

Summer 2023 Term starts

8th April

Half term

27th May - 31st May

Term ends

19th July

INSET DAYS

Monday 4th September

Tuesday 5th September

Monday 6th November

Friday 9th February

Monday 22nd July

FLU JABS

Catch Up Date—

Wednesday 13th December

CHRISTMAS DINNER

**Thursday 8th
December**

**Please see our online
calendar on our web-
site for all our event
Information.**

School Events

Please see our [online calendar](#)

Here are some of our upcoming events:

Carol Services at St John the Baptist Church, Halesowen (Pupils Only) - Wednesday 6th December 2023

EYFS Midlands Arts Centre Trip—Thursday 7th December 2023

KS1 Christmas Production—Wednesday 13th December 2023
(1RW & 2C parents) Thursday 14th December 2023 (1M & 2CG parents) - 9:30am

EYFS Christmas Production— Friday 15th December 2023 - 9:30am

KS2 Carol Service at St Peter's Church—Thursday 21st December 2023

EYFS & KS1 Christmas Evening—Tuesday 19th December 2023—5:00-6:00pm

Mini Market (Pupils Only) - Wednesday 20th December 2023

House Points

Totals for November:

Diamond 123

Sapphire 193

Ruby 145

Emerald 192

November Attendance

| | | | |
|-----------------|-----|--------------|-----|
| RHall | 97% | 3/4JD | 98% |
| RHopkins | 98% | 3/4G | 98% |
| 1M | 98% | 3/4SD | 98% |
| 1RW | 96% | 5M | 96% |
| 2C | 96% | 5SB | 95% |
| 2CG | 96% | 6R | 96% |
| | | 6W | 98% |

Safeguarding

If you are concerned about a child then please contact our Designated Safeguarding Lead who is Mrs Atkinson, or our Deputy Safeguarding Leads Mrs Turner, Mr Maynes, Miss Gillon or Mr Rizzo.

Safeguarding is the responsibility of us all. If we are concerned about a child we have a duty to contact Children's Service, if you are concerned about a child, outside school, then you can call 0300 555 0050 with your concerns and seek advice.

Our safeguarding policy can be found on our school website.

Friends of Lapal

2023/24 Meetings

These meetings are open for all to attend:

Monday 15th January 5.15pm – 6.15pm
Monday 26th February 5.15pm – 6.15pm
Monday 15th April 5.15pm – 6.15pm
Monday 10th June 5.15 – 6.15pm

Fashion Show

A total of **£838.40** was raised for the School Fund by the Fashion Show event of the 22nd November.

A Big Thank You to All Local Businesses

We would like to thank all of our local businesses who donated wonderful prizes for the Ladies Fashion Show and Lapal Christmas Raffle. Our raffle was a huge success and would not have been possible without your help.

Wishing you all a wonderful Christmas and a very Happy New Year from everyone at Lapal Primary School.

| | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------|--|
| Bloom Beauty Rooms | Shelley's Treats | Safe Journey Car Seats |
| Madison and Olivia | Higgs LLP | Webbs Garden Centre |
| Rejuve Aesthetics | All The Small Things Events | FN Gel Bar |
| Halesowen Golf Club | Standard Plus Butchers | Hole Farm Trekking Centre |
| Lily Moroneys Beauty | Lower Drayton Farm | Halesowen Riding School |
| Rickyard Café Romsley | Sutton Orthodontic Centre | Earls Gymnastics |
| Merchants Fish and Chips | University of Worcester | All About Me Princess Spa |
| Potting Shed, Bromsgrove | Reid Media | Happy Little Paws Dog Walking by Hannah Cosgrove |
| Kates Core Fitness | Hollywood Bowl, Merry Hill | Pilates by Helen |
| Devine Devinity | Jungle Bugs, Blackheath | Empowered Beauty by Laura |

Using money we have raised this term we have purchased 3 large scale maps to support curriculum. The children have been enjoying studying these this week and locating places around the world.



Reception

In our Geography and Science sessions, Reception have been exploring with their senses and learning about the features of our school site. What better way to apply this knowledge on a trip around school... Using maps that we had drawn, we went on a bear hunt and were inspired by the Michael Rosen story to create our own song words. Take a look at what we found.



Year 1

In Year One RE lessons, we have been learning all about how Christians celebrate Christmas. We learnt that Christingles are used by some Christians in church during the time of Advent, to celebrate the birth of Jesus and Jesus as the Light of the World.

We also learnt that each part of the Christingles has a special meaning behind it:

The word Christingle means 'Christ's light'.

Candle- Jesus is the light of the world.

Orange- The world.

Red Ribbon- Christ's blood and God's love.

4 Sticks- 4 seasons

Sweets- God's creation.

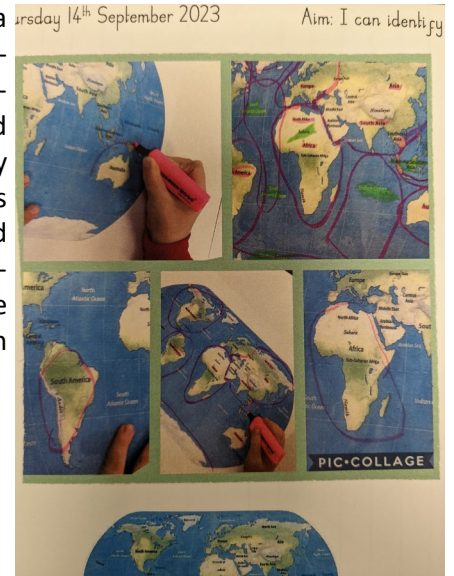
Look how amazing my Christingle looks!



Year 2



Year 2 have worked so hard in their Geography lessons this term. The children found out about each of the 7 continents and 3 oceans as part of the 'Our Wonderful World' unit. They located the equator, poles and northern and southern hemispheres. They described differences in climate, at a variety of locations and understood the impact of climate upon human and physical features. They labelled a range of maps with their findings, worked very well in teams and presented their work. We were very impressed with their knowledge.



Year 3/4

In our DT unit, we have been looking at seasonal and non-seasonal vegetables in preparation for our cooking unit. We tasted a variety of soups and evaluated them based on their appearance, smell, taste and texture. Years 3 and 4 have thoroughly enjoyed their soup tasting experience, it was a fun learning experience which will inform the choices when pupils come to planning their soup.



A group of our Year 4 pupils represented our school at the King Edward's Borchers Shield Maths Challenge. The pupils competed against eleven other schools - using their mathematical skills and knowledge when working out the cross-number problem and maths relay challenge. They tried their absolute best; we are so proud of them!

Year 5

Year 5 have been using role play to support their poetry writing. They interviewed each other in role to gather vocabulary to describe how the people reacted to the discovery that monster known as The Malfeasance was really kind and gentle. The poetry they have created shows empathy and compassion, while demonstrating their developing vocabulary bank.



Year 6

This month, year 6 were lucky enough to visit 'The Think Tank Science Museum' in Birmingham. Here the children were able to explore different interactive science experiments. We were able to: connect circuits to make different parts of a car work; explore how our brain works and learnt how our different senses travel to and from the brain. After we had finished exploring the museum, we completed a workshop in the lecture theatre which focused on interactive research consolidating the substantive knowledge taught at school.



GREAT ways to wellbeing

At Lapal, we actively share and discuss what good mental health is.

We do this by exploring the '10 Key's to happier living' or what your child might refer to as GREATDREAM.

Giving – give something back by doing something nice for others.

Relating

Exercise

Awareness

Try something new

Direction

Resilience

Emotions

Acceptance

Meaning

This month's newsletter focus is Giving.

Helping and being kind not only contributes to the happiness of others, but it can also help us to feel happier ourselves!

Giving and kindness also help us feel connected to others which is important for our wellbeing and contributes to building stronger communities and a happier society for everyone.

Here are some activities that may wish to carry out over December:

Create a family compliment jar.

Write a postcard or letter to a relative.

Draw a picture to cheer someone up.

Help tidy up after you've eaten your meals at home.

Please share any of the activities you carry out related to our well-being focus this month.

Mrs Walford.

December Kindness 2023

| MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY | SUNDAY |
|---|---|---|---|--|---|---|
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 4 Support a charity, cause or campaign you really care about | 5 Give a gift to someone who is homeless or feeling lonely | 6 Leave a positive message for someone else to find | 7 Give kind comments to as many people as possible today | 8 Do something helpful for a friend or family member | 9 Notice when you're hard on yourself or others and be kind instead | 10 Listen wholeheartedly to others without judging them |
| 11 Buy an extra item and donate it to a local food bank | 12 Be generous. Feed someone with food, love or kindness today | 13 See how many different people you can smile at today | 14 Share a happy memory or inspiring thought with a loved one | 15 Say hello to your neighbour and brighten up their day | 16 Look for something positive to say to everyone you speak to | 17 Give thanks. List the kind things others have done for you |
| 18 Ask for help and let someone else discover the joy of giving | 19 Contact someone who may be alone or feeling isolated | 20 Help others by giving away something that you don't need | 21 Appreciate kindness and thank people who do things for you | 22 Congratulate someone for an achievement that may go unnoticed | 23 Choose to give or receive the gift of forgiveness | 24 Bring joy to others. Share something which made you laugh |
| 25 Treat everyone with kindness today, including yourself! | 26 Get outside. Pick up litter or do something kind for nature | 27 Call a relative who is far away to say hello and have a chat | 28 Be kind to the planet. Eat less meat and use less energy | 29 Turn off digital devices and really listen to people | 30 Let someone know how much you appreciate them and why | 31 Plan some new acts of kindness to do in 2024 |



ACTION FOR HAPPINESS

Happier · Kinder · Together



INFORMATION

Before & After School Club

Breakfast Club 8am-8:40am

After School Club 3:15pm- 6pm

Tel: 01384 812642

When collecting from After School Club please be aware of pedestrians when exiting the car park.

Should I keep my child off school?

Please click [here](#)

**BLACK COUNTRY
FOODBANK**
LOVE . CONNECT . INVEST

**HARVEST
2023**



THANK YOU!

Certificate of Appreciation and Thanks awarded to:

Lapal Primary School

Thank you so much for collecting food for families and individuals in your local community. We will use all the food you have donated to make emergency food parcels for people in crisis.

You have donated 85.5kgs of food, an incredible amount, enough to provide 171 meals. This is absolutely wonderful, and we are so thankful that you have supported us in this amazing way.

THANK YOU!!

Registered Charity No: 1136676

NSPCC Helpline number

The new helpline will support children and young people, and offer guidance to adults and staff working with pupils,

The helpline can be contacted on **0800 136 663**, or by emailing help@nspcc.org.uk