

L.J.S. NEWS



The Monthly Newsletter of Laxton Junior School

Michaelmas Quarter, Issue 9

2 October 2009

'Daring ideas are like chessmen moved forward. They may be beaten, but they may start a winning game.'

Goethe

Dear parents, children and other members of the school community,

Welcome to the second edition of this year's L.J.S. News. I hope that you find it informative and helpful; should you have any suggestions or ideas for future articles, please let me know.

On behalf of the staff,

Mark Potter

DATES AND HOLIDAYS FOR THE SCHOOL YEAR Michaelmas Quarter 2009

Quarter commences Monday 7th September.
Long Exeat - Saturday 17th October - Sunday 1st November inclusive.
Quarter ends at 3.45pm Friday 16th October.

Christmas Quarter 2009

Quarter commences Monday 2nd November.
Quarter ends at noon on Friday 11th December.

Easter Quarter 2010

Quarter commences Monday January 11th.
Long Exeat - Saturday 13th - Sunday 21st February inclusive.
Quarter ends at 3.45pm Friday 26th March.

Trinity Quarter 2010

Quarter commences on Monday 19th April.
Long Exeat - Saturday 29th May - Sunday 6th June inclusive.
Quarter ends at noon Wednesday 7th July.

STAFFING AT LJS

After seven fantastic years at Laxton Junior School, Mrs Sharon Duncan will be leaving us at the end of the Michaelmas Quarter. Sharon has thoroughly enjoyed her time at LJS and has played an integral part in the development of so many children during her time with us. Sharon will be sorely missed by the entire team here.

Mrs Alison Bogg will be joining us at the beginning of the Christmas Quarter; she has a wealth of experience in the Early Years Foundation stage. Alison will prove to be a worthy addition to the staff.

OPEN DAY - SATURDAY 3rd OCTOBER

The Laxton Junior School Open Day is taking place this Saturday. Many thanks to all of the children who have agreed to assist us during the morning.

I would like to offer you a very warm welcome should you wish to come and visit the School on Saturday morning between 9.30 a.m. and 12.30 p.m. We would be delighted to see you.

CONGRATULATIONS TINA AND IAN ON THE BIRTH OF BABY JACK

I am delighted to inform you that Miss Sandall's first born, Jack James Caffrey, arrived on Sunday 20th September at 00.17 weighing 8lb 12oz. Mother and son are both doing very well.

LEARNING AT LJS
EMOTIONAL INTELLIGENCE
LEARNING GOALS

Social, emotional and behavioural skills underlie almost every aspect of school, home and community life.

Where children have good skills in these areas, and are educated within an environment supportive to emotional intelligence, they will be motivated and equipped to:

- Be effective and useful learners
- Make and sustain friendships
- Deal with and resolve conflict effectively and fairly
- Solve problems with others or by themselves
- Manage strong feelings such as frustration, anger and anxiety
- Be able to promote calm and optimistic states that further the achievement of goals
- Recover from setbacks and persist in the face of difficulties
- Work and play co-operatively
- Compete fairly and win and lose with dignity and respect for competitors
- Recognise and stand up for their rights and the rights of others
- Understand and value the differences and commonalities between people, respecting the right of others to have beliefs and values different from their own.

The staff at LJS have adapted recent Government guidance to create our own Emotional Intelligence learning goals for your children:

Self-Awareness

Self-Awareness enables children to have some understanding of themselves. They know how they learn, how they relate to others, what they are thinking and what they are feeling. They use this understanding to organise themselves and plan their learning.

1. I accept who I am and I like myself. I am special.
2. I can recognise my strengths and things I find hard to achieve and I strive to improve.
3. I know when to ask for help.
4. I can recognise my feelings and take responsibility for my actions and learning.
5. I know that it is OK to have any feelings but it is not OK to behave in any way I like.

Managing Feelings

In managing their feelings, children use a range of strategies to recognise and accept their feelings. They can use this to regulate their learning and behaviour, for example, managing anxiety or anger, or demonstrating resilience in the face of difficulty.

6. I can stop and think before acting.
7. I can calm myself down when I need to and recognise when this is necessary.
8. I am not afraid of my feelings or to share them with someone I can trust.
9. I have a range of strategies for managing my feelings.
10. I can express my feelings in ways that do not hurt others.

Cont:

Motivation

Motivation enables learners to take an active and enthusiastic part in learning. Intrinsically motivated learners recognise and derive pleasure from learning. Motivation enables learners to set themselves goals and work towards them, to focus and concentrate on learning, to persist when learning is difficult and to develop independence, resourcefulness and personal organisation.

11. I can set myself a challenging target and work towards it.
12. I will strive towards achieving a WALT or target.
13. I can bounce back after a disappointment or when I have made a mistake or been unsuccessful.
14. I strive to develop independence.
15. I can concentrate and resist distraction.

Empathy

Being able to empathise involves understanding others, anticipating and predicting their likely thoughts, feelings and perceptions. It involves seeing things from another's point of view and modifying one's own response, if appropriate, in the light of this understanding.

16. I can recognise the feelings of others and be supportive.
17. I know that people are different and can acknowledge their differences.
18. I can see things from the point of view of others and respond accordingly.

Social Skills

Social skills enable children to relate to others, take an active part in a group,

communicate with different audiences, negotiate, resolve differences and support the learning of others.

19. I feel that I belong to and am valued in my class, school and community.
20. I value friendship and try to be a good friend.
21. I can contribute to a group, co-operating with others to achieve a joint outcome.
22. I know and understand my responsibilities within the school community.
23. I can make wise choices with my work, behaviour and actions.

We have created year group plans to teach these learning goals to your children through our PSHE curriculum, focusing on the needs of the children in each year group or class, rather than working from a published scheme. We strongly feel that by personalising the children's PSHE curriculum we are far better able to meet their individual needs as they develop into reflective and critical learners.

There will not be cause to teach each of the numbered learning goals each year to each child. These goals represent the types of emotional intelligences we wish the children to possess as they leave Laxton Junior School.

Please take the time to discuss these learning goals with your children and see if they are able to highlight their own strengths and areas for improvement.

'Learning is the acquiring and understanding of information that may lead to improvement or change.'

ESSENTIAL EDUCATION SHOW AT BURGHLEY HOUSE, STAMFORD

On Sunday 1st November, Laxton Junior School will be participating in the Essential Education Show at Burghley House. Some of our talented musicians will be performing a short repertoire at approximately midday and we will have a stand in the main marquee all day.

The show will embrace all aspects of education including pre-school, primary, secondary, special needs, further education and adult learning; both in the public and private sectors. Seminars will run during the course of the day on a variety of different subjects ranging from bullying to grants. There should be something to grab everyone's interest. Should you wish to know more, please visit the website www.essentialmediaevents.co.uk or call 01780 766629.

STAFF EMAIL ADDRESSES

All staff e-mail addresses are available on our website:

www.laxtonjunior.org.uk/staff.php

Please click on the member of staff you would like to contact and a new email addressed to that person will open in your default email program.

NEW PFA REPRESENTATIVE

I would like to welcome Liz Potter onto the Parent and Friend's Association Committee as the new Reception year group representative.

HARVEST ASSEMBLY

Harvest time will soon be upon us and this year we are once again collecting non-perishable food items.

If you would like to donate, please put together a food parcel and bring it in to school before our Harvest Assembly on **Friday 16th October at 3.00 p.m.** The collection point for all Harvest donations will be the junior entrance hall.

St Vincent de Paul will receive all of your donations. <http://www.svp.org.uk/>

The St Vincent de Paul Society ("SVP") is an international Christian voluntary organization dedicated to tackling poverty and disadvantage by providing direct practical assistance to anyone in need.

THANK YOU

I want to express my thanks to you all for your understanding over the change of date for the School's INSET day. I appreciate that many of you had difficulties with childcare but I felt that by moving the INSET day we could avoid extra disruption to the children's learning.

The School has been assured by Anglian Water that such an event will not happen again.

PARENT CONFERENCES

Reception and Year 6 Parent Conferences will be held on **Tuesday 6th** and **Thursday 8th October** between **5pm and 8pm.**

Laxton Junior School Calendar of Events for October 2009

Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
28 Sep	29 Sep	30 Sep	1 Science Made Simple Roadshow 17:00-18:30 -- Open Evening: Reception & Y6	2 Jeans for Genes Day	3 09:30-12:30 - Laxton Junior School Open Day	4
5 08:40-09:00 -- Music Assembly	6 13:15 - Stephen Webster to visit Y1 17:00-20:00 -- Parent Conferences: Reception & Y6	7 14:00 Tag Rugby: U9 Tournament (A) 14:30 Hockey: U10 v Stamford (H) 14:30 Netball: v W'borough (H)	8 08:30-09:30 -- PFA: Committee Meeting 17:00-20:00 -- Parent Conferences: Reception & Y6	9 08:30-09:30 -- PFA: New parent coffee morning - Smiths at Number 4, Oundle 12:30 Come & Play - Spotlight Strings	10	11
12 09:00-12:15 -- Y6: SciTec Visit	13 Y1 Trip: Barnwell Country Park	14 14:30 -- Cross Country: U11 & U9 v Witham Hall (A) 15:45 -- Rugby: U11 & U9 v Heritage Park (H)	15 08:30-09:30 -- PFA: Uniform Sale (hall)	16 15:00 - Harvest Assembly 15:45 -- Michaelmas Quarter Ends	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	1 Nov 10:00-17:00 -- Essential Education show at Burghley House, Stamford