



Lostock Gralam Church of England Primary School

www.lostockgralam.cheshire.sch.uk @LostockGralamPr 01606 668270

Date: Thursday 5th October 2023

Children are at the heart of everything we do and Christ is the light that guides us.

John 8:12

Weekly Message

Another week and another sporting tournament in school; this week it was the turn of the Boy's Football Team. Although the boys didn't win, they represented Lostock so well and had the best afternoon playing the sport they love. It was so lovely to see them return to school with the biggest smiles on their faces! Well done boys! You will have also noticed that we are having some work done this week to improve the school grounds even further. This includes creating a nice quiet area for the children where the old shed used to be and building a brand new sensory circuit which will be located in the courtyard area behind the KS1 classrooms. We cannot wait to show you the before and after photos once the work has been completed!

Harvest

We would like to warmly welcome you to join us in church to celebrate Harvest on **Monday 9th October**.

Our KS2 classes will have their worship at 9am followed by KS1 at 9:45am.

This year, we would like to support the Mid Cheshire Food Bank with our Harvest donations. Our local branch is based in the Old School House on Manchester Road. The items that they would appreciate are listed in the poster below. If you would like to donate an item, please bring your donation into school. We will take them over to church for our Harvest services on Monday 9th October and then deliver them to the food bank. As always, we look forward to sharing our worship with you in church and thank you for your continued support.



Mid Cheshire foodbank COLLECTION POINT

Emergency supplies for local people in crisis

These are some of the items we currently are short of, please donate if you can.

Thank you for your generosity

THE FOOD ITEMS WE ARE SHORT OF
JAM
LONG LIFE FRUIT JUICE
COFFEE
DESSERTS - JELLY, RICE PUDDING
LONG LIFE MILK
CUSTARD
TINNED/MASHED POTATOES
INSTANT NOODLE MEALS

01606 590992
info@midcheshire.foodbank.org.uk

supported by the trussell trust



PTA Presents
HARVEST Hamper RAFFLE

Raffle tickets on sale at both KS1 and KS2 worships

9th October

£1 per strip

Thank you for supporting our PTA, raising vital funds for school!

PTA Harvest Raffle

Our PTA will be selling raffle tickets at both KS1 and KS2 Harvest Festival worships in church on Monday. Tickets are £1 per strip and there is a fabulous Harvest Hamper up for grabs! Please bring correct change if possible. THANK YOU for your support!



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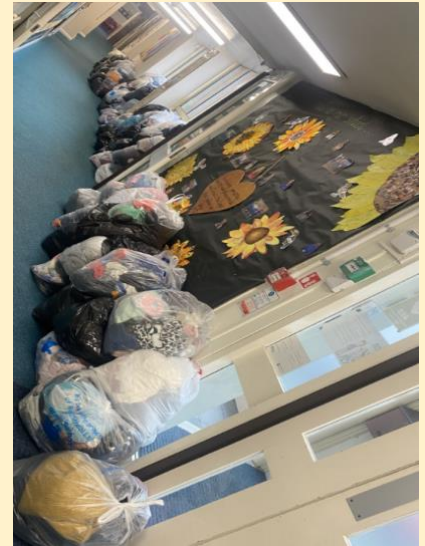
PTA 'Bag2School' Collection

A huge thank you to all the families who brought unwanted bags of clothes to school this morning. Our main entrance and corridor was full! We are so pleased to tell you that we raised £230 which is absolutely fantastic! Thank you so much for your support with this!

Lost Property

We have already gathered a lot of lost jumpers and hoodies since the start of term which have no names in them. Please can you have a look on the bench outside the entrance to KS2 if your child has lost their jumper or hoody to see if we can return any of them to their owners!

Thank you for your support with this!



World Mental Health Day – Tuesday 10th October



Each year as a school we celebrate World Mental Health Day. The charity Young Minds celebrates World Mental Health day with a #HelloYellow campaign. We have ordered a yellow wristband for each child to decorate and wear in school on the day. All classes will be talking about Mental Health, what this means to them and how we can look after our Mental Health.

You do not have to provide any other yellow items on this day.

Book Swap

Our lovely librarians (Hannah & Gracie) will be out on the playground again on Friday after school with a range of books to swap. Please feel free to bring in a book from home to swap with a book from the stall. No money needed.

Football Tournament

Match Report by Tom and Jake:

We arrived at the sports hall in Rudheath High at 1:30 pm. It began with a warm up at the beginning of the match. The opposing team scored 1-0 but we went on with smiles on our faces. Our team was very good at passing but the opposition had a very good defence. We persevered with smiles on our faces and came 3rd.



Message from Public Health

Below is a link offering advice to parents from the UK Health Security team. It's explaining how things we can do to help slow the spread of seasonal illnesses and avoid unnecessary absences. The article covers the role of healthy hygiene habits, vaccination, spotting the symptoms of common illnesses, and how to make informed decisions on whether a sick child is well enough to attend school.



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Read the post here: <https://ukhsa.blog.gov.uk/2023/09/08/a-parents-guide-to-keeping-kids-healthy-this-school-year/>

PTA Support

Our PTA has got some fantastic plans coming up. Please keep a look on the school newsletter for more details to come. If you are interested in supporting our PTA, please speak to **Donna North** or a member of staff and we'll let Donna know that you're available to help!

Thank you for your support!

Christmas Card Competition



Commissioner launches Christmas Card Competition for Cheshire Primary Schools

Police and Crime Commissioner John Dwyer has launched a competition asking local primary school children to design a festive image for him to use on his Christmas cards.

Primary school children up the age of 11 can submit an original design for the Commissioner to consider. Entries can be submitted as a drawing, painting, or photograph; they must be Christmas themed, of A5 size (portrait or landscape orientation) and can be in colour or black and white.

The competition is free to enter, with the winners receiving a prize.

This year, the Commissioner is looking for four bespoke designs. One from each Local Authority area in the county. These are:

- Cheshire East
- Cheshire West and Chester
- Halton
- Warrington



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Police and Crime Commissioner for Cheshire, John Dwyer said:

"I know it's only the end of September and some people will feel it's a little early to be talking about Christmas, but it'll soon be here before we know it."

"I ran a similar competition in 2021 and was hugely impressed with the imaginative ideas the children came up with. I'm looking forward to seeing the creativity harnessed in the designs for this year."

"Sending a Christmas card that features a design from a local youngster is a lovely way to spread festive cheer to people, and I'm looking forward to sprinkling a little bit of Christmas magic here in Cheshire this year."

How to send in your designs

All entrants should include their name, age, contact number (of a parent/guardian or school) and include the name and address of their school on the reverse of their design. Please do not include this as part of the design itself.

You can send in your designs via post to:

FAO Jen Seed, Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner, Clemonds Hey, Oakmere Road, Winsford, Cheshire, CW7 2UA

Or via email: pcc@cheshire.police.uk with the subject 'Christmas Card Competition'.

Designs need to be received by Sunday 5 November 2023.

Very Green Grocery Northwich (formally the Cheshire Food Hub)

Click [here](#) to follow on Facebook – it really is worth it as they offer an incredible service!

Here's some more information about what they offer:

*We're a not for profit organisation with **the primary aim of reducing food waste.***

Supermarkets and shops donate food that is just passed its best, but hasn't yet reached its use by date. The supermarkets can no longer sell it and it would otherwise go to landfill. It's still in great condition and absolutely fine to eat.

There is always a fantastic selection from each supermarket section – tinned foods, pasta, vegetables, fruit, salad, potatoes, meat, dairy, cereals, eggs, pastries, bread, toiletries.

*Regular food donations from Waitrose, Asda, Morrisons, Tesco, Aldi, Greggs, Lidl, Co-op. All of the money taken on the door goes straight back into the grocery. This means we can buy items in bulk. **Open to absolutely everybody, regardless of where you live or your financial situation.** So you can help save the planet at the same time as saving yourself some money. Just turn up on the day with £4 and your shopping bags.*



**Very Green Grocery
Northwich**
1.5K likes • 2.1K followers

**The Old School House,
Manchester Road,
Northwich,
01606 254090**



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Courses for Parents

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Interested in a Career in Beauty Therapy?

YOU ARE INVITED TO ATTEND AN INTRODUCTORY SESSION to find out about **free** qualifications available in:

- Level 2 Beauty Therapy
- Level 2 Nail Technology
- Level 2 Brow Shaping & Colouring
- Level 2 Facial Skin Care



9th November 2023

9am—11am

Learning and Skills Hub at Barnton Primary School

To book a place, please text or call: 07833 236675

Or email us at:

workzonenorthwich@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk

THE LEARNING & SKILLS HUB AT BARNTON PRIMARY SCHOOL INVITES YOU TO OUR

ENTRY LEVEL 3 HEALTH & WELLBEING

28TH NOV- 1ST DEC
9.15 - 2.45

HEALTHY LIFESTYLES

HELPING YOU UNDERSTAND THE IMPORTANCE OF A HEALTHY DIET AND LIFESTYLE AND HOW IT CAN AFFECT YOUR MENTAL HEALTH.

BUILDING CONFIDENCE & SELF ESTEEM

UNDERSTAND HOW CONFIDENCE AND SELF ESTEEM MAY AFFECT YOUR OWN LIFE, AND GAIN NEW SKILLS TO IMPROVE BOTH.

WORKING TOWARDS GOALS

LEARN TO PLAN HOW TO MEET IDENTIFIED GOALS AND FOLLOW YOUR OWN PLAN.

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO BOOK ON CALL OR TEXT 07833 236 675

Adult Education Cheshire West and Chester

LEVEL 1 CHILD DEVELOPMENT

TAKING PLACE AT THE LEARNING & SKILLS HUB AT THE RUSSETT SCHOOL

13TH - 17TH NOV
9.15 - 2.45



This 5 day course looks at

- Understanding play and the links between play, learning and development
- Understanding children's social and emotional development
- Introduction to SEN

TO BOOK ON CALL OR TEXT- 07833 236 675

Please note to be eligible you must be 16 or in receipt of benefits and earn under £20,319 per year

Free introduction to emergency first aid course



Training includes
CPR in Adults & Children
Recovery position
Choking

How to locate & use a defib
Basic first Aid

The Russett School 9.15am-1pm
Weaverham CW8 3BW 19th October
workzonenorthwich@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk

call or text to book a place:
07833236675



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Online Safety

To help keep your children as safe as possible online, please click [here](#) to access an interactive guide. It gives you practical instructions on how to set parental controls on the most common devices children use.

Diary Dates

This will be added to each week!

12 th October	Goldfinches Greek Workshop
17-18 th October	Parents Evening – more details to follow on Friday. Slots will be available to book on Monday.
9 th October	Harvest Festival in Church
30 th October	Owls worship in Church led by Vicar Andrew – parents welcome to join
6 th November	Years 5 & 6 worship in Church led by Vicar Andrew – parents welcome to join
13 th November	Years 3 & 4 worship in Church led by Vicar Andrew – parents welcome to join
15 th November	Robins trip to Beeston Castle
20 th November	Years 1 & 2 worship in Church led by Vicar Andrew – parents welcome to join
21 st November	Skylarks trip to Lion Salt Works
22 nd November	Swallows trip to Titanic Museum
28-29 th November	KS1 Christmas play
6-7 th December	KS2 play
8 th December	Christingle
13 th December	Panto & PTA Christmas Fair
14 th December	Christmas Carol concert & Christmas Lunch
10 th January	Toucans trip to the Imperial War Museum
17 th January 2024	Goldfinches trip to Chester Grosvenor Museum
12 th March 2024	Swallows Trip to Fox Howl Centre, Delamere
8 th May 2024	Skylarks Trip to Tatton Park
3-5 th June 2024	Toucans Residential Petty Pool Centre

Worship

This week, the children have been busy practising their Harvest songs and poems in class worship as we prepare for our Harvest worship next week. We have really enjoyed singing together, thanking God for the food, farms and beautiful autumnal environments he has given to us.

Y5 Quote “My favourite line is ‘It’s a beautiful world, you made’ because God has given us our food and the world.”

Our friends from Open the Book also shared the exciting story of creation. The children loved taking part and helping in the role play of how God created the animals.





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Praise children for fantastic work		
Owls (Reception)	Freddy	For showing amazing determination to practise your phonics, in lessons and in busy time – we love to see your hard work shine through, superstar!
Starlings (Y1)	Maizie	For showing great courage when she stood up and explained her Maths to the whole class. What an amazing mathematician you are!
Swallows (Y2)	Charlotte	For showing wisdom in your writing lessons, listening carefully and writing a super letter and diary entry this week.
Robins (Y3)	Alice	For showing courage to take on more challenges in Maths and for always presenting her work to a very high standard!
Goldfinches (Y4)	Olivia	For being proud of the courage you showed when you stood at the front and helped during Open the Book. It was lovely to hear you talk about yourself in such a loving way!
Skylarks (Y5)	Matthew	For showing wonderful resilience and perseverance in your work. You never give up even when you find something tricky. Well done, Matthew!
Toucans (Y6)	Amy	For showing the wisdom of new and ambitious vocabulary in your writing in Star of Fear, Star of Hope.

'Top Table' children for wonderful manners at lunchtime	
Owls (Reception)	Theo and Skyla
Starlings (Y1)	Alfie and Callum
Swallows (Y2)	Gracie and Harry
Robins (Y3)	Maisie and Eva
Goldfinches (Y4)	Annabel and Charlotte
Skylarks (Y5)	Charley and Harriet W
Toucans (Y6)	Fernando and Jake

Before & After school clubs – Autumn Term		
Name	Day/Time	Key Stage
Dodgeball	Monday 8-9am	Years 1-6
Girls Football	Monday 3.15-4.15pm	KS2
Hockey/Basketball	Wednesday 8-9am	Years 1-6
Football	Wednesday 3.15-4.15pm	Years 1,2,3
Gardening	Thursday 3.20-4pm until Oct half term	Years 5-6
Athletics/Benchball	Friday 8-9am	Years 1-6
Football	Friday 3.15-4.15pm	Years 4,5,6



Happy Birthday!

To Iona and Ava in Owls, and Alexa and Fernando in Toucans



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Lunch Menu – Week 3

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Homemade sausage roll served with mashed potato & baked beans	Tomato & mascarpone cheese pasta served with garlic & herb bread and seasonal vegetables	Cottage Pie served with seasonal vegetables	Chicken korma served with Rice, Naan Bread & Seasonal Vegetables	Breaded Mozzarella sticks
Jacket Potato with a Selection of Fillings Served with a Side Salad	Jacket Potato with a Selection of Fillings Served with a Side Salad	Jacket Potato with a Selection of Fillings Served with a Side Salad	Jacket Potato with a Selection of Fillings Served with a Side Salad	Jacket Potato with a Selection of Fillings Served with a Side Salad
Deli Choice of Breads with a filling choice of ham, cheese or tuna Served with a Side Salad	Deli Choice of Breads with a filling choice of cheese, ham or tuna Served with a Side Salad	Deli Choice of Breads with a filling choice of ham, cheese or tuna Served with a Side Salad	Deli Choice of Breads with a filling choice of ham, cheese or tuna Served with a Side Salad	Deli Choice of Breads with a filling choice of cheese or tuna Served with a Side Salad
Fruit and Ice-cream	Chocolate Crispy Cake	Apple & Grape Pot	Fruit Jelly	Vanilla biscuit

TERM DATES September 2023/August 2024

	Date of Closing	Date of Re-Opening
Summer 2023	Thursday 20 th July – school finishes at 1 pm no Fun Foxes	Tuesday 5 th September
Autumn Half-Term 2023	Friday 20 th October	Monday 30 th October
Christmas 2023/2024	Friday 15 th December school finishes at 1 pm – No Fun Foxes	Tuesday 2 nd January
Spring Half-Term 2024	Friday 16 th February	Monday 26 th February
Spring Break 2024	Wednesday 27 th March	Monday 15 th April
May Day Weekend 2024	Friday 3 rd May	Tuesday 7 th May
Summer Half-Term 2024	Friday 24 th May	Monday 3 rd June
Summer break 2024	Friday 19 th July school finishes at 1 pm – No Fun Foxes	Monday 2 nd September



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INSET DAYS (Teacher Training) – 5 in total for 2023/24

Monday 4th September 2023

Thursday 28th March 2024

Monday 22nd July 2024

Tuesday 23rd July 2024

Wednesday 24 July 2024

HOLIDAYS IN TERM TIME

Pupils are discouraged from taking holidays in term time unless there are exceptional circumstances. It is very rare that any holiday would be authorised. Good attendance is key to pupils making good progress and taking time out to go on holiday can significantly hamper progress. Where a holiday is unauthorised the LA is informed. A Fixed Penalty Notice will then be issued in accordance with section 444 of the Education Act 1996. The current rates payable by parents are £60 where the amount is paid within 21 days and £120 where the amount is paid within 28 days. The charge is per parent/carer per child. If the Fixed Penalty Notice remains unpaid this could lead to prosecution in the Magistrate's Court.

For the DfE statutory guidance on school attendance please click on the following link:

<https://www.gov.uk/school-attendance-absence>

Attendance

Attendance is crucial for all children in order that they will achieve and is monitored closely by school. We are always happy to help any families who are struggling for any reason. Laura Southall our family support worker is in school Monday, Wednesday and Friday and is always keen to help.

“Central to raising standards in education and ensuring all pupils can fulfil their potential is an assumption so widely understood that it is insufficiently stated – pupils need to attend school regularly to benefit from their education. Missing out on lessons leaves children vulnerable to falling behind. Children with poor attendance tend to achieve less in both primary and secondary school.” School Attendance DfE May 2022

If your child is ever unwell, please do let us know the reason for the absence by 8:45am on 01606 668270 (a message can be left on the school answer phone).