

Newsletter 4 February 2026



Relationships Day

This half term we have had a focus on the NSPCC unit- 'Speak Up, Stay Safe.' Children have been learning about -no matter how small a worry might be, it is better to tell a trusted grown up about it to help.

Children have also been learning about private parts being private. Below are the PANTS statements to help children know what is okay and what is not.

One of the aspects that sometimes confuses children is the way that the word 'secret' is used. When we teach about 'secrets' we say that it is important to share any that upset them. Some children say they have been told not to share secrets because it will ruin a surprise. Sometimes society might use the word secret instead of surprise, which blurs the lines for young children. E.g. We are going to keep the birthday party a surprise.

Please support us in teaching the children the difference between a surprise and a secret.



Privates are private	+
Always remember your body belongs to you	+
No means no	+
Talk about secrets that upset you	+
Speak up, someone can help	+

Staffing

We have some exciting news- we have appointed a senior midday supervisor. Mrs Naylor will be starting with us some time after half term.

Our current senior midday supervisor, Mrs Richards has worked hard to develop lunchtime practice over the past couple of years, and we thank her for all of her hard work. Mrs Richards has decided that she wants to pursue her dream of becoming a teaching assistant so has started her apprenticeship at Laceyfields to achieve this.

Mrs Naylor is keen to join the Laceyfields' team and will be working closely with Mrs Richards and the lunchtime staff to ensure a smooth transition.

Mrs Worthington our office manager is now working four days: Monday- Thursday. Most of you will have met Mrs Sood, who has been appointed as our office manager for Fridays. Mrs Worthington and Mrs Sood have spent the past month working together to ensure a smooth transition.

I'm sure you will help welcome these two members of staff to our fabulous team.

What are we up to?

At Laceyfields, we will be forever looking at where we can improve. Our next big mission is our school hall. We are busy designing new storage for the hall, and we will be getting new flooring at some point this year. Tapestry Learning Partnership supports us to enhance this important space.

Reading

A huge thank you for your support with our READING FOR PLEASURE aspect of school life. I have been so pleased to see so many children being a BOOK BUDDY with their library book and also being prepared for the session by bringing it back on their library day. It has been joy to see so many children having some quiet time to sit and look at books in our lovely library. Over time, children's reading identity is getting stronger. Here are some of the comments children have been making:

'I love finding out about the past so going to the history section is my favourite.' 'I find science fiction really interesting and imagine what the future world would be like.' 'Anything with dinosaurs for me!'



One of the areas we have been suffering in is the children's reading books, which they take home from Reception to

Year 2. Many of these books have not been returned to us. This has a huge impact on our delivery of reading sessions. We have packs of books and when one or two are missing, it impacts a whole group reading and also the books cost us over £5:00 each. Not only does this impact

children's learning when books are missing or damaged, it impacts our budget and staff time in having to reorder books. Missing books will be charged for at £5:00 to replace. Please support us in developing healthy reading book habits by encouraging the children to be a good book buddies by having a safe place to store it so it doesn't get dirty, liquid spilt on it, pages ripped out by a younger sibling/pet or lost. These are our special Little Wandl Phonics books. Please help us to look after the books.



Be a Book Buddy!

- Keep pages flat
- Books belong in a safe place
- Keep food and drinks away from books
- Practise your drawing skills on paper instead of books!
- Books are for sharing - bring this book back for the next person to enjoy!

We are Book Buddies at Laceyfields



Woodland Clothes



Thank you so much for remembering to send your child/children in their non-uniform on their Woodland Day. We know how expensive school uniform can be so don't want to get this ruined.

We request that from a health and safety point of view; children always wear some sort of trousers to protect their legs. We also request that children come in clothes that are as plain as possible e.g. not with characters on. Children can absolutely wear whatever they like on a non-uniform day as a special treat but not on a Woodland Day. The reason for this is staff have noticed that children who are coming in with characters on their clothes are getting distracted by their clothes, which is distracting others, impacting on learning throughout the day. We appreciate your support with this.

Writing Challenge

Transcriptional fluency continues to be a big focus for the team with continued opportunities for Early Years children to have directed teaching around drawing and writing to Key Stage working through a unit of learning, where they immerse in a text and build skills leading to writing for a purpose. Within this, we are focused on ensuring children have the correct pencil grip for their age and that they can write fluently. This means letters should have the correct orientation, size and sit on the lines. This reduces cognitive load when children begin to write more complex pieces.

Mrs Hooton, our writing leader is setting a writing challenge that has been attached. Children are invited to join in the challenge if they wish. Children should hand their writing in to their class teacher before the Easter break to receive a Dojo and have their work shown to the class. Please ensure it has your child's full name on.

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

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 2026:

Spring 2: 23rd February- 27th March

Summer 1: 13th April- 22nd May

Summer 2: 1st June- 23rd July

INSET days:

Monday 15th June

Wednesday 4th March- Year 1 and Year 2 will be walking up to William Gregg Leisure Centre as part of their history topic.

Thursday 5th March- World Book Day.

In March, Early Years Stay and Play- see separate letter.

Friday 20th March- Red Nose Day. Donate £1 to charity for wearing non-uniform.

Monday 23rd March and Wednesday 25th March- Pupil Progress Meetings AKA Parents' Evenings

Thursday 21st May- Parents of Early Years children are invited in to release the butterflies into the woodland area.

Tuesday 9th June- Early Years will be visiting Matlock Park Farm

Thursday 2nd July- Summer Fayre

Thursday 16th July- Sports Day

Wednesday 22nd July- Year 2 Showcase and celebrating the end of their infant journey. 2:55pm in the school hall

Thursday 23rd July- Last day of term. Guard of honour on the front playground for Year 2 leavers and signing of t-shirts (Gift from Laceyfields)

We wish you a great half term break and we will see you back on Monday 23rd February.
Kind regards,

Miss Rogers and the Laceyfields' Family