



Lodge Farm Primary School

Learning in Mind, Community at Heart

Friday 24th January 2025

Dear parents/carers,

This week has been another busy one with lots of lovely lessons taking place. We have even had Mrs Munford and Mrs Braine coming out of retirement to help Year 4 with their sewing, where extra hands are definitely needed.

Our Year 5 Play Leaders began their work this week and have worn their blue tabards with pride. They had their induction meeting on Wednesday, where they learnt what to do in different situations and the best ways to facilitate games with the younger children. The first group on Thursday had a tricky time with a very wet giant skipping rope, but it was wonderful to see them helping Reception, Y1 and Y2 with their games and running around together.

We also mentioned last week that as part of our staff wellbeing, many of us entered a game of Traitors. Miss Lansdown and Miss Walton are our Claudia Winkleman and we began the week finding envelopes on our desks that gave us our secret identity of Faithful or Traitor. During the day, the Traitors had a task to complete but at the time of writing this (Thursday evening) we have not yet managed to figure out what the Traitors managed to do... Each evening, everyone rushed home in time to join the virtual Round Table. We started off strong, identifying Mrs Smith as a Traitor straight away. Poor Miss Clegg and Mrs Taylor were voted as Traitors next on Tuesday and Wednesday but we were wrong and lost two Faithfuls! Next, we guessed that Mrs Bull was the Traitor and she revealed... that she was a Traitor, with this excellent photo! She also said it was an incredibly stressful week, trying to keep it secret. Poor Mrs Tillett and Miss Orlandi were targeted by the Traitors and were eliminated from the game and we have just one day left to figure out our final Traitor(s)! The children have enjoyed hearing about the game and helping to try and think who they suspect.



Our School Values

Passion
Respect
Integrity
Determination
Empathy

School Events:

29.1.25 – Lunar New Year

30.1.25 – PTFA AGM (Annual General Meeting)

4.2.25 – O2 Young Voices Choir

6.2.25 – Y1 Craft Evening

7.2.25 – NSPCC Number Day

10.2.25 – Class Photo Day

11.2.25 – Safer Internet Day

12.2.25 – Y6 Valentine Dinner for Parents

17.2.25-21.2.25 - Half term

26.2.25 and 27.2.25 – Boogie Bounce

27.2.25 – Y3 Film Night

1.3.25 – PTFA March Madness begins

4.3.25 – Pancake Races

6.3.25 – World Book Day and The Big Book Swap

10.3.25 – British Science Week

12.3.25 – Y4 Quiz Night

14.3.25 – Red Nose Day

17.3.25 – Parent's Evening and Summer Uniform Bonanza

19.3.25 - Parent's Evening and Summer Uniform Bonanza

25.3.25 and 26.3.25 - Drumba

28.3.25 – PTFA Mother's Day Secret Room

3.4.25 – PTFA Easter Disco

23.5.25 – PTFA Day of May-hem

During our Values Assembly this week, Mrs Simpson told the children that we would like to introduce Values Ambassadors. These children will be our very best role models, showing our values and spotting these values in others so that they can be celebrated. They will meet regularly with Mrs Simpson to discuss how we can keep our values at the forefront of everything we do and help with Values Assembly where possible. Mrs Simpson had lots of excellent letters and posters from children applying for the role and the new Ambassadors will be revealed on Monday. We will keep you updated on everything that we get up to.

Please do remember that our Values Stars are always gratefully received as we would love to fill our Tree. If you need any more star tags, please let your child's class teacher know. We love to hear all the ways your children show our values at home as well as school.

[Fitness Fridays](#)

We started something fun last week... At 12:45 every Friday, Miss Orlandi (our PE Lead) will be bringing the speaker out onto the KS2 playground and doing some fitness exercises as well as some dance to music. The children loved having music on the last day of term, so it inspired her to make it more of a regular thing. We are happy to get the children moving and exercising for fun and hope to move this out onto KS1 soon as well.

[PE Fun Days](#)

Miss Orlandi has been very busy, not just running fitness Fridays, but also planning in lots of PE fun days. She has asked us to add the following dates to the diary and we are looking forward to them all.

Wednesday 26th February & Thursday 27th February BOOGIE BOUNCE

Boogie Bounce is the sensational, high energy, dance inspired exercise programme, to get fit on a high-quality trampoline and T-bar handle. This will be offered to all classes including Nursery. They will be bringing a few spare trampolines for staff to have a go too so we will be sure to wear our PE kit that day!

Tuesday 25th March & Wednesday 26th March DRUMBA

A high-intensity workout session based on a mix of popular music whilst learning and playing a custom-made drum. Drumba® is a cross curricular class that delivers music and P.E. in one lesson. Miss Orlandi had a go at doing this last year and reported back on how much fun it was. If the children say that they enjoy it and feel it will be fun and help with their fitness, we may look at funding a package for us to use in our PE lessons, which would be very exciting. Watch this space!

Saturday 26th April TSC MINI LONDON MARATHON

Miss Orlandi has completed a school application for the TCS Mini London Marathon! We have been entered into the ballot and schools will be drawn at random. We will be notified of the ballot results once the draw has been completed. If we are successful, this will be offered to 40 children across KS1 and KS2 so we will keep you updated and keep your fingers crossed for us.

[Y2 Parents Vs Children Dodgeball](#)

The dodgeball matches took place yesterday and we did have to remind all parties to be careful of each other as we could tell how competitive they were. Some of the dodges, ducks and dives were quite spectacular and it was a fierce battle! We hope you all enjoyed yourselves and thank you to everyone who took part for being such great sports. A big thank you also to Miss Roe for organising the event and to the House Captains for their help signing parents in, setting up and jumping in to help the Y2s!

Y1 Craft Evening

The Year 1 Craft evening will be starting at 3.30pm on Thursday 6th February.

To allow the teachers to dismiss all the children, we are asking parents to collect their children and then come in via the office. The session will run until 4.15pm. We are looking forward to our Year 1 craft event and seeing you all there.

A message from Mrs Bull (Family Support Worker)

Hi everyone,

A quick reminder to you all that I will be by the main gate on Monday morning, 9:30am to 10:30am. Please come along and see if any of the food we have would be of use to you. Everyone is welcome to come and help us put these items to good use.

Don't forget to join us for our walk and talk at 9am on Thursdays. Meet us by the main gate and come along for a chat.

Mary Bull

Children's Achievements

If you would like to share your child's achievement (this can be anything!) please send an email to admin@lodqefarm.herts.sch.uk. Please be aware that the newsletter is also saved on our school website.

We are very proud of Ellie-Mae for the determination that she showed in order to complete her diamond art. Each diamante jewel is tiny and it must have taken a very long time to complete. What a beautiful piece of art!



Attendance

Just a reminder that we are asking that parents call the school phone number and select 'option 1' in order to report an absence, instead of emailing the Admin email address. This is to ensure our Office team are able to collate the messages and record them onto our system as quickly and effectively as possible. Thank you for your help with this.

Remember, 'good' attendance is 95%, but we are aiming for 97% as we want the absolute best for our children. Please help us achieve this goal and ensure there are no avoidable absences.

If you would like any help or support with regards to your child's attendance, please speak to Mrs Simpson, Mrs Bull or Mrs Gowlett in the Office and we would be happy to help you.

Community News

St Hugh and St John's Hall is open every Wednesday (term time) from 2.15-3.15pm, offering a safe, warm space for parents and under-fives. Tea/coffee and other facilities available.



Lodge Farm Primary School calls out for votes to get a share of Tesco's Stronger Starts fund

Lodge Farm Primary School is bidding for a cash boost from the Tesco Stronger Starts scheme.

Stronger Starts provides grant awards of up to £1,500 to local community projects, with a particular focus on children and young people.

Three groups in every community have been shortlisted to receive grant awards and Tesco customers can vote for the group they think should take away the top award in their local Tesco store.

Lodge Farm Primary School is one of the groups on the shortlist in **Stevenage**.

You will be able to vote in the following stores:

- Broadwater Stevenage Superstore SG2 8DT
- Stevenage Extra SG1 1ES
- Woolmer Green Express Express SG3 6FP
- Old Stevenage Express Express SG1 3EF
- Stevenage Chells Express Express SG2 0LU
- Hitchin Station Lyon Express Express SG4 9SP

Voting is open in all Tesco stores from Mid-January to the end of March 2025. Customers will cast their vote using a blue token given to them at the check-out each time they shop.

Lodge Farm Primary School is seeking funding to help provide much needed food and supplies for our new food bank.

Tesco's Stronger Starts – previously known as Tesco Community Grants - has already provided over £117 million to more than 67,000 projects across Britain.

This £5m Stronger Starts grant programme, delivered in partnership with Groundwork UK, helps schools and children's groups provide nutritious food and healthy activities that support young people's physical health and mental wellbeing, such as breakfast clubs or snacks, and sports equipment for after school clubs.