

# L.J.S. NEWS



## The Monthly Newsletter of Laxton Junior School

Trinity Quarter, Issue 24

2<sup>nd</sup> May 2011

### SENIOR SCHOOL REGISTRATIONS

*This above all: to thine own self be true.*

*William Shakespeare*

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

*Welcome to the first LJS News of the Trinity Quarter. It is wonderful to be back at school and I am thrilled to be back at the helm!*

*The school continued to thrive in my absence and I thank Miss Bass, the Senior Leadership Team and all of the staff for their dedication. It was a rather uncertain time for everybody but the school did not falter. Thank you all too for your patience and understanding as I returned to full health.*

*May is a busy month and this edition will highlight some of the events we have planned.*

*On behalf of the staff,*

*Mark Potter*

### DATES AND HOLIDAYS FOR THE SCHOOL YEAR

#### Trinity Quarter 2011

Quarter Commences: Tuesday 26th April

Long Exeat Commences: Friday 27th May

Quarter Re-commences: Monday 6th June

Laxton Junior Speech Day: Friday 1st July  
5.00 p.m.

Oundle School Speech Day: Saturday 2nd July

Quarter Ends: Wednesday 6th July 12.00 p.m.

It is nearing the time for important decisions to be made regarding the future schooling of our Form 5 children.

I would suggest that if you have already identified your first choice of senior school for your child, you should register them as soon as possible. Some schools may look to close their registration lists at the end of this academic year, if not before.

### VOUCHERS

Please note that we are collecting the following vouchers. Thank you:

*Tesco for Schools & Clubs*

*Sainsbury's Active Kids*

*Nestle Box Tops for Books*

### SUNSHINE/WET WEATHER

We have been very fortunate to have experienced some delightful weather recently and I would like to remind you that we recommend you send your child to school with a sunhat, some sunscreen and, just in case, a waterproof cagoule!

Please put the sunscreen in a Ziploc bag so that we can keep leaks to a minimum. When we do experience hot days, we can then ensure that the children will not be over-exposed to the sun.

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### VISITING AUTHOR SUE HAMPTON

“Terrific” (JUST FOR ONE DAY), “enthraling” (SPIRIT AND FIRE) and “beautifully written ... insightful and poignant” (THE WATERHOUSE GIRL) said Michael Morpurgo, who inspired Sue when she was a teacher to write stories that target head and heart.

Sue Hampton, an author of nine novels for young readers, will be leading writing workshops for children in the Junior Department on the 12th May. She aims to show children how much fun words can be and plans to inspire children to read and write. Her books will be on sale at lunchtime and at the end of a day in the Junior Entrance for anyone that wishes to purchase one and Sue is happy to sign copies on the day. A booklist with available titles and prices will be sent home via ParentMail in due course. We hope this will be an exciting and inspiring day for all. To find out more, please visit:

[www.suehamptonauthor.co.uk](http://www.suehamptonauthor.co.uk).

### THRAPSTON & RAUNDS ROTARY CLUB WRITING COMPETITION

In January, all children in the the Junior Department entered this competition and we are delighted to announce that we have two winners and two highly commended entries.

Benjamin Bird won 1st prize in the Junior Prose section and Lily-Rose Tebbutt won 1st prize in the Poetry section. Both children have been invited to attend the

Rotary Celebration of Youth dinner to be held on 11th May and their pieces have now been put forward to the District judging level of the competition.

The judge from the Local level informed us that she had a difficult task and she highly commended the entries of Katie Crowther and Ralph Johnson.

Very well done to you all.

### MEDICALS - REMINDER

All children new to the school since September 2010

All children in Maintained Schools receive at least one medical examination during their Primary School years. Dr Clayton and Dr Newell will carry out the examinations for children in our school this year.

This year's examinations will be carried out on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> May and Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> May at Laxton Junior School, in the medical room.

Parents should be present during the examination. If you have yet to return your consent, Please e-mail Mrs Hatcher - [kah@laxtonjunior.org.uk](mailto:kah@laxtonjunior.org.uk) - as soon as possible.

### WHOLE SCHOOL PANORAMIC PHOTO

The whole school panoramic photo will be taken on the morning of Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> May.

Please ensure that your children have their blazers in school on this day.

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## MRS CAROL PARK

After twenty two years of dedicated service to Laxton Junior School, Mrs Carol Park is leaving us this year.

Carol's fourth son, Hamish, started at Laxton Junior School in the same year that Sue Thomas took on the Headship and in the Trinity Quarter of the same year Carol began to assist the teachers with hearing children to read.

"Where did you learn to teach reading like that?" asked the Form Teacher as Carol helped the children to sound out c-a-t, surprised that this method was so effective.

This turned into the first prototype Teaching Assistant position and much later on Miss Thomas asked Carol to develop the Learning Support Department. This also led to a great friendship and working relationship with both Dr Beverley Steffert and Dr Ian Jordan who gave Carol so much underpinning knowledge and support.

Carol has worked tirelessly at the school, always with the children's very best interests at heart. Rather than just accept that a child may have been diagnosed with a specific learning difficulty, Carol wants to find out the underpinning issues that create a child's barrier to learning.

Carol has always strived to bring the very latest thinking on Specific Learning Difficulties into the school and this has provided many of our children with the opportunity to use 'Fast For Word' a new

computer programme that has produced staggering results for some children. Carol is also leading advocate of coloured lenses for children with Irlen Syndrome; another initiative that has improved the lives of a large number of children and parents.

Carol has supported countless children and parents during her time with us at LJS and I know that she has had a huge impact on the lives of so many.

Carol will be sorely missed by us all here and as whilst she is leaving us, isn't quite yet ready to retire fully.

Carol will be leading the Learning Support Department at The Perse School in Cambridge, another super school, and they are very lucky to be able to benefit from Carol's incredible knowledge and expertise of children's barriers to learning.

Our loss is most certainly The Perse's gain.

Good luck, Carol and thank you for all you have done for LJS over the past twenty two years.

## LEAVERS' ASSEMBLY

This year's Leavers' Assembly will be held on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> July at 3.00 p.m. It will be a chance for us to say goodbye to the children who are leaving LJS and also an opportunity for you to come along and say goodbye to Mrs Park.

There will be drinks and nibbles available after the assembly; Mrs Park would love to see you there!

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Laxton Junior School

Calendar of Events for May 2011

Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
2 Open Day 0930 – 1130 a.m. & 1300 – 1500 Infant Dancing - 1400	3 1st New Rec visit am & pm	4 Y1: Barmwell, pond dipping 1400 Kwik Cricket v Cophill U11 & U9 (A) 1500 Rounders: U11A&B, U10 v Cophill (A)	5 Y6 Trip: Woodsthorpe Manor	6 UK Maths Trust: Maths Challenge Books Home: Humanities	7	8
9 0840 Assembly: Music 1330 Swimming: Gala v Grantham (A)	10 Y6: First aid Course 2nd New Rec visit pm 1500 – 1530 PFA coffee and uniform sale - new Rec parents	11 LJS Medicals 1430 Rounders: U9 v Witham Hall (A) 1445 Kwik Cricket: U11 & U9 v Grantham (H)	12 Y3-Y6: Sue Hampton visiting Author - writing workshop 1600 Tennis: Match v Stamford (A)	13 EPSCA chess weekend Brean Sands, Somerset	14 EPSCA chess weekend Brean Sands, Somerset	15 EPSCA chess weekend Brean Sands, Somerset
16 0840 Assembly: Class 4H	17 3rd New Rec visit pm	18 LJS Medicals 0830 – 1145 Y2: visit Peterborough Cathedral 1500 Rounders: U11 A, B, & C v Witham Hall (A)	19 Y3: Horrible Histories - Awful Egyptians Broadway Theatre	20 1430 Cricket: U11 v The Perse (H)	21	22
23 Whole School Panoramic photo	24	25 Travelling Book Fair 1445 Cricket: U11 v Cophill (H) 1500 Rounders: U10B & Tennis v Cophill (H)	26 Travelling Book Fair 1400 Kwik Cricket: U9 v Wellingborough (A)	27 Travelling Book Fair Bags 2 School Collections 1230 Music: Come & Play - All Instruments 1300-1500 Rec trip: Pinders Circus, Oundle 1400 Athletics: U8 team at Witham Hall (A)	28	29
30 Long Exeat	31 Long Exeat	1 June Long Exeat	2 June Long Exeat	3 June Long Exeat	4 June Long Exeat	5 June Long Exeat Trinity Quarter Recommences Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> June