



Lostock Gralam Church of England Primary School

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

Date: Thursday 14th September 2023

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

John 8:12

Weekly Message

What a wonderful week we have had in school! Thank you to all of the parents who attended our 'Meet the Teacher' parent sessions on Tuesday evening. It was so lovely seeing you all in school and we hope you enjoyed seeing your child's classroom and hearing about all of the things that they will get up to this year.



Marie Gentles

Earlier this year, we had the pleasure of having Marie Gentles in school to do some staff training on behaviour support. Whilst she was here, she told us about a TV programme she was making for the BBC and it is on TV at the moment.

Tune into BBC2 at 9pm on Thursday evening to watch 'Helping Our Teens'.

Although this series is set in a high school with older children her ideas work with younger children too – we have seen the impact in our school. Her first series was set in a primary school so she really does know her stuff! She is amazing at what she does and her ideas around behaviour are not just for school staff but support parents too!

Our New Family Support Worker – Emily

Emily Leather is our new family support worker in school. She will be in school on **Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays** this year! Her role is to support families in many different ways - whether it's some friendly, positive advice over the phone, referrals to foodbank or other local agencies or advice on housing, benefits, parenting and money management to name just a few. If you feel like you need a little bit of extra support, please feel free to give Emily a call at school or catch her on the playground in the mornings.

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,***





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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.

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
9 th October	Harvest Festival in Church
15 th November	Robins trip to Beeston Castle
22 nd November	Swallows trip to Titanic Museum
28-29 th November	KS1 Christmas play
5-6 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
8 th May 2024	Skylarks Trip to Tatton Park
3-5 th June 2024	Toucans Residential Petty Pool Centre

Worship

Vicar Andrew led whole school worship this week, based on the Christian Value of 'Courage'. He explained how God is always with us, everywhere that we go and never leaves us. He shared the poem from Psalms 139 to help us to understand this concept. Verse 5 "You are all around me, behind me and in front of me. You hold me safe in your hand." We have enjoyed singing the song 'Be Bold, Be Brave' together this week, another means of reminding us that the Lord our God is with us.

Y3 quote:

"I like to hold the holding cross from our reflection area to make me feel closer to God, I know that he is with me."



Praise children for fantastic work

Owls (Reception)	Eleonore	For sharing your joyful smile with us every day this week, you have tried new challenges and kept your feeling of hope. Well done superstar!
Starlings (Y1)	Jack	For showing courage as a new member of Starlings class and always having a smile on his face. Well done Jack!



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Swallows (Y2)	Nathan	For showing wisdom with excellent noun phrases in his writing. Well done Nathan!
Robins (Y3)	Maisie	For spreading sunshine in the class with her beautiful smile and for showing friendship and kindness to others.
Goldfinches (Y4)	Albie	For showing great perseverance and eagerness in his new Year 4 learning. Well done, Albie!
Skylarks (Y5)	Bobby	For a fantastic start in Year 5 and showing perseverance even when he has found something tricky. Well done, Bobby!
Toucans (Y6)	Beth	For showing wisdom in her understanding of how to write expanded noun phrases to describe a scene.

'Top Table' children for wonderful manners at lunchtime

Owls (Reception)	Hannah and Edie
Starlings (Y1)	Imogen and Ava
Swallows (Y2)	Rory and Evelyn
Robins (Y3)	Ava and Alice
Goldfinches (Y4)	Olivia and Ella
Skylarks (Y5)	Hattie and Ella
Toucans (Y6)	Yara and Gracie

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 Edie in Starlings and Erica 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 served with chips and beans or peas
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

Please note from the 1st September 2023 there will be a price increase for a school dinner to £2.68

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



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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).