

# L.J.S. NEWS



## The Monthly Newsletter of Laxton Junior School

Trinity Quarter, Issue 15

10 May 2010

### BOOKS HOME - FRENCH

*'Who aims at excellence will be above mediocrity; who aims at mediocrity will be far short of it.'*

*Burmese Saying*

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

*Welcome to the May edition of the LJS News. This is published a little later than usual but it will still inform you of upcoming events and allow you to plan accordingly.*

*It promises to be another exciting month at LJS.*

*On behalf of the staff,*

*Mark Potter*

### DATES AND HOLIDAYS FOR THE SCHOOL YEAR

#### Trinity Quarter 2010

Quarter commences on Monday 19th April.

*May Bank Holiday is a normal School day.*

Long Exeat - Saturday 29th May - Sunday 6th June inclusive.

Quarter ends at noon Wednesday 7th July.

#### Michaelmas Quarter 2010

Quarter commences on Monday 6th September. New Reception Form - Wednesday 8th September

Quarter ends at 3.45 p.m. Friday 15th October.

My apologies if you were expecting your children's French learning home on Friday; unfortunately I was absent from school and so this Books Home exercise will now take place this Friday 14<sup>th</sup> May. I hope you enjoy the opportunity of sharing in your child's learning.

### OUNDLIE TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB

Oundle Mini's are boys & girls from Reception to Year 4

- All new members welcome
- Season now started
- Saturday mornings 9.30am - 11.30am
- South Road playing fields
- £2.50 a week
- FA qualified coaches

To join in the fun please contact Cameron or Lisa on 01832 270976

### VOUCHERS

We are collecting the following vouchers:

*Tesco for Schools & Clubs*

*Sainsbury's Active Kids*

*Nestle Box Tops for Books*

If anybody has a couple of spare hours and would be willing to count the vouchers and bundle them up, please can they come and see Keren in the school office. Thank you

---

**A MESSAGE FROM  
THE DIRECTOR OF CURRICULUM**

You will have noticed from the School Calendar that we are not administering this year's National Curriculum SATs.

This decision is in no way part of the protest being advocated by some teaching unions. At LJS we use nationally accredited assessments (NFER- Tests) to determine our pupils' progress. These went 'online' last year and give us NC Levels in all three of the Core Subjects i.e. English, Maths and Science. We feel that it is unnecessary to test our pupils twice in one Quarter. The NFER tests are marked externally and allow us to compare our progress against national norms achieved in other schools. This is particularly evident now that the Science part of the SATs programme has been dropped.

Also, the NFER tests are far more diagnostically accurate than the SATs. In past years we have also had issues with the marking and publication of SATs results - as they have arrived in the Summer Holidays (or as late as September in one case!) The NFER assessment data will be available to parents at Parent Conferences and for End of Year reports. By not asking our pupils to undertake an extra week of testing we are able to continue delivering our broad curriculum during an already busy term.

Should you have any comments, questions or queries about these arrangements or any other matters regarding testing and assessment then please contact me at [dmw@laxtonjunior.org.uk](mailto:dmw@laxtonjunior.org.uk).

*Mark Worthington*

---

**FORM 6 PRODUCTION OF  
"THE LION KING"**

As a follow up to our very successful Arts' Festival trip to London, Form 6 will be putting on their own production of "The Lion King" at the end of this Quarter.

A local theatre group is coming in to work with the children and to produce the show. Form 6 will have intensive whole day workshops on the following dates: Thursday and Friday 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> May, Monday 21<sup>st</sup> June, Monday 28<sup>th</sup> June to Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> July. The performance will be at 7pm on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> July. This will be a "one-off" production which links neatly into our drama and Arts' Festival programme for the year.

The Form 6 children are all very excited, they will all be involved and they will have the great opportunity to work in an intensive and concentrated manner to produce a fabulous performance for all to enjoy. More news about seating allocation for the evening performance will follow nearer the time.

**NICK WILLIAMS: LIVING WORLD**

Nick Williams will be coming to speak to the School on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> May at 2.45pm. His talk is entitled "Living World". After dismissal, Nick will be in the Junior Entrance with some of his famous photographs for sale. They are priced at £1 each. If you would like to look at his photos, please come, with your child, to the Junior Entrance when you have collected them from the playground.

PARENT AND PUPIL  
PERCEPTION SURVEY

A big thank you to all who completed the pupil/parent perception survey. Here are some of the more interesting findings I would like to share with you from the Pupil Survey:

*\*All figures are percentages*

Question 2		All schools	LJS
		All pupils	All pupils
<b>(e) I go in a car or taxi or van to school</b>	Most days (3 days or more)	38	85
	Some days (less than 3 days)	12	3
	Not very often (less than once a week)	13	7
	Never	34	5
	No response	4	1

Question 3		All schools	LJS
		All pupils	All pupils
<b>I like being at school</b>	Most days (3 days or more)	60	75
	Some days (less than 3 days)	23	20
	Not very often (less than once a week)	8	1
	Never	8	3
	No response	1	0

Question 5. What helps you learn?		All schools	LJS
		All pupils	All pupils
<b>(a) My teacher helps me learn</b>	Yes	91	94
	No	2	0
	Not sure	6	4
	No response	1	1

Question 19		All schools	LJS
		All pupils	All pupils
<b>(h) I like going to clubs and activities</b>	Yes	85	96
	No	4	1
	Not sure	10	3
	No response	1	1

The Senior Management Team will be analysing the results from the survey and we will report back to you with our findings once this work is completed; it will certainly make for an interesting read.

Laxton Junior School

Calendar of Events for May 2010

Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
3 Open Day	4 Y3: Frontier Centre New Reception 2010 1st visit (half group)	5 Y3: Frontier Centre 14:30 -- Kwik Cricket: U11 & U9 tournament at Cophthill (A) 15:00 -- Rounders: U11, U10 & U11/U10 v Cophthill (A)	6 13:30 -- Rounders: 1st round House matches (H) 13:30 -- Inter-School Quiz: Wellingborough School (A)	7 Charity stall: World Red Cross Day - Infants am break, Juniors lunchtime	8	9
10 08:40-09:10 -- Music Assembly: Parents Welcome 15:45 -- Rounders: U11/10 Squad v Whitehall (H)	11 13:00 Y1: Visit to recycling centre New Reception 2010 2nd visit 15:00-16:00 -- PFA: Coffee & uniform sale -- New Reception	12 13:30 -- Rounders: 2nd round House matches (H) 14:30 -- Cricket: 20 overs U11 v Cophthill (A)	13 09:00-11:30 -- Y6: First Aid course 14:00 -- Equestrian: Against Kimbolton at Backnoe Centre (TBC) 15:45 -- Tennis: Match v Stamford (A)	14 Books home: French	15 Chess: National semi- finals at Weston-Super- Mare	16 Chess: National semi- finals at Weston-Super- Mare
17	18 New Reception 2010 3rd visit	19 14:30 -- Rounders: U11 v Witham Hall (H) 14:30 -- Rounders: U10 & U9 v Witham Hall (A)	20 13:30 -- Rounders: 3rd round Matches (H) 13:30 -- Inter-school Quiz: at Wellingborough School -- Semi-Final	21	22	23
24 08:40-09:10 -- Music Assembly - parents welcome Bags 2 School Collections 15:30 -- Rounders: U11 & U10 v Wisbech Grammar (H)	25 Y1 Trip: Barnwell Country Park 09:00-11:30 -- Y6: Team Building course (run by Lindy Kirk & OS pupils)	26 Maths Workshop: LJS Y6 & OS Y7 14:30 -- Cricket: U11 v Cophthill (A) 15:00 -- Rounders: U10B & U9 v Cophthill (H) & Tennis: v Cophthill (H)	27 Drama: Y6 Course - Day 1 08:30-09:30 -- PFA: Committee Meeting 14:00 -- Kwik Cricket: U9 v Wellingborough (A)	28 Drama: Y6 Course -- Day 2 Music: Come & Play - all 14:00 -- Athletics: Y2 & Y3 team at Witham Hall (A) 14:45 Nick Williams visit 15:45-16:45 -- House Cake Stall (Whitmore)	29 <i>Long Exeat</i>	30 <i>Long Exeat</i>
31 <i>Long Exeat</i>	1 June <i>Long Exeat</i>	2 June <i>Long Exeat</i>	3 June <i>Long Exeat</i>	4 June <i>Long Exeat</i>	5 June <i>Long Exeat</i>	6 June <i>Long Exeat</i>  Quarter recomences 8.25 a.m. Monday 7 June

[www.laxtonjunior.org.uk](http://www.laxtonjunior.org.uk)

email: [info@laxtonjunior.org.uk](mailto:info@laxtonjunior.org.uk)

Tel: 01832 277275

Fax: 01832 277271