Ladybrook Primary School Newsletter

Learning without Limits

October 2026

A busy half-term!

The last eight weeks in school have been very busy – the summer holidays are definitely in the distant past and Christmas is looming! Year 6 have had their auditions, and a play has been chosen. KS1 have their short list of productions, Christmas lunch is planned …. I think next half term will be a whirlwind of energy and excitement!

How have we enriched our learning this half term?

Year 2 visited Staircase House to investigate The Great Fire of London. I was lucky enough to go with them and loved seeing the children dressed up and acting out key parts of the events. Our hosts were very impressed with how much the children already knew and were able to share.



Year 1 had a visit from Florence Nightingale and Mary Seacole (obviously not the real ones!) and were whisked back in time to understand the legacy of these two remarkable women. Drama and role play helped the children to understand the similarities and differences between the experiences of both women.



School Council

School council have been very busy this half term. They have evaluated the tuck shop, talked to children in school, researched healthy products and prepared a new list of items for sale. You should have already received a letter from them explaining everything for next half term.

We have held two open mornings for prospective parents for September 2027 over the last few weeks. School Councillors – and some additional volunteers because we were so busy - conducted the tours. The feedback about their confidence, their pride in school and knowledge was amazing. They shared so much information that I hardly had to answer any further questions at the end of the tours. Well done to our school council! One parent commented that she hoped her daughter grew up with the kindness and confidence of her tour guide which was such a lovely compliment.

Class Assemblies – reminder!

We are very conscious that many parents have to slip out of work to come to class assemblies and we know that this can sometimes be difficult in the middle of the day. We trialled morning assemblies last year and the feedback was positive so we will be keeping the time to 9:10 and if you don't have to rush back to work, you are welcome to join us for tea / coffee after the 'main event'!

Date	Year Group
19th November	Year1
27th January	Year 4
11th Feb	Year 2
6th May	Year 3
24th June	Year 5
30th June	Reception
27th July	Year 6

National Teaching Assistant Day -25th September

We celebrated with lots of biscuits! We are so lucky to have such an amazing group of Teaching Assistants at Ladybrook. They work alongside teachers to support children in the classroom as well as a huge array of other things that make our school run smoothly. Did you know, every single one of our Teaching Assistants is now a paediatric First Aider! We are confident in saying that our Teaching Assistants really are the best! This term we welcome Mrs McCoy, Mrs Siddiqi and Miss Sassi to our permanent T.A. team.



Harvest Festival

Thank you so much for the generous donations for our Harvest Festival. Dave, from Chelwood Foodbank, was amazed by how much you had all donated; Rev. Calum Piper from St Michael's shared an assembly with the children. The children sang beautifully and contributed their thoughts with kindness and empathy. We were very proud of them.

Inclusion Fund

Some of you will have heard on the news that schools are being given funding known as an 'inclusion fund'. There are clear guidelines about how this can be used. At Ladybrook, we have decided to trial the introduction of teacher one day a week to support children who are showing dyslexic traits. As well as working with children, she will be able to upskill our team even further. You will all know that we are a Dyslexic Friendly school so we have completed a considerable amount of training already but we know there is always more to learn! Our teacher, Mrs Earnshaw, starts with us in the first week back.

Stockport Harriers Cross Country

We have a super-sized cross-country team this year – 21 runners in total! Our first race was in glorious sunshine and the weather in the days before had been kind so the ground was great to run on. I think our next race might be a little bit muddier!
The dates and times are as follows:

Match	Date	Team	Race Time (10:30-12:30)
Match 2	31st October		
Match 3	21st November	Year 3 / 4 Girls	10:30
Match 4	23rd January	Year 3/ 4 Boys	10:50
Match 5	6th February	Year 5 / 6 Girls	11:10
Match 6	27th February	Year 5 / 6 Boys	11:40
Presentation Day	20th March		

Football

We played our first match this season against Queensgate at home. We didn't win this one but we worked hard to play as a team for the first time – well done to those children that played! Congratulations to Queensgate on their win. Our next match is 9th November at home – and it's a cup match! Please come and support us!

Working with Parents

Our EYFS team have delivered workshops for parents this half term. Reception delivered two phonics sessions so parents could see how we teach phonics and how the children apply these skills in their learning. Nursery held two oracy sessions, concentrating on promoting quality interactions with children to develop their speaking and listening skills. We hope the parents who attended found the sessions useful.

Can you help us?

When we had the meteorologist visit the whole school and an architect visit Year 2, both last year, we realised that the children are really interested in how their learning could link to jobs. Next half term, I will be sending home a form which shares our topics in each year group and what the focus is – if you have a job that links in any way and you would be happy to come and talk to the children about it, please complete the form. We are really keen to show children the link between their learning, their interests and future possibilities.

Forest School

A group of fabulous volunteers: Dave Fowler, Lis Bolas, James Fowler, Jessica (tree surgeon), Lorna and Mark Brennan, Karen and Charlotte Fairweather worked one weekend in our Forest School. We now have a canopy to work under so whatever the weather, forest school can take place. They also worked on the fencing. We are also excited that we are extending our Forest school provision to include our reception children. Mrs. Lockett and Mrs. Brennan will work with half of our reception class each week so that all of the children will have fortnightly sessions for the rest of the year.

Kind regards

Caroline Woosnam

Further dates for your diaries for the next term **red dates have been added since September's newsletter**

Date	Event	Who is this relevant to?
23rd October	Finish for half term	Whole school
31st October	Cross Country Match 2	Cross Country Teams
2nd November	INSET Day	Staff
3rd November	School opens to children	Whole school
4th November	Lyme Park Trip	Reception
8th November	Remembrance Parade	School Council
9th November	Air raid Shelter Trip	Year 5
10th November	EYFS Stay 'n' Play	Nursery / reception
13th November	EYFS Stay 'n' Play	Nursery / reception
13th November	Children In Need	Whole School
16th November	Greek Workshop (change of date from 10th)	Year 4
17th November	Flu Vaccines	Rec – Year 6
17th November	PTA meeting – Ladybrook Pub	All parents interested
18th November	Lyme Park Trip	Nursery
19th November	Yr. 1 Assembly	Year 1
21st November	Cross Country Match 3	Cross Country Teams
24th November	Wreath Making	All welcome – details on ParentPay nearer the time
26th November	Musical Evening	Musicians
4th December	Christmas Fair	Whole School
7th December	EYFS Xmas Stay n Play	Nursery
8th December	Trustee meeting	Parent PTA Trustees
9th December	KS1 performance (morning)	Rec, yr. 1, yr. 2
10th December	KS1 performance (morning)	Rec, yr. 1, yr. 2
11th December	EYFS Xmas Stay n Play	Nursery
14th December	KS2 Dress Rehearsal	Years 3 – 6
15th December	KS2 Christmas performance - matinee	Years 3 – 6
16th December	KS2 Christmas performance - evening	Years 3 – 6
18th December	Pantomime in school	Whole school
18th December	Reports home	Whole school
18th December	Finish for Christmas	Whole school
4th January	School Opens	Whole school

Responsible Citizens **Confident Individuals** **Successful Learners**