



Lewknor C of E Primary School Newsletter



Monday 21st November 2022

WE HAVE PLANNING PERMISSION BUT...

Good news... after endless correspondence with Oxfordshire County Council's Planning Department and a hugely expensive arboricultural report, which had to be completed before the application could be processed, we have been granted planning permission to install our new climbing frame (hurrah!).

However, there is still a delay which is down to some stipulations regarding trees in the area. We are meeting representatives from the council and Sovereign (the climbing frame manufacturers) in December to agree next steps and hopefully we will get the green light to have the climbing frame erected very soon.

It has been a long process and I thank all the office staff for their help and their patience in trying to get this matter sorted out.



Headteacher's Welcome

FOOTBALL STARS' TOURNAMENT TRIUMPH



The winning team are pictured left and below and include: Thea, Jack, Emrys, Charlie, Harley (captain), Isaac, Holly, Stanley, Camille and Izzy. Mia also played but was absent from school the day we took the photos.

On the day England kick off their World Cup campaign against Iran, I bring you some excellent news about our very own Lewknor Primary football heroes. The year 5 and 6 children were invited to take part in a partnership football tournament last week (the first one since the outbreak of Covid), and they WON! They played a team from Ewelme Primary and won that game 6-0, and then went on to beat Watlington Primary 2-0.

Harley, who was captain, said he thought the reason why Lewknor did so well was because there was "excellent teamwork, amazing defenders and the players passed the ball well." Miss Baker added: "There were also some phenomenal goals and our goalkeepers did really well too." I was delighted to hear that the teachers from the other schools commented on how very

well behaved our children were. They saw how our children did not complain when they were subbed and how they cheered on their teammates. They also said they were very polite. Well done everyone!



LEWKNOR C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL HIGH STREET LEWKNOR OXFORDSHIRE OX49 5TH

Head Teacher: Mrs D Cole

Telephone: 01844 351542 E-mail: office.3184@lewknor.oxon.sch.uk Website: www.lewknor.eschools.co.uk

Lewknor C of E Primary School



WANTED...NEW PARENT GOVERNORS!

We currently have vacancies for two parent governors on the Governing Body, which is open to all parents of children at Lewknor Church of England Primary School. Being a governor will give you the opportunity to help shape and guide the ethos and development of Lewknor Primary.

For the past eight years, Oxfordshire County Council has said we are an outstanding school. The Oxford Diocesan Board for Education also agreed that we are an outstanding school following an inspection in June 2017. This could not be achieved without the ongoing active engagement of parents and governors.

Below you will find some useful information about being a governor. We are especially looking for people with any of the following skills: financial, analytical and /or strategic, as well as an interest in special educational needs and safeguarding.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact us via the school email. Mr Pearce and Mr Hall, our current parent governors, would be more than happy to talk to you about the role of parent governor.

If you would like to stand as a candidate, please complete and return the nomination form in a sealed envelope to the school office (marked Parent Governor Nomination Form) to arrive no later than 3.15pm on Friday 9th December. The nomination form is available on our school website under the vacancies tab and with this newsletter. Please also include a short statement about yourself including reasons why you wish to become a school governor and how you can contribute to the work of the governing body.

If more than one parent applies then we would hold an election and all parents would be invited to vote for a candidate.

All new governors are required by law to undergo a check on their suitability to serve. This will be a Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check.

Eligibility to stand

All parents at the school are eligible to stand as candidates except:

If s/he is an elected member of the local education authority (county councillor);

If s/he is paid to work at the school for more than 500 hours in any 12-month period beginning on 1st August and finishing on 31st July (during one academic year);

What is the composition of the governing body?

The governing body consists of parent governors, a staff governor, the head teacher, foundation governors, co-opted governors, a local authority governor and an associate governor. Our school currently has two parent governors. Parent governors have all the same powers and duties as other governors. Governor information, which includes a list of governors and their roles, is available on our school website. The clerk to the governors is Imogen Baker.

Lewknor C of E Primary School



How much time will it take up?

The full governing body meets five times a year. Most meetings run from 7pm to 9pm except for the July meeting, which is held straight after school. If possible, every governor joins at least one of our committees, for example, resources or curriculum. The resources committee meets five times a year, while the curriculum committee meets three times a year. Both committees meet in the afternoon during the school day. We also invite governors to come into school occasionally during the school day so they can see how the school operates. Governors also help out at school events such as parent evenings.

What do governors actually do?

Governors are responsible for the strategic direction of the school: they make long-term decisions about the progress and the development of the school. Governors may help to appoint senior staff, they make decisions about the school's budget, they decide on policies for every aspect of the school, and they set targets for pupil attainment, progress and attendance. Governors ensure that the school provides the highest standard of education for every child.

Can I get help to understand what happens at meetings?

Yes. The Chair will meet new governors before their first meeting to talk through the agenda. New governors would be expected to attend the induction course provided by Oxfordshire's Governor Services so that they are fully aware of their role.

Can I talk to parents or other people about what goes on in meetings?

You can talk about matters in a very general way, but you must not identify any individual member of staff or any child. As the governing body acts as a 'corporate body' you cannot talk about any differences of opinion during the meeting, you can only report the final decision of the governing body. Part of the agenda is strictly confidential (it might cover special educational needs or exclusions) and you must not talk about anything discussed during these sessions. Governors are asked to agree to a Code of Conduct that will be explained at your first meeting.

What are the benefits of becoming a governor?

You will learn how the school manages its budget, personnel and buildings, and how school policies are developed.

What are the restrictions on becoming a governor?

Governors must be over 18 years of age; not be bankrupt, nor have served a long prison sentence, nor have been disqualified from working with children.





Lewknor C of E Primary School



NOMINATION FORM FOR PARENT GOVERNOR

Name:

Address:

Children in Year(s)

I am willing and eligible to stand for election as a parent governor at Lewknor Church of England Primary School. I confirm that I am able to fulfil the role including attending meetings as required, and by contributing to governance work outside formal meetings.

Signed:

Date:

Nomination forms are available on our school website under the vacancies tab.



FANTASTIC FOLS HELPS TO FUND SCHOOL TO THE TUNE OF £5,400



Cinderella illustration by Korcky Paul

The staff, governors and I would like to say a massive THANK YOU to all the parents who have dug deep into their pockets this past year to donate funds to the many events organised by Friends of Lewknor School. School was presented with a cheque for an incredible £5,406 at the FOLS AGM recently. The funds will be used for a range of exciting trips and resources that will help bring learning to life for our children.

The children will be heading off to the Oxford Playhouse to enjoy Cinderella on Thursday 8th December. And this jolly trip has been made possible because of the funding received from FOLS. Please make sure the children get to school on time because the coach will be leaving promptly at 9am. Children will eat lunch when they return to school that day.

The children and staff will also be enjoying another treat on Monday 12th December, when we are off to the Lambert Arms for a slap up Christmas dinner. We are asking parents for a voluntary donation of £2 per child—FOLS will very generously be funding the rest.

And in January, FOLS will be funding another whole school trip. This time we will be visiting the Sheldonian Theatre in Oxford on Friday 27th January, where we will be treated to a performance by the Oxfordshire Youth Orchestra. I can't wait!



Every week in our school newsletter, we will include a prayer and a Bible reading. These are taken from our new Jigsaw scheme of work for PSHE (Personal, Social, Health Education) and RE (Religious Education) and are shared with the children in class and at whole school assemblies.

PRAYER OF THE WEEK

Celebrating Difference

(know how to help if someone is being bullied)

Lord Jesus

We know that sometimes you were excluded by the people that you wanted to help, yet you still showed them love and compassion.

Please help us to be aware of the impact of bullying and have the courage to act to stop it.

Amen



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COLLECTIVE WORSHIP THEMES
FOR SPRING 2022

CELEBRATING DIFFERENCE

THOUGHT OF THE WEEK

Ephesians 4:25-26, 29, 31

Therefore each of you must put off lies and speak truthfully to your neighbour, for we are all members of one body. In your anger do not sin. Do not let the sun go down while you are still angry. Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen. Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, fighting and lying about others, along with every form of nastiness to each other.

WORD OF THE WEEK

Gnarled

Adjective

Something that is gnarled is old, twisted and rough. The old gardener's hands were gnarled.

Mrs Cole



DIARY DATES

NOVEMBER

Friday 25th November: Inflatable Footy taster at lunchtime.

Thursdays: After-school football club run by Exposure Sport.

DECEMBER

Thursdays: After-school football club run by Exposure Sport.

Friday 2nd December: Christingle service in the church after morning registration.

Thursday 8th December: Whole school trip to see the Oxford pantomime Cinderella. **Many thanks to FoLS for funding this trip.**

Monday 12th December: Christmas dinner at the Lambert Arms. **Parents are asked to make a £2 contribution per child—FoLS have very kindly offered to fund the rest!**

Wednesday 14th December: Afternoon performance of the Nativity and Christmas concert at 1.30pm.

Thursday 15th December: Evening performance of the Nativity and Christmas concert at 6pm.

Friday 16th December: school closes at 1.30pm for the Christmas break.

Monday 19th and Tuesday 20th December: INSET Days.

JANUARY 2023

Wednesday 4th January: Back to school—new term begins.

Friday 13th January: Lewknor Primary celebrates the Chinese New Year through dance and art.

Friday 27th January: Whole school trip to the Sheldonian Theatre in Oxford to watch Oxford Youth Orchestra perform. **Many thanks to FoLS for funding this trip.**

Tuesday 31st January: Travelling Book Fayre visits school until Friday 3rd February.

MARCH

Thursday 2nd March: World Book Day. Come to school dressed up as your favourite book character.



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FOLS

Friends of Lewknor School



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