

FRIDAY NEWSLETTER



SPRING TERM ■ **ISSUE 16** ■ **FRIDAY 10 JANUARY 2025**

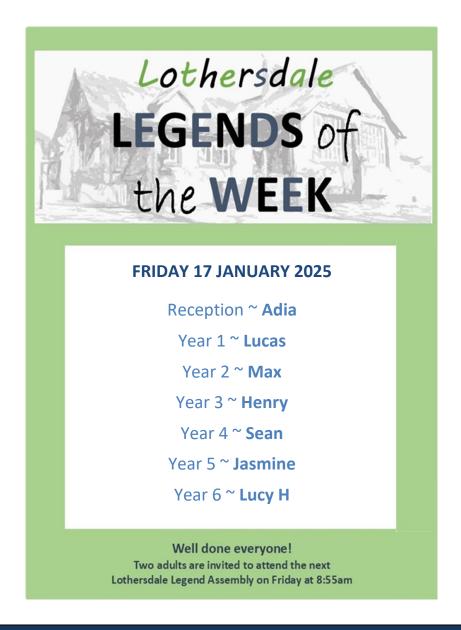


Welcome back to school for the Spring Term

SPRING TERM DATES: Tuesday 7 January to Friday 4 April 2025

February half-term:

Monday 17 February to Friday 21 February 2025 Staff Training Day: Monday 24 February 2025 School reopens on Tuesday 25 February 2025



Message from Mrs Tyson

Thank you for your patience and understanding as we have navigated the challenges presented by the adverse weather and difficult travelling conditions this week.

Firstly, I would like to apologise for any inconvenience caused by the school closure on Wednesday. This decision was not made lightly but with the safety of our staff, pupils, and families in mind, as the roads were particularly treacherous. I am confident that this was the right course of action, and I thank you for your cooperation and support during this time.

Having assessed the road conditions on Thursday morning, I was pleased that we were able to open school at a staggered start time of 10:00 am. It has been encouraging to hear that families appreciated this adjustment, as it allowed for safer travel and eased the challenge of balancing work and school drop-offs.

We greatly appreciate your flexibility and support during this unusual week and look forward to returning to normal next week. On Monday, we will welcome pupils back at the usual start time of 8:40 am, with Legends before and after school club resuming as usual.

Thank you once again for your understanding, and we hope to see you and some sunshine next week!

Warm regards
MELANIE TYSON



SAVE THE DATE

Please note there may be circumstances in which these dates are subject to change. More information will follow at a later date about events listed below:

7 Jan to 24 Feb 25 - RSPB Big Schools Bird Watch

Wed 22 Jan 2025 - French Day (see below)

Wed 29 Jan 2025 - Chinese New Year ~ Year of the Snake

w/c 3 Feb 2025
 Children's Mental Health Week ~ Know Yourself, Grow Yourself
 Wed 5 Feb 2025
 Class 3 & Class 4 Interfaith visit to Madni Mosque in Bradford

Fri 7 Feb 2025 - Deadline for payment of voluntary contributions towards Class 3 swimming

lessons

Tue 11 Feb 2025 - Safer Internet Day

Fri 14 Feb 2025 - Last Class 3 Swimming Lesson this academic year

- School breaks up for February half-term

Mon 24 Feb 2025 - School closed for Staff Training Day

Mon 24 Feb 2025 - LEGENDS Holiday Club open (please pre-book places by 19/02/2025)

Tue 25 Feb 2025 - Young Voices Concert in Manchester (selected pupils)

Wed 26 Feb 2025 - Y5/6 Netball Festival at South Craven School

Fri 28 Feb 2025 - Class 2 Swimming Lessons start
 Mon 3 Mar 2025 - Scholastic Book Fair in school
 Tue 4 Mar 2025 - Scholastic Book Fair in school
 Wed 5 Mar 2025 - Scholastic Book Fair in school

Thu 6 Mar 2025 - World Book Day w/c 10 Mar 2025 - British Science Week

Wed 19 Mar 2025 - Year 6 Crucial Crew visit PM
 Fri 25 Mar 2025 - Comic Relief Red Nose Day
 Thu 3 Apr 2025 - Decorate an Egg Competition

Fri 4 Apr 2025 - Last Class 2 Swimming Lesson this academic year

School finishes at 3:15pm for the Easter break

DEADLINES & REMINDERS

It would be really helpful if requested reply slips/payments etc. could be completed/paid by the stated deadlines to enable us to process the paperwork effectively this week. Thank you.



Tuesday	Thursday	Friday
French Club	Supersports	Football
12.45 to 1.15pm	3.15 to 4.15pm	3.15 to 4.15pm
Ball Games	Young Voices Choir	
3.15 to 4.15pm	3.15 to 4.15pm	
The member of staff/act	vity provider will bring the childre	en out to the playground

ONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY Class 4 Year 4 Class 4 Year 4 Class 4
Class 4 Year 4 Class 4 Year 4 Class 4
DING PLUS READING PLUS
Year 4 - TIMES TABLES 8.20 to 8.45am

	Lothersdale	
REC	MARTHA and EDDIE	
Y1	ANYA and JAMES	
Y2	ALFIE and EVIE	
Y3	JUDE W and AVA	
Y4	HUGO and SOPHIE	
Y5	JOE and MAISIE	
Y6	AARON and SOPHIE	

SCHOOL COUNCIL

W/c 13 JANUARY 2025

Mon - Extended Schools' Activities start this week

Wed - Deadline for online submission of application for a primary school place for September 2025

Thu - Class 3 visit to Royal Armouries, Leeds – children to arrive at school at 8:20am

Fri - Legends of the Week Assembly

- Class 3 swimming lesson

GENERAL SCHOOL UPDATES

Please find detailed below general updates for your information. If you have any queries regarding any of the content below, please contact the school office.



Extended Schools' Activities ~ Spring Term First Half

All Extended Schools' Activities start again from Monday 13 January 2025.

The extended schools' flyer was emailed to parents/carers on Monday 6 January, and we would like to thank you for supporting us with the tight deadline for booking activity places for your children. The activity lists will be emailed to parents/carers on Monday 13 January 2025.

Please note that we are unable to add your child to an activity list now that the deadline has passed and the lists have been distributed to providers. The Extended Schools' Activity flyer for Spring Term Second Half will be sent out towards the end of this half-term.

Class 3 visit to the Royal Armouries Museum ~ Thursday 16 January 2025

Children in Class 3 are looking forward to next week's visit to the Royal Armouries in Leeds. Children should arrive at school at 8:20am on Thursday 16 January in full school uniform (no trainers please) and outerwear appropriate for the conditions on the day. Please ensure children bring a healthy packed lunch (no foods containing nuts and no glass bottles please).

Thank you to those parents/carers who have returned the completed consent form and made a contribution towards your child's Class 3 visit next week. We appreciate this week has been difficult due to the adverse weather conditions, and would be grateful if outstanding forms could be brought into school on Monday 13 January to support us with the final arrangements.

At the time of writing, the school has received 57% of contributions towards the Class 3 visit which currently makes this visit financially unviable. We have, however, made the decision to go ahead with this trip. No child will be excluded if his or her parents do not contribute, but if insufficient voluntary contributions are received, the school will have to review the situation regarding future educational visits. We would be grateful if you could check your SchoolGateway app and, if you have not yet made a contribution and still wish to do so, please ensure payment is made as soon as possible prior to the trip. Thank you for your support.

National Child Measurement Programme ~ Reception & Year 6

A letter was emailed on Thursday 9 January 2025 to parents/carers of children in Reception and Year 6 from the Harrogate & District NHS Foundation Trust, regarding this year's National Child Measurement Programme. This is an NHS led initiative and parents/carers can withdraw their children if they wish to do so. You do not need to do anything <u>unless</u> you wish to OPT OUT of this programme. Please follow the instructions in the letter if this is the case.



Children's Health Service App



All parents/carers can access information to support the health and development of children, young people and adults via an NHS app, which has been developed

and managed by your Local Health Visiting and School Nursing Teams.





Please click on the appropriate link to access

this free 0-19 children services APP offering lots of resources and links to promote healthy child development and local public health services.







Class 3 and Class 4 Tag Rugby

All children in Class 3 and Class 4 will be playing Tag Rugby with Hedley from Wharfedale RUFC during Monday's PE session this term. Please ensure all children have outdoor kit and correct footwear in school for these sessions as it is highly likely they will get very muddy!



Class 3 Swimming Lessons

Class 3 swimming lessons will start next week due to this week's adverse weather conditions. The last session this academic year will take place on Friday 14 February 2025. Please note that the deadline for payment of voluntary contributions towards your child's swimming lessons is Friday 7 February 2025 if you have not done so already.

French Day ~ Wednesday 22 January 2025



We are thrilled to announce our **French Day**, which is taking place in school on Wednesday 22 January 2025. This is a <u>non-uniform day</u>, and we encourage children to come to school dressed in red, white, and blue – the colours of the French flag. Alternatively, they can opt for attire with a French theme, such as berets or mime costumes.

This promises to be a day of fun and learning where children will take part in French dance workshops, and cultural traditions, along with practicing their speaking, reading, and writing skills in French. We are looking forward to a day of cultural exploration and enjoyment.



Please refer to the Friday Newsletter and the school website prior to emailing or contacting school, as most of our day-to-day information can be located within these communication portals. The school website address is https://www.lothersdaleschool.org.uk

Friday Office Cover Reminder

Please remember that Mrs Ellison does not work in the school office on a Friday. Mrs Pickard covers for very short periods in the morning and after school, to pick up urgent telephone calls and to manage pupil absence. Emails will <u>not</u> be checked until Mrs Ellison's return to school on Mondays and therefore it is important that absence or other urgent message is phoned in via the absence line and not via email on a Friday. Many thanks for your support.

Primary School Admissions ~ September 2025

Online applications can now be made via the Local Authority for reception places at Lothersdale Primary School for September 2025. The online common application form must be submitted by no later than Wednesday 15 January 2025.



LEGENDS Holiday Club ~ Monday 24 February 2025

School will be closed on Monday 24 February 2025 for Staff Training, but LEGENDS Holiday Club will be open for childcare. There are limited places available and booking and payment should be made via the SchoolGateway app by Wednesday 19 February 2025 to secure your child's place.

LEGENDS Holiday Club will be open from 8am to 6pm. Breakfast and a light snack will be provided but please send your child with a packed lunch.

SCHOOL MEALS:

Universal Free School Meals ~ Class 1 and Class 2 ~ School Census Day (Thursday 16 January 2025)

A letter was emailed on Thursday 9 January to parents/carers of children in Class 1 and Class 2 regarding funding for Universal Free School Meals on School Census Day, Thursday 16 January 2025. We thank you in advance for your support in this matter.

Lunch Orders

Please remember to book your child's school meal via your SchoolGrid account by 8:55am each morning. A number of children expected a school lunch this week when no pre-booked lunch had been ordered for them and this put the school kitchen in a difficult position. No child will go without a school lunch but there may not be the usual choice, as children with pre-ordered lunches take priority.

Menu Changes

Please note that we are making minor amendments to the current school menu from week commencing 27 January 2025 following pupil feedback. Further information will be shared with parents/carers next week.

Eligibility for Free School Meals

May we remind parents that free school meals are available for children whose parents meet the relevant criteria. If you are in receipt of one or more of the following benefits and think you may qualify, please either ask Mrs Ellison for an application form or use the application form available via www.northyorks.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals

The relevant criteria is based on receipt of:

- · income support
- income-based job seeker's allowance
- income-related employment and support allowance
- child tax credit with an income of less than £16,190 and **not** in receipt of working tax credit
- support under part VI of the immigration and asylum act 1999
- guarantee element of state pension credit.

Where parents are entitled to working tax credit during a four week "run on" period immediately after their employment has ceased, or after they have started to work less than 16 hours per week, their children are entitled to free school meals.

Children who receive income support or income-based jobseeker's allowance in their own right are also entitled to free school meals.

Applications are usually processed the same day. If your child is entitled to free school meals you will receive a letter confirming the date when the meals will start. The school is also notified that your child is entitled to free school meals. In the meantime, you should continue to pay for free school meals until confirmation comes through. School may be able to arrange a reimbursement of any monies paid whilst your entitlement is being confirmed. If you are not entitled to free school meals you will be notified in writing.

COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD

We are delighted to be able to promote community events in our Friday News that may be of interest to our families and friends. If you would like us to promote a local event, please pass the details to the school office by Wednesday to be included in the Friday News of that week.





DIARY OF EVENTS

If you wish to promote a community event in our diary below, please contact the school office. Please note there may be circumstances in which these dates are subject to change:

School Events:

Wed 15 Jan 2025 - Deadline for online submission of application for a primary school place for

September 2025

Thu 16 Jan 2025 - Class 3 visit to The Royal Armouries, Leeds

Wed 22 Jan 2025 - French Day

Thu 23 Jan 2025 - KS2 Performing Arts Workshop at South Craven School (selected pupils)

