

Newsletter 2 November 2025



Remembrance



Thank you so much to all of the parents and carers who helped Key Stage One children and staff walk up to the Memorial Park to mark Remembrance Day. All children from Nursery to Year 2 contributed by creating work to stay at the park to celebrate this important day.

Some of you will have noticed that our children were wearing some hi-vis jackets. A parent had requested that the Rotary Club support us and with our logo, they went away and created our very own jackets! Thank you to the parent for thinking of us and a huge thank you to the Rotary Club for gifting us these beautiful jackets to help keep our children even safer! The children enjoyed wearing them.

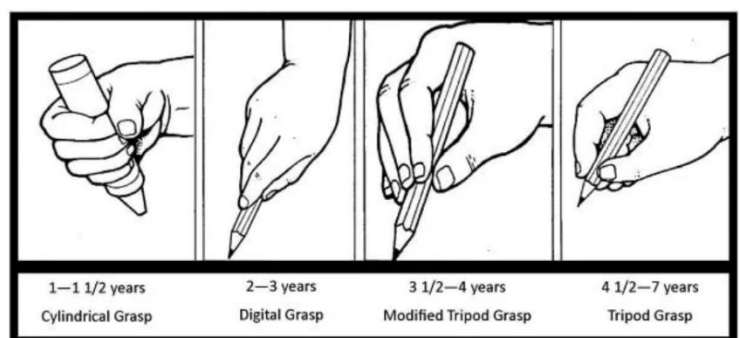
Harvest Festival

Thank you so much for all of your donations for Harvest Festival. Marpool Church have received our donations as the Early Years children delivered them to the church. Thank you to everyone who helped on the Early Years trip out to Marpool Church.



Writing/Fine Motor Development

Some of you will be aware that last year one of our school priorities was to further develop our curriculum so that children developed strong fine motor skills leading to strong writing skills. Mrs Hooton, who is our writing subject leader has been working hard on the strategy to continue to make writing the best it can be. We were very proud of the outcomes for children at the end of the year (see writing below) and also very excited to hear that on the whole children's attitudes were positive. Writing can be one of the hardest skills to learn as there are so many different aspects to it.



This year, we have been working on embedding and increasing strong practice from last year to ensure that children develop strong skills. Above is a picture of developmental pencil grips. One of the things that you can do at home is lots of activities that build strength in the fingers, hands, shoulders and core to help with writing development e.g., using tweezers, paintbrushes, mops. Lots of toys support this development but also lots of chores e.g., wiping the table down builds shoulder strength and self-esteem! We will be aiming for all children to develop the final pencil grip- a tripod grip. This supports the ability to write fluently.



With Christmas approaching, it is a good opportunity for children to write/draw. Here are a few ideas for families to discuss and join in writing ideas down:

Write a Christmas letter to Santa (Please see diary dates section for Santa visit and post box),

If you could give gifts to the world, what would they be?

If you visited the North Pole, what would you do?

What are your favourite things about the Christmas season?

What is the best gift you have given someone?

What is your favourite Christmas song and why? Make a poster of your favourite Christmas song.



RED TED

We know that one of our most important academic tasks is to ensure that all children leave us as fluent, confident readers, who understand what they are reading. One of our strategies to help children get into good habits from a young age and motivating them to read is our RED TED- Read Every Day, Talk Every Day. Once a child has read their book at home, their RED TED card is signed and once it is full, they receive their RED TED reading reward. See website or image below for rewards. [Red Ted - Laceyfields Academy](#) We start this in Reception in Autumn 2. This is tracked through their journey at Laceyfields. Once children have received their book, they become Reading Champions and have reading responsibilities around school. All of our reading Reading to Learn books match our Phonics scheme Little Wandle. Mrs Sylvester is our Phonics and Reading subject leader, who has been championing quality phonics sessions across school. If you would like to know more see our website: [Phonics and Early Reading - Laceyfields Academy](#)

Red Ted Reading Challenge

RED TED stands for Read Every Day, Talk Every Day and this is what we would like you and your child to do. Brilliant readers read at least **four times a week** and enjoy talking about what they have read. After 25 **Red Ted** reads, your child will receive their own **Red Ted** to keep at home. The table below shows the other rewards they will receive. Once children have read beyond 300 reads, they will have formed great reading regularity habits. Children will then receive a Reading Champion certificate and have additional responsibilities within school related to reading. Track where you are up to by ticking the boxes when you have received your reward.

25 reads ☐	50 reads ☐	75 reads ☐	100 reads ☐	125 reads ☐	150 reads ☐
		 jacket	 hat		 picnic
175 reads ☐	200 reads ☐	225 reads ☐	250 reads ☐	275 reads ☐	300 reads ☒
 shoe	 shoe		 bag		 book

12 signs of Laceyfields

 choose	 choose	 toilet	 toilet	
 next	 next	 good morning	 good morning	
 now	 now	 good afternoon	 good	 afternoon
 more	 more	 help	 help	
 finish	 finish	 playtime	 play	 time
 wait	 wait	 work	 work	

As part of our core offer for teaching and learning, we have been working on using visuals and signs to support children's understanding. Djanogly Learning Trust has their own speech and language expert, who regularly attends Laceyfields to support children and to look at how we can continually improve our provision. We have been introducing a symbol and sign once a week. The children have really enjoyed learning them especially FINISH, TOILET and GOOD AFTERNOON. Please try some of them out at home. There are great examples on the internet to see exactly how to create the Makaton signs in the second half of the above words. E.g. [Makaton for - 'To Choose'](#)



Woodland

Please help out our cleaner and site manager by cleaning wellies off in between woodland sessions. It is the dried mud from previous weeks. Thank you.

Behaviour and Attitudes

Our School Rules



Recently, the whole school had a Dojo Day! It was really good fun, and the children have come out of this with a strong understanding of our school rules. Our next step is to embed children's understanding of the school values. Please support us by recognising when children

are applying these values at home.

During Dojo Day, I announced what was going to be in the DOJO EXCELLENCE AWARD cabinets. The children were VERY excited.

This week, we have had four children, who have received the first dojo Excellence award of the year.

Congratulations to these children. If your child is in Early Years (London-Nursery and Cardiff- Reception), their rewards are on the yellow poster. Key Stage 1 (Belfast- Y1 and Edinburgh- Y2) are on the grey poster. Children should know, which prize they are working towards. The highlighted points are the Dojo Excellence Awards.

Prize Shop Points	
Dojo Excellence Awards	
25 points	
50 points	
75 points	
100 points	Bronze
125 points	
150 points	
175 points	
200 points	Silver
225 points	
250 points	
275 points	
300 points	Gold
325 points	
350 points	
375 points	
400 points	Platinum
425 points	
450 points	
475 points	
500 points	Diamond

Prize Shop Points	
Dojo Excellence Awards	
25 points	
50 points	
75 points	
100 points	Emerald
125 points	
150 points	
175 points	
200 points	Sapphire
225 points	
250 points	
275 points	
300 points	Ruby
325 points	
350 points	
375 points	
400 points	Amethyst
425 points	
450 points	
475 points	
500 points	Pearl

Our Values	
	We are respectful- We are kind and we listen to each other.
	We are collaborative- We work together to achieve more.
	We are resilient- We learn from our difficulties.
	We are creative- We use our imagination and critical thinking skills.
	We are responsible- We own our actions and think about how they might affect others.

The children are very motivated to apply the rules and values- Go Laceyfields!!!!

Staffing

There will be occasions where teacher will need time out of the class for various different reasons such as continuous provision development, subject leadership. All teachers across the country are entitled to time out of the class to plan and prepare teaching and learning. It is a complex process with lots of skill and subject knowledge going into the process as well as constant assessment for learning that enables teachers to pitch learning well. We had advertised for a teacher to cover this time but were unsuccessful in finding the right person. Djanogly Learning Trust have supported us by releasing Mrs Kelly to us once a week. Mrs Kelly was our reception teacher last year, who joins us on Wednesdays for the rest of the year covering different teachers. I also have the pleasure of teaching different classes throughout the year and although being a headteacher is a very busy job, I do love being in the classroom too!

Attendance

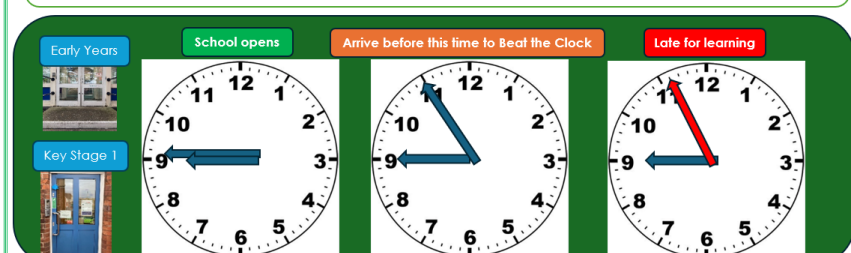
We understand that once the clocks go back and the mornings are darker, it can be hard getting out of bed but giving children a strong start by being on time every day is what we are about. Children do report that they feel a range of negative emotions when they are late and feel that they have already missed out, which doesn't set them off on the greatest start. Our new catchphrase for being on time is 'It's quarter to nine, let's get ready to shine!' We understand that there will be rare occasions when children are late but on the whole, all children will be ready for learning and ready to shine.



Have you beaten the clock?



Doors open at **quarter to nine** (8:45 am) and close at **five to nine** (8:55 am) giving 10 minutes to Beat the Clock. Win a Dojo point if you Beat the Clock.



It's quarter to nine, let's get ready to shine!

As part of our incentive systems, the class with the overall strongest attendance receives an Attendance Champion tea party. Last half term, the strongest attendance was Edinburgh class (Year 2) shortly followed by Belfast class (Year 1). **Well done Edinburgh Class!**

We will be handing out some more information about attendance at our Pupil Progress Meetings next week (Parents' Evening).

We also have a competition coming up regarding attendance that will be out soon! Watch this space for the Superhero Squirrel!

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 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

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

Thursday 4th December- We are excited to announce a Key Stage 1 **Christmas enterprise afternoon**. The children would like to raise money for some new non-fiction books. We need to raise £200. The children will be making Christmas crafts to sell. Sales will start at 2:45pm in our school hall. Children will have a stall to sell the items. You can arrive from 2:45pm and have a look around. Children in Early Years, can come into the hall after school to see if there are any items they wish to purchase.

Tuesday 9th December- Early Years children will be walking to Hands Park as part of our Geography development- more information to come out in a separate letter.

Thursday 11th December- Christmas Dinner. All children whether they are packed lunch or dinners will join in the celebrations. This day is also Christmas Jumper Day. Children can wear their Christmas Jumper for a donation of £1 for the charity Save the Children.

Friday 12th December- Key Stage 1 Dress rehearsal for their Christmas performance. We will be walking up to Marlpool Church.

Tuesday 16th December- Early Years Christmas Sing-along. There will be a session in the morning and afternoon. Times to come out soon.

Thursday 18th December- Key Stage 1 Christmas performance at Marlpool Church. Year 1 and 2 children will be working together to put on a fantastic show for you. We will let you know when tickets go on sale. The cost of tickets helps us to cover the cost of the venue. Show time will be 2:30pm.

Friday 19th December- Christmas Party Day- children can come to school in non-uniform.

This year, we will be having a **Santa's Grotto!!** Santa will be in to visit during the last two weeks of school.

More detail for some of the dates above will be given to year groups/key stages.

Kind regards,

Miss Rogers and the Laceyfields' Family