

Newsletter 1 October 2025



Welcome

Welcome to our first newsletter of this academic year! We hope that you had an amazing summer break although it seems a long time ago now. School staff were eager on our two INSET days to get back to the routines we know so well and to welcome the children back. I certainly missed being around the children and it is great to be back!



What a fabulous start to the year it has been. We are impressed with how the Key Stage one children (Years 1 and Year 2) have settled into their classes.

We have had some new children start Reception and Nursery- welcome to our new families. Our children who have come back to Early Years, after the summer holidays have supported new children beautifully in understanding our routines, rituals and expectations- well done everyone!

For the past couple of years, we have named our classes after Derbyshire Heroes; however, this year we have a geography theme with each class being named after a Capital City in the United Kingdom.

Nursery- London

Reception- Cardiff

Year 1- Belfast

Year 2- Edinburgh

A massive thank you for your support at the beginning of the year. We really appreciate your patience as we get back into our routines. I appreciate your support in not parking across from the school at drop off and pick up making school safer on the road and the pavement outside of school.

We also appreciate your patience with us at pick up whilst staff get to know parents, grandparents, carers and any other adults collecting. Please let the office know if your child is being picked up by someone new and give the person and office a password of your choice.

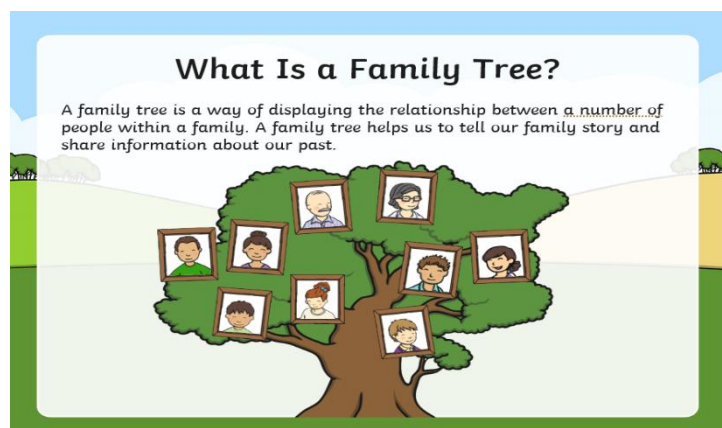
Please can we make sure that pathways leading to the glass corridor and the path in front of the oak trees is clear to enable families to move around the building. We are very lucky as a school that we have many places for parents to wait at pick up. Home time at the end of the day is 3:25pm. Nursery children can be collected from this time too. All of our timings can be found on our website – [Home - Laceyfields Academy](https://www.laceyfieldsacademy.co.uk)

Thank you to the Key Stage One parents for supporting our ethos around children coming into school as calmly as possible at the start of the day by remaining on the concreted area on the front playground. Please remember if you have any queries, you can contact the office or speak to your child's class teacher at the end of the day.



Family Trees

Thank you so much to all of those families who invested time into creating their family tree. You may remember on the final newsletter of last academic year, I invited families to complete this activity if they wish. There is still time to hand your child's Family Tree in if you wish to participate and for this to be displayed in the hall. We use this as a transition tool to support children in developing relationships with staff.



Medicines

Reminder- if you child is asthmatic, they must have an inhaler in school that has a prescribed label on the box of the inhaler with your child's name on. Handwritten labels can not be accepted as part of our supporting children with medical needs policies and processes.



Online Safety

With more and more children accessing devices and technology, it has become crucial for us to teach children how to stay safe online. Please feel free to use our Laceyfields'

Be safe



Staying safe online

If you see or hear something online that upsets you:

- **STOP** – Stop what you are doing. Do not click on the page or reply to any messages.
- **CLOSE** – Close the laptop/device. Put your device down.
- **TELL** – Tell a trusted adult



Keep personal information safe- do not give it out!
Don't talk to strangers even if they are friendly.

Tell an adult if something makes you feel worried or uncomfortable.



Friends are people we know in real life.

poster at home with the simple phrase: **stop, close, tell** to protect children from anything that might pop up or be unsafe. Hopefully children using devices will only access children appropriate material; however, we are finding games such as Robloxs have inappropriate content on them.

Behaviour and Attitudes

We are very proud of our children's learning behaviours. The staff work hard to ensure that the children feel a strong sense of belonging and plan fabulous learning opportunities, which supports children's behavioural choices.

Our children love our Dojo systems for rewarding them for applying our school rules and values. Some of you will remember that in the summer term, a parent survey went out to gain your perspectives on our rules and values. I fed back last academic year on the outcomes. It was great to hear so many parents seeing the benefits of our rules and values and even seeing the application of these at home! Currently the rules and values remain the same until we are ready to change/tweak these using staff, parent and children feedback.

Please see our Behaviour and Attitudes leaflet attached for more information about systems at school.



Communication

We aim to communicate in a way that the majority of parents find useful. Past parent surveys have shown that the majority of parents like all of the information to be in one place therefore the majority of information will be on newsletters so that you don't have to check websites, emails or other apps. There will be times, where updates such as children's Class Dojo Prizes will be announced via emails due to the nature of these rewards.

Please see below what we use and why.

What?	Who is this for?	How and Why?
Tapestry	Early Years parents and carers.	Mrs Worthington in the office sets this up for individual parents. Staff use this tool to record a few observations throughout the year. You will be able to log on and see the observations. If your log in isn't working or you have not received one, please pop into the office.
Arbor App	All parents and carers	You will need to download the app onto your mobile phone. Any messages for parents will come through the app. We will be moving away from text messages once we have used up our current package to save money. We do not use the messaging service on the app currently. We have one system that is monitored throughout the day- emails. If you are struggling with Arbor, please let us know. We have some parents who have volunteered to be Arbor experts and support you.
Class Dojo	All parents and carers	Mrs Worthington sets this up at the beginning of the year for new starters. A letter with a QR code or email will be sent home for you to set yourself up. Rewards system for children to collect points and for

		parents to check on the points if they wish. There are also other free resources you can use with your child at home. If this is not working for you or you have not had a letter or email, please pop into the office.
Newsletter	All parents and carers	This will come to you approximately once a month. You will receive a paper copy, which will come home with your child and an electronic copy which will be emailed to you. This will include all important diary dates and anything that we need/want you to know about.
Website	All parents and carers	There is a lot of information on the website that we are very proud of. Please go and have a look. I particularly like the video of our school- Bird's Eye View filmed with a drone. Diary dates and term dates can be found on the website as well as newsletters.

Summer Work



Lots has been happening over the summer break. Mr Hallam was busy supervising works. Look at our brand-new play surface at the back of school.

Thank you to
Djanogly Learning
Trust for making this
happen.



We are so happy with our new Woodland path, which has been created during the Summer break! We are sorry that the children haven't been able to use this space at the beginning of term.

Staff have been working hard to ensure the Woodland is ready for sessions. From week beginning 6th October (see message sent out) all children will have access to this wonderful space. Please ensure that your child brings in their resources, so they feel prepared for the session. (See highlighted list below)

	Nursery and Reception	Year 1	Year 2
Woodland clothes: non-uniform, wellies and a puddle suit in a labelled carrier bag Please rinse wellies ready for the next session.	Fridays- alternates every half term. First half term mornings.	Tuesdays	Tuesdays

School life- organisation

Just a reminder of what your child will need each day:

- Waterproof coat
- Water bottle
- Optional snack- school provides free fruit for all children
- Reading book for Year 1 and 2. Reception children are given a book during the second autumn term.
- Woodland clothes on their Woodland day
- Library book on their library day
- PE Kit – Year 1 and Year 2

The most helpful thing that you can do overall is ensure that your child's belongings have their name in. Whilst children are learning routines such as getting ready for home time, it can be very difficult for children and staff if we have items that have no names in. We also appreciate how much these items cost and want to ensure that all items go back to their owners. We are starting to accumulate sweatshirts with no names in so we will put these outside of school at the beginning of the day so that parents/carers can have a look and hopefully claim them.

Thank you for your support.

Learning Maps

As part of our curriculum, we carefully plan the progression of learning so that each day builds on the previous day. There are some main threads to our teaching and learning that we share with you on your child's learning map.

These are:

- Substantive knowledge (the facts that they need to know)
- Key vocabulary (words that we introduced through stories and specific subjects and reteach checking what children can remember)
- Enrichments (experiences to aid their learning)

Your child should have come home with their Learning Map. If you need a copy, please ask your child's class teacher. The Learning Maps are displayed outside of the glass corridor in the display cabinet.

Attendance

It has been such a great start to the year, and I wanted to say a massive thank you to ensuring your children arrive on time. Our ten minute window for arrival is 8:45-8:55am. We have a huge clock on the front of the building as children love checking if they have beaten the long hand (minute hand). If children 'Beat the Clock,' by arriving on time, they receive a Beat the Clock Dojo. For us, we want all of our children to be happy and feel confident. Children report that arriving late can effect them for a whole session or even the whole morning. It is hard when children feel unsettled due to being late.

In the summer term newsletter, I put a lot of information about attendance so please use this if needed. I will be in touch soon with some more detailed information about attendance and a change that we are making to our letters that come out each term regarding your child's attendance.



Diary dates

Please see below for our term dates and/or our website, where all newsletters are stored. You can also find key dates in our calendar on the website. These dates are subject to change and more may be added. We will always endeavour to let you know dates as soon as we can.

Term dates for 2024-2025:

Autumn 1: 8th September (Nursery 10th Sept)- 24th October

Autumn 2: 3rd November- 19th December

Spring 1: 5th January- 13th February

Spring 2: 23rd February- 27th March

Summer 1: 13th April- 22nd May

Summer 2: 1st June- 23rd July

INSET days:

Friday 28th November
Monday 5th January
Monday 15th June

Colour code: Nursery (London), Reception (Cardiff),
Year 1 (Belfast), Year 2 (Edinburgh) Whole School

Reception parents/carers: Over the next couple of weeks, children will be participating in a National Reception Baseline Assessment- please see separate letter handed out at the beginning of term. This can also be found on our website under the 'Parents' tab.

October

We will be celebrating **Harvest Festival week beginning 6th October**. We will start collecting food. If you would like to make a donation of food items, please send these in with your child. These will be displayed in the hall and donated to a charity.

Week beginning 13th October- Children will be taking part in activities for **Black History Month**. We want to celebrate diversity in all we do every day; however, this is a great opportunity to have a deep dive into some inspiring individuals.

Thursday 23rd October- Early Years (Nursery and Reception) walk to Marpool Church. Please see separate letter.

Friday 24th October- **British Values Day**- Children will be learning about the five British Values of Respect, Democracy, Rule of Law, Individual Liberty and Tolerance. Please see our website for more information of how we help children understand and apply these values in our everyday practice. [British Values - Laceyfields Academy](#)

November

Monday 3rd November- **Relationships Day**- The theme for this half term is: What makes a good friendship and how to resolve conflict? We will also cover safety during Bonfire Night.

Monday 10th November- Friday 14th November- **Anti-Bullying Week**. We invite the children to wear odd socks on the last day of this week, which will be Children in Need day too.

Tuesday 11th November- **Remembrance Day**. Key Stage One children (Years 1 and 2) Will be walking down to the memorial park to mark this special occasion with one minute of silence. Please let Key Stage 1 staff know if you would like to join us on the walk.

Friday 14th November- **Children in Need**. For a donation of £1. Children can wear non- uniform. We know that not all children enjoy wearing non-uniform, so it is a choice. You will have the choice to pay through the Arbor app or for your child to bring money in for this great charity.

Tuesday 25th November- Children will be having their professional **individual photos** in school for you to later purchase.

December:

Dates to follow for Christmas Disco, Christmas singalongs, Christmas crafts, Christmas performances, a visit from Santa, Christmas dinner and a Christmas party.

Kind regards,

Miss Rogers and the Laceyfields' Family

