



LOXLEY PRIMARY SCHOOL

Headteacher: Mr James Connolly



PEAK EDGE
ACADEMY TRUST

Rodney Hill

Loxley

SHEFFIELD

S6 6SG

Tel: 0114 2344510

enquiries@loxley.sheffield.sch.uk

www.loxleyprimaryschool.com

Friday 3rd March 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

Miss Ruddleston



It is with sadness that we have to announce that Faye Ruddleston our Sports Lead is heading for pastures new at the end of the Spring term; Miss Ruddleston has been appointed to a more senior role by the University of Sheffield as one of their Sports Programme Officers supervising students and collaborating with other staff to create the University's sports offer in the future. She will be organising the leagues, supporting the elite athletes in their development through the university as well as running holiday camps. It's a really exciting opportunity for her!

It is hard to express how much Miss Ruddleston has put into our school in her time connected with Loxley for nearly fifteen years, and every pupil who has attended here has benefitted from her sporting expertise, guidance and support both in

school and at one of the many out of hours events she has helped to run. When we first started to work with Faye, we knew we had the potential to build something very special and unique around primary school sport at Loxley. As a school, we now have a well-deserved reputation for sporting excellence and participation for all, and much of this comes down to Faye's input and dedication to promoting a love of healthy living. We will all miss her and hope that you will share in our sincere thanks and gratitude for all her efforts in helping us to be where we are now.

In the coming weeks we have the challenging task of appointing her successor to ensure that her good work continues. Once we have someone in place, we will let you know.

What's been happening in school?!

Music Deep Dive

On Friday 24th February, Loxley Primary School hosted a Music Deep Dive for our Peak Edge MAT. Several people attended including Pete Heaton (an Ofsted Inspector and advisor for Learn Sheffield), Jim Dugmore (Peak Edge CEO), Helen Adams (Bradfield Dungworth Headteacher) and three other music leads from Peak Edge. A Deep Dive is an in-depth look at a particular aspect of school or a particular subject. Few schools have ever taken part in a music Deep Dive – it is not a common choice of subject. The day proved to be a great success. The children's learning behaviours were exemplary as were the music lessons taught and the discussions with individual pupils. The following comment is just a small snapshot from the music report provided by Mr Heaton;





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'It is clear from talking with pupils that they love music. Not only do they have the knowledge, skills and conceptual understanding, they also talk favourably about the music they are exposed to. Pupils are keen to show their talents in singing, dancing (e.g. in PE) and playing a range of instruments.'



As a school, we have worked hard to ensure that music has a clear progression of instrument tuition from Reception to Y6. As well as a range of other incidental instruments, the children begin with percussion instruments in Reception, they then move on to learning how to play chime bars in Y1, followed by recorders in Y2 and Y3, clarinets in Y4 and Y5 and finally keyboards in Y6. This is a great transition for the children as they continue to work on keyboards at secondary school.

World Book Day 2023

Thank you to all the Loxley parents, carers, family members and friends who have supported their children in coming to school dressed as a word! Thank you also to all the staff – who have been absolutely amazing in joining in with the fun of the dressing up theme! There has been such a wide variety of vocabulary on display today. Here are a few photos to give a flavour of the day!



Loxley Primary School is part of Peak Edge, which is an exempt charity and a company limited by guarantee, registered in England with company number 11650747.



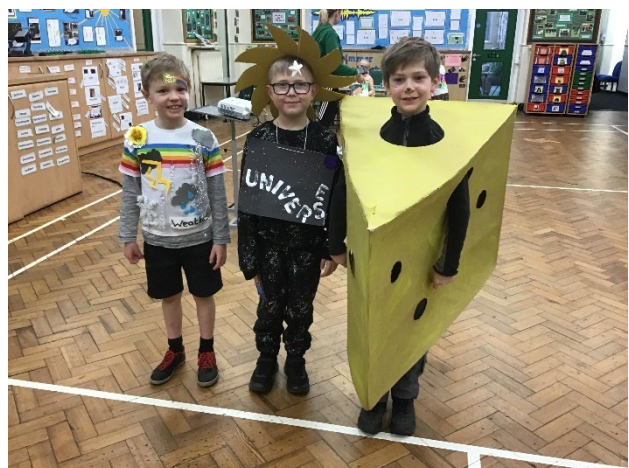
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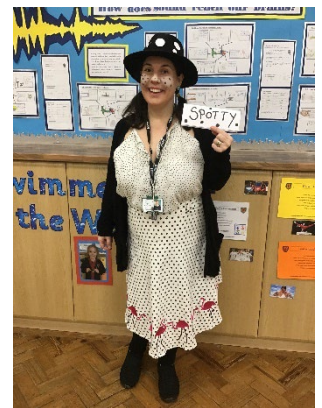
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In other news...

Sports Relief Run

On 10th March we will be running a Sports Relief Run around our school grounds. This will be set up as a fun obstacle course for children to compete in whilst raising some money for Sports Relief. Children are allowed to attend school in their sportswear for the day (however no football kits or crop tops please). However, the children are welcome to wear uniform as normal too if they prefer – the main consideration is to wear sensible footwear suitable for running.

We suggest a donation of £1 per child to help this cause which can be brought into school on Friday.



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Holidays – Please remember, the rules have changed this school year - Fines ARE being issued

Please remember that in most cases, holidays cannot be authorised. We have policies in place regarding this and there are consequences for unauthorised term time leave. Please see our Attendance and Absence Policy on our website;

<https://loxleyprimaryschool.com/policies-and-documents>

Any application for leave must be in exceptional circumstances and the Headteacher must be satisfied that the circumstances warrant the granting of leave. Headteachers may also liaise with the local authority at times if they are unsure about whether the requested leave is 'exceptional'. The final decision remains with the Headteacher. Absences for term time leave that span more than five consecutive school days and are not deemed to be exceptional circumstances, will result in school requesting that the Local Authority issue parents with a Penalty Notice. This is regardless of overall attendance and is in line with government guidelines and the Local Authority's codes of conduct.

The Penalty Notice gives parents the opportunity to pay a fine instead of being prosecuted. Each parent can be issued separately with a Penalty Notice fine of £60 that must be paid within 21 days. If this is not paid the fine increases to £120 per parents. Failure to pay the Penalty Notice will result in court proceedings via the Magistrates Court.

Parents evening letters

This week, the letters have gone out regarding parent's evening. If you haven't already done so, please phone school at your earliest opportunity in order to arrange an appointment/appointments for your child/children. We normally get outstanding attendance at our parent's evenings where almost every child is represented. We hope you are able to attend.

Sports Day Café

It's a tradition now that we have a café in the Lodge on Sports Day, providing tea, coffee and some lovely bakes too! Unfortunately, as yet, we don't have anyone to run it. If you are able to give up some or all of your day on Friday 26th May to the run the café, it would make the event so much nicer! Parents helping are very welcome to leave the café and watch the children while they are racing. Please have a think and maybe gather a few troupes together if you can! If you are interested, please let either Mrs Helliwell, Mr Connolly or Mrs Thornhill know. Thank you!

Could you be a Parent Governor for the Loxley Primary School?

School governing boards are one of the largest volunteer groups in the country. Their main responsibilities are to support the Head teacher, and Senior Leadership Team at a strategic level to set the policies and targets for achieving the schools aims / objectives and to monitor and evaluate the progress the school is making towards achieving these.

All governors attend the full governing board meetings that take place once or twice per term and sit on one of the committees that focus on specific areas of the school such as Finance and Staffing or Buildings





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and Health and Safety. Each governor also has a link governor role, which means they take a lead on understanding a particular area of the school improvement plan to ensure it is progressing as expected. We are currently looking to elect a Parent Governor here at Loxley. If you are interested in joining and feel you have the skills/knowledge/experience that will contribute to the Governing body, then please contact the school office who can provide you with an information pack and discuss next steps.

Miss Village – Jury Service

On Tuesday 14th March, Vikki Village has been summoned to go on jury service. For jury service, as you may know, people are selected at random from the electoral register. Although we are allowed to let people know that Miss Village will be on jury service, she will not be able to speak about any aspect of the trial. We do not know the date when Miss Village will be back in school, it very much depends on whether she is chosen for a trial and how long the trial lasts. In the meantime, Y3 will be covered by a supply teacher. Miss Village will be able to do a carefully planned handover with the supply teacher. The children will follow exactly the same plans as if she were still in school. We also have a plan in place regarding Castleton (the residential will still go ahead) and we will let Y3 parents know about that if and when the need arises! We are hoping that many of Miss Village's SENDCo responsibilities can be covered either before the jury service or on her return.

Kind regards

James Connolly and Margaret Helliwell



The Challenge Award
For Excellence in Provision for
Able, Gifted & Talented Pupils

