



Dear Parents/Carers,

Here are some highlights from the past month in school.

### Swimming lessons

Year 4 children have kicked off their swimming lessons as part of their PE curriculum. Through targeting our sports premium funds, alongside parent contributions, pupils in year 4, 5 and 6 have been able to attend sessions at Sandwell Aquatics Centre this year. The excitement among the children has been evident, and we look forward to seeing how year 4 progress in the water this term.

### Awareness days

This month, we observed Autism and Haemophilia Awareness Days. It's essential for us to educate our children about these important topics and promote understanding and empathy. The children participated in assemblies and enjoyed engaging in discussion and finding out more about these themes.

### Science fair winners

Winners from our spring term Science Fair had the exciting opportunity to participate in the Ogden Science Workshop at Colley Lane Primary. The children engaged in fascinating experiments, including testing the pull of gravity and air resistance with paper airplanes, gliders, and helicopters. Additionally, they got hands-on experience creating and operating a hovercraft using household items. It was wonderful to see our children's curiosity and enthusiasm for science in action!

### Year 6 SATs preparation

As SATs exams approach in two weeks, Year 6 staff and pupils have been diligently preparing. We commend their hard work and dedication, and we wish them all the best as they tackle these assessments.

Lastly, as we approach the bank holiday weekend, we hope you have a fantastic time, whether you're enjoying some well-deserved relaxation or engaging in exciting activities. Let's keep our fingers crossed for some sunshine!

Kind regards

Mrs Turner  
(Executive Headteacher)

### Diary Dates

**Summer 2024 Term starts**

8th April

**Half term**

27th May – 31st May

**Term ends**

19th July

**INSET DAYS**

Monday 22nd July

Friday 19th July – 2pm

**finish**

**Special Meal option –**

**Thursday 16th May**

**Please see our online calendar on our website for all our event information.**

### House Points

**Diamond 1802**

**Sapphire 1218**

**Ruby 1264**

**Emerald 1911**

### February Attendance

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

### 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.

### Parking and One Way

Could we please remind parents / carers to please not park or mount the grass verges, especially in the wet weather when they can be easily churned up and become muddy, and also not park completely on the pavement or on the yellow lines outside the school entrance **which is illegal**.

We have also received complaints from residents regarding cars idling whilst waiting outside of the school at drop off and collection times, this creates a lot of pollution outside of the school gates. Please help to keep our children safe and residents happy - thank you.

### NSPCC Helpline number

The 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](mailto:help@nspcc.org.uk)

### 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.

## Reception

As part of our Let's Explore topic, Reception have learnt about activists like Greta Thunberg and David Attenborough and their important message of taking care of our planet. Children were inspired to create their own placards to share their messages.



## Year 1

On Monday 29th April, Year One went on a local area walk observing a range of human and physical features we could see on our route. As we walked around Lapal, we jotted down some human and physical features that we could see. We had so much fun exploring Leasowes park! Thank you to a volunteers that joined us, we could not have done it without you.



## Year 2

Year 2 have worked so hard creating their own finger puppets in DT. The children learnt how to thread a needle and to do 'running stitch' and 'over stitch' using silks and binca. They then thought of a puppet design and cut out their templates in felt. Finally they applied their sewing knowledge to attach the pieces of fabric together, before adding buttons, googly eyes or sequins to complete their work. We are very proud of their efforts.



## Year 3/4

Design Technology Levers and Linkages - This week, Year 3 / 4 were asked to design and create an interactive story page using levers and linkages. As you can see, the children had really creative ideas ranging from characters who were playing golf, a witch casting a spell on her broom, a koala bear jumping into a tree, shooting stars moving around in space and a footballer lifting up a trophy. Well done Year 3 / 4!

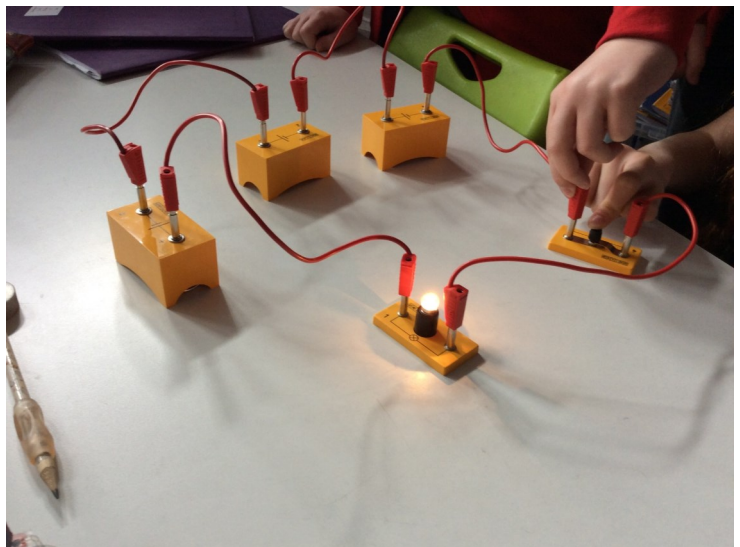


## Year 5

In English we have been looking at a balanced argument to identify if technology is beneficial for children's wellbeing. Throughout the unit the children have been researching facts and opinions. They have also developed their oracy skills with a variety of debates and presentations of findings and have amazed their teachers whilst writing their own balanced argument.

In DT the children have been looking at nightlights. As part of this they had to understand how circuits worked and experimented with creating their own light up circuit. After several weeks of research and planning the children designed and created their own fantastic night lights!

Within Science we completed our space unit by thinking about why we have day and night and the reason our planet has different time zones. The children had lots of fun experimenting with torches and Lego figures to see for themselves how it all works!



## Year 6

This month, in our P.E sessions, year 6 have focused on building their athletic skills. We have focused on, sprinting, long distance running and the triple jump. The children have honed in on the techniques used when carrying out the triple jump and building up as much distance they can with each hop, step and jump they take, discovering that where they land in the triple jump can be crucial for measuring their distance.

This week, the children put all they have learnt into a mini-olympics on our school field. The children were able to compete against peers to discover who had the longest distance, the fastest sprinters and who could go the furthest distance in the quickest time.

# GREAT ways to wellbeing

## 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.

This month's newsletter focus is **Direction**.

## Direction

Have goals to look forward to

How we feel and think about the future and how we work towards it can make a difference for our happiness in the present.

Having a sense of direction, optimism and hope can all contribute to feeling happier. An optimistic or hopeful outlook means we are more likely to experience positive emotions, feel more confident, have higher satisfaction with life, have better physical health and are less likely to be depressed.

**Try it:** Small Goals - Once a week for the next three weeks, write down a goal you'd like to achieve in the next day or so and describe the steps you will take to achieve this goal. Then bring to mind an obstacle that might get in your way. This could be external, or internal. Now plan for how you will get around that obstacle should it arise. You can try this for more than one obstacle if you need to!

Mrs Walford

**Meaningful May 2024**

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
 6 Look for people doing good and reasons to be cheerful	 7 Make a list of what matters most to you and why	1 Do something kind for someone you really care about	2 Focus on what you can do rather than what you can't do	3 Take a step towards an important goal, however small	4 Send your friend a photo from a time you enjoyed together	5 Let someone know how much they mean to you and why
13 Find out about the values or traditions of another culture	14 Get outside and notice the beauty in nature	8 Set yourself a kindness mission to help others today	9 What values are important to you? Find ways to use them today	10 Be grateful for the little things, even in difficult times	11 Look around for things that bring you a sense of awe and wonder	12 Listen to a favourite piece of music and remember what it means to you
20 Share photos of 3 things you find meaningful or memorable	21 Look up at the sky. Remember we are all part of something bigger	15 Do something to contribute to your local community	16 Show your gratitude to people who are helping to make things better	17 Find a way to make what you do today meaningful	18 Send a handwritten note to someone you care about	19 Reflect on what makes you feel valued and purposeful
27 Focus on how your actions make a difference for others	28 Do something special and revisit it in your memory tonight	22 Find a way to help a project or charity you care about	23 Recall three things you've done that you are proud of	24 Make choices that have a positive impact for others today	25 Ask someone else what matters most to them and why	26 Remember an event in your life that was really meaningful
		29 Today do something to care for the natural world	30 Share a quote you find inspiring to give others a boost	31 Find three reasons to be hopeful about the future		

**ACTION FOR HAPPINESS**      **Happier · Kinder · Together**

