

# LCPS Weekly Newsletter

*Ready. Respectful. Resilient.*

Autumn : Issue #15  
19th December 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

We've had an excellent last week of term at school—the children were exceptional, as always, with many strong highlights. I loved seeing the KS1 / EYFS children perform so admirably in the Nativity and the whole-school carol concert was a joy to watch.

Here are the highlights of this week's learning:

**Nursery:** It was a joy to watch the Nursery children perform their Christmas songs this week. Their ability to use Makaton while singing for their parents was truly impressive. The Nursery team would like to say a huge 'well done' to all the children for such a confident performance.

**Reception:** This week the children have really excelled in their performances of our 'Knock Knock' Nativity. We are so proud of their enthusiasm, skill and resilience - the audiences were clearly delighted! Well done Reception, you were fantastic!

**Year 1:** have worked incredibly hard in many aspects. The children put on an amazing Nativity Performance showcasing all their incredible hard work and singing. We have also been busy creating snowflakes and spotting shapes within Math's as well as adding to our phonics knowledge where we learnt that the letter y can make an ee sound! The children have been great at spotting the new sound in their reading and writing. Year 1 also finished writing a letter to Father Christmas using the key features as well as asking Father Christmas some very important questions. The children have worked immensely hard this half term. Have a restful break and a wonderful Christmas!

**Year 2:** Year 2 performed beautifully in their nativity, using fantastic projection and confident Makaton signs. They also sang wonderfully during their carol service. The children completed an excellent write-up of their independent traditional tales and showed great effort and understanding in their end-of-unit assessment on shape.

**Year 3:** spent time in RE discussing the meaning of Christmas and reflecting on its importance. In maths, the children enjoyed taking part in fun and engaging challenges that encouraged problem-solving and teamwork. The class also loved watching the KS1 Nativity, which helped everyone get into the Christmas spirit. In English, pupils practised writing setting descriptions using the five senses, and in guided reading they worked on performing short poems with actions, building confidence and expression. Year 3 are now ready for a well-earned Christmas break!

**Year 4:** have had a busy week. Pupils created their own persuasive pieces of writing, choosing to persuade readers to hire either Poseidon or Hermes for a task such as delivering Christmas cards or working as a plumber. Pupils enjoyed using exaggerated language in their writing to persuade readers. In Art, pupils decorated their Ancient Greek pots by first painting a base layer of orange and then adding their own designs. It was a great way to end a wonderful term!

**Year 5:** Have been doing a lot of Geography this week, exploring how the Grand Canyon was formed and how the Mississippi River and California Drought are managed. The children were able to produce some excellent work, explaining the detailed process of how the Grand Canyon came to be and investigated some factors to help prevent flooding and drought. Year 5 have had an excellent end to this term and they should be extremely proud of all they have achieved so far (resilience with fractions, completing a residential trip, writing some incredible Dragonology reports and the success of VIAM)! I hope they have a restful break, ready for the New Year!

**Year 6:** This week in PSHE, Year 6 focused on recognising the reasons why some people use bullying behaviours. Pupils discussed how understanding these reasons can help them develop empathy and make positive choices in how they treat others.

## Looking Ahead...

[Click here for the full calendar.](#)

- 19th Dec—Break up for Xmas holidays 2pm finish (**Back on 7th Jan 2026**)
- 12th Jan Prospective parent open morning 9.15am
- 22nd Jan Reception height and weight check (in school)
- 2nd Feb Yr 5 visiting Hare Krishna Temple
- 9th Feb Yr 5/6 VIAM workshop (in school)
- 12th Feb Author Rashmi Sirdeshpande visit Yrs 3-6
- 13th Feb half term
- 23rd Feb children back from half term holiday
- 24th Feb Yr 6 HoTP Victorian Day (in school)
- 25th and 26th Feb Yrs2-6 Chinese New Year dance workshop
- 4th March Yr 2 Roald Dahl museum trip
- 5th March World Book Day workshops (all children—in school)
- 9th March Rec-Yr 1 Science week workshops (in school)
- 10th March Yrs 2-6 Science workshops (in school)

### To do this week ...

- Continue to read with your child daily—KS2 children use [Sparx Reader](#) 5 dojo points for the highest amount of questions answered during the holiday period!
- Yrs2-6 use Century Tech homework app to complete nuggets
- Enjoy building happy, family memories during the break!

### Premier Education update:

Please [click here](#) for the weekly announcement from Premier Education.

Premier also run local holiday clubs—further info can be found by following [this link](#).

**Hot Chocolate with the Head:** Well done to **Tommy (Rec), Kiansh (Yr 1), Kavi (Yr 2), Siddhik (Yr 3), Ellis (Yr 4), Kai and Keerthika (Yr 5) and Ori (Yr 6)** who were recognised in Celebration Assembly this week for going above and beyond in displaying our school values this week.



**Message from Buckinghamshire Council Walk to School initiative:** During the last 5 weeks we've seen a brilliant increase in pupil engagement in our participating WOW schools. Well done everyone and thank you for the hard work you and your pupils have displayed during our WOW competition period.

We've looked at the engagement rates amongst our schools, and I'm pleased to announce the winners of the vouchers for school resources, separated by just 2%, as follows:

In first place and winner of a £150 resources voucher: **Little Chalfont Primary School** with an impressive 88% pupil engagement rate  
 A close second place and winner of a £100 resources voucher: **Marlow CE Infant School** with an 87% pupil engagement rate  
 The third place school and winner of a £50 resources voucher: **Elangeni School** with an 86% engagement rate

**Congratulations** to all schools that took part and increased their pupil engagement for this period. Your hard work contributes to creating positive healthy habits for the children; and encouraging active travel promotes cleaner, greener local environments. Keep up the good work in 2026!

I'm delighted with the above that shows **Little Chalfont Primary School** have finished the most engaged and active school in Buckinghamshire. Well done to all families for getting involved in this healthy initiative! As winners, we have been awarded a £150 Amazon voucher that we will be spending on new resources for the children to enjoy!



**Writer of the month:** Today, during Celebration Assembly, the following children were recognised for fantastic effort and progress during the last unit of writing in English. Well done to **Ray (Yr 1), Vincent (Yr 2), Henry W (Yr 3), Max (Yr 4), Shanvika (Yr 5) and Phoebe (Year 6)**.

**Thankyou:** On behalf of myself and my staff, **thank you all for your generosity** for the gifts we received this week we are really grateful!

On a personal note, thank you all for making my return to work (after the accident) manageable and stress-free. I appreciate all your support and am delighted to be back at work in the way I was before!

**Hill group donations:** Thank you to Hill Developers who have kindly donated lots of resources for us to use at school. They kindly donated some new tree stump seating amongst other things that we have found really useful for some of our outdoor learning experiences.

## Dojo Points

(house points are awarded at the end of each half term: 1st = 5, 2nd = 3, 3rd = 2, 4th = 1)

3525	3148	3689	3846
1st= Burton 6 pts	1st= Loudham 6 pts	1st= Bendrose 6 pts	4th Coleman 0 pts

## Attendance Last Week:

19<sup>th</sup> Dec

Year 1	95.1%
Year 2	91.8%
Year 5	91.5%
Year 4	89.5%
Year R	88.7%
Year 6	87.2%
Year 3	87.1%

Whole School: 90.1%

**Attendance:** This week has been a poor week for attendance. **Year 1** topped the leader board with **95.1%**. Good attendance is essential for strong social and academic progress and it is essential this improves next term.

**Branching out book recommendations:** Dear parents, please [follow this link](#) to find book recommendations based on books that your child has enjoyed reading before. This would be ideal as stocking fillers for any families that celebrate Christmas. Included on these lists are free, printable posters that will help to inspire your children to read over the holidays and further develop a love of reading. Remember 70% of the Primary Curriculum is linked to reading skills so its true to say **"Read to succeed!"** Children working at Greater Depth at reading in KS2 is a strong indicator of 11+ pass potential.



## Weekly Winners

Year 1	86%
Year R	83%
Year 2	81%
Year 3	80%
Year 6	76%
Year 4	75%
Year 5	63%

**Travel Tracker:** Well done to **year 1** for topping the leader board (**for the 7th week in a row**) for the most active journeys to school this week. An active journey is walk, scoot, cycle or park and stride and is an extremely positive way to enable a great day of learning for your child. Thanks for your assistance in this important initiative.

## Do you have concerns about a child?

### LCPS SAFEGUARDING TEAM



Mr Hacking  
DSL & Headteacher



Mrs Abadee  
Deputy DSL & SENCo



Mrs West  
Deputy DSL & AHT

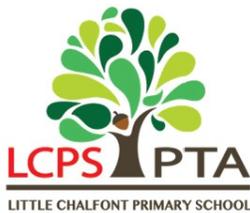
If the team are unavailable, contact First Response on 01296 383962  
If your concern involves a DSL, contact Chair of Governors, Simon Barrett or the Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) on 01296 382070  
In danger is imminent, contact the police on 101 (999 for an emergency)



No mobile phones  
No photography

Please keep phones out of sight  
whilst on school property





**Edible Garden update (proudly sponsored by our partners (above)):** Winding down the garden for the end of the year, and watching most of our growing things going into dormancy whilst it pours with rain doesn't mean we've not been busy. There's lots to do this time of year to keep things tidy and ticking over, and the unseasonably warm weather has meant strong root growth for Year 6's autumn sown garlic and Year 1's onions, in soil that is yet to freeze.

The Year 6 Garden Guardians and our keen Year 5 garden friends deserve a special mention for coming out every day that the grown ups have been in, doing what they can to keep the weeds down, leaves collected, old plants cleared and composted and seeds collected from the plants going over. Massive thanks continue as ever to David Alexander and Vanessa Atkin for all the volunteering time they give to support the garden and the children getting out and about in all weathers learning new skills and growing their confidence. We couldn't do half as much as we do without their enthusiastic and regular contributions and it's lovely to have their company to share in it all!

The Garden Guardians and older members of the Eco Council have also been checking in on our worms and feeding them what they need, sorted out carefully from the school dinner food waste as children clear their plates, to get the worms started and happy and surviving over the holidays in their new wormery homes. Our worms don't seem to have escaped or died which is always a good start! And they have been moving up from their base bedding layer into exploring the food waste and starting to munch their way through it - all very exciting to see!

A weather window on Monday morning meant that our Stony Dean helpers were able to plant 50 allium bulbs in the quiet garden "Summer" corner (hopefully some fun purple pompom flowers for us there as Spring segues into Summer), dismantle and reassemble the cabin door which had blown open and broken in the high winds (great repair skills!), and start to paint the inside of the cabin so it looks fresh and new for us for starting to use it next year. So helpful, thank you to all and looking forward to welcoming them back next term.

We have also been selling our wonderful green tomato chutney and apple juice as Christmas gifts and for families to enjoy with their festive feasts over the holidays. All credit goes to the Year 6 children for designing such imaginative and colourful labels and for they and Year 5 topping them with our gingham dress circles (thanks for textiles assistance PTA!) for a visual treat of a stall both at the Christmas Fair and at the nativity performances. The chutney has sold well, although there are plenty of mini, small and large jars left if anyone realises how yummy it is over the break and wants to come back for more in the new year! Unopened it keeps for a long time and the flavours develop, so not a problem if you've not bought this term. Recommendations I've had from families for its versatile enjoyment are that it's excellent as a relish with sausages or as a side to ham and gammon roasts, a great tasty alternative to ketchup in a burger, fabulous with scrambled eggs for a Sunday brunch or as a glaze on roasts. That's of course all on top of it being great with a cheeseboard or in a ploughman's style sandwich.

Apple juice is also nearly 3/4 sold, so the rest won't hang around for long. Do let us know if you try the spiced apple mulled juice option with it over the holidays too!

Thank you all for your support, both for the children's growing in the garden, collecting and making, and of the buying of the final products! All monies raised from the sale of produce go to the PTA and are reinvested in your child's experiences at LCPS - it was wonderful to chat to people over the stall at the Christmas Fair about all of that, and we hope your children continue to enjoy all their garden and outdoor related experiences in the growing year to come.

Last but not least, thank you to all those who have given time, money, resources, supplies, grants, sponsorship, kind words and energy to our outdoor learning this year. We appreciate all of it greatly - you all make us thrive!

Thank you for your support and have a safe and restful weekend.

**Grateful and undaunted,**

Mr Hacking

