



# Lewknor C of E Primary School

## Newsletter



Monday 21st October, 2019

### A BIG WELCOME TO TWO NEW STAFF MEMBERS

Lynne Power, who has been a great support to our school over the years, will be working as a teaching assistant from today.

Lynne, who has helped out with reading, school trips and escorting the Lower Juniors on their weekly swimming trip to the Chinnor pool, will work all day Monday and Tuesday and Wednesday mornings.

We have also recruited a new finance officer. Sarah Bradford, who also starts today, will work all day Monday to Thursday and on Friday mornings.

Mrs Bradford used to work as a finance manager at Oxfordshire County Council. She was responsible for administering the county council's £4 million budget for children with special educational needs.

We will be holding an assembly for our former Teaching Assistant Jan Elliott on Friday 15th November. Mrs Ashby has sent details to parents about how to contribute to a leaving gift.

In the meantime, I welcome Lynne and Sarah to the team and I hope they enjoy working at our wonderful school.



### Headteacher's Welcome

### FELINE FINE! ROCCO POPS INTO PARENTS' EVENING AND SETTLES DOWN FOR THE NIGHT



Here are the David boys pictured with a sleepy Rocco at the end of parents' evening recently.

Rocco, was delighted with all the attention he got from parents and children while he padded around in the 'waiting room'.

Then when most of the families had left, he found this comfy bed and settled down for the night.

Unfortunately for Rocco, we had to place the box outside the front door while Mrs Wakefield and I locked up, though he didn't seem to mind that much as he continued to snooze in his makeshift bed.

At the FOLS AGM last Tuesday, it was suggested that we made a calendar featuring a different picture of Rocco each month. I thought our glamour puss would make an excellent fundraiser.



*These photos are especially for cat lovers Mrs Kendall and Mrs Lomas, and of course the David family. Picture purrfect—don't you think?*

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](mailto:office.3184@lewknor.oxon.sch.uk) Website: [www.lewknor.eschools.co.uk](http://www.lewknor.eschools.co.uk)



**Right: Jim talks to the children in the Upper Juniors class.**

**Jim works for London Energy. The company operates the second largest waste contract in the UK, handling and treating nearly 750,000 tonnes of London's waste and recyclables. This generates enough electricity to power more than 80,000 homes every year.**



The Upper Juniors came away with the strong message that it's better to reduce the amount of waste we produce, rather than have to deal with it - even if it can be recycled.



## THE 3 Rs: CHILDREN TAUGHT TO RECYCLE, REUSE AND REDUCE

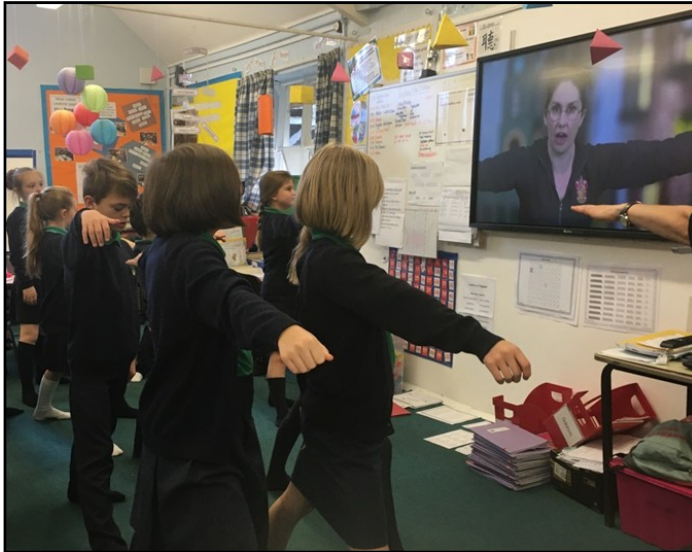
Children in Upper Juniors learned about the different ways of dealing with waste when dad Jim Kendall visited school this month. The children already knew lots about recycling and it was great to see their curiosity about how the different types of waste are treated or used as fuel.

In the past, most waste would have ended up in a landfill site. Today a lot of waste is used to create electricity and heat for homes. Jim's company diverts more than 90% of waste away from landfill saving nearly 300,000 tonnes of CO2 every year.





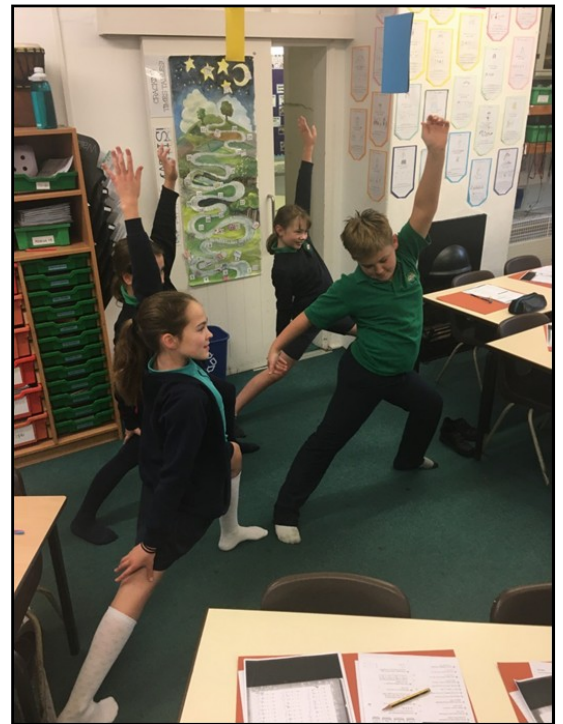
# Lewknor C of E Primary School



## UPPER JUNIORS LIMBER UP FOR START OF THE SCHOOL DAY

Here are the children in Upper Juniors practising yoga before the start of lessons.

The wet weather prevented some early morning running last week, so all the teachers have introduced the children to yoga, which is proving very popular.



The children and teachers have enjoyed the stretching exercises and they like that the school day starts quietly and calmly. It certainly looks like it enhances our children's well-being.





## PARENT QUESTIONNAIRE RESULTS

The results of the parent questionnaire, which was sent out in July, continue to be very positive with 100% of parents agreeing or strongly agreeing to each question.

We asked the parents to comment on what we do well and how we could improve. Here are their comments...

### What we could improve

Make a point of enforcing the rules for the children when competing at sports day, ie, no holding the 'egg' onto the spoon in the egg-and-spoon race. It may seem petty, however, to not do so teaches the children they can effectively cheat, but there are no consequences if they do. Ditto skipping race, where many children run and don't skip.

***Mrs Cole's reply: The teachers and teaching assistants hold a practice sports day every year before the annual event. The children are taught the rules and practise running their races. Young children can become over-excited on the day and that is when they 'forget' the rules they have been taught.***

I love the assembly every Friday, but if your child is getting a learning smart, a heads up the day before would be great.

***Teachers sometimes give parents a heads up if they know in advance. However, as SMART awards are issued on a weekly basis, teachers wait until Friday morning to decide which children should receive an award.***

I love animals. I think they have a time and a place. However, I do not believe they should be in school assemblies. Do you have a health and safety policy on this?

***I have written to parents in a newsletter earlier this month to politely ask them not to bring their dogs into church or onto the playground.***

I would love to see the introduction of online payments, but I know this has been out of school's hands.

***I agree. I too think online payments would make life a whole lot easier for our parents and the office staff. We have been advised by Oxfordshire County Council that we should not proceed with this but I think we could investigate this further very soon.***

As and when there is investment to do so, it would be nice to see a refresh of the interior of the school buildings.

***Following the successful reconfiguration and refurbishment of the Infant block over the summer holidays, we now plan to decorate the Lower and Upper Juniors over the half-term holiday.***

We'd love art or drama after-school clubs perhaps?

***This is something we are looking into.***

***We have just re-arranged the STEM engineering club which will be starting after half term. We have also booked Bright Sparks (science club) after Christmas and another engineering club which covers robotics after February half term.***

***It wasn't so long ago when parents said they would like to see more sport at school and this became a priority. We now have an after-school football club, judo, trail running and netball. There are not many schools that offer such a range of after-school clubs - we also run an after-school cookery club as well as our after-school care club. Mrs Birch organises art activities at this club.***

***We also run lunchtime sports clubs every day, and of course, we run a mile at the start of the school day three times a week. I will be publishing the PE curriculum in the newsletter very soon but parents might like to check our website (PE Plan under the curriculum tab) to see what their children are learning in PE each term.***

It would also be nice if the children were able to play more seasonal games during sports club, ie, have a go at cricket, rugby, tennis.

***We asked the children what they wanted and they voted to play football. As a result our numbers for the Tuesday sports club increased from 8 children to 21 children. This is our most popular club and I think many children would be disappointed if we were to stop football even for one week!***



# Lewknor C of E Primary School



Kids should be allowed to drink and use the toilet when necessary and not at dictated times. They are children not dogs.

***Children are given many opportunities to drink / use the toilet during the school day, eg, before they go out to first break, during first break, after they come in from first break, before lunchtime, during lunchtime and before lessons start at 1pm. Children can also use the toilet at the end of the school day. The times may be 'dictated' so as to avoid interrupting the class teaching. If children left the classroom to use the loo while the teacher was teaching then they would miss out on key parts of the lesson. This would be very disruptive to their learning.***

It often seems as though it is the 'naughty' kids that get praised when their behaviour improves and nothing for those that are always well-behaved.

***This may be your perception but it is certainly not true. Teachers always praise good behaviour because it teaches children in a positive way. For example, a teacher might say: 'Well done, XXXX. I am going to ask you to answer the question because you have your hand up.' This teaches the children not to shout out answers. Teachers use a vast range of strategies (far too many to list here) that rewards good behaviour.***

More art and less singing.

***The children have at least one weekly art lesson, which can last from one hour to a whole afternoon. The children have choir practice lasting a maximum of 30 minutes each week. Our choir is invited to sing at many events, for example, Dorchester Abbey. They also sing at two care homes for the elderly at various times in the year, eg, Christmas. I would not want the children to miss out on these experiences as they are incredibly enriching for the pupils and rewarding for those who are fortunate enough to enjoy their performances.***

## **What we do well**

We are a huge supporter of the school and all the teaching staff! We struggle to think of things to improve upon and feel extremely blessed that we are part of it.

We fully appreciate how much additional work all of the productions, sports days, Maypole are etc but you create such wonderful memories for pupils and parents – we really appreciate it and thank you!

The support staff are equally as brilliant as the teachers and headmistress.

How lucky we are!

My children feel happy, safe and engaged every day they are at school. The teachers are outstanding and should I have a concern or question, they are approachable and helpful. I feel that the staff know my children and this is really important to me as a parent. I am very satisfied with their progress and the levels of support they receive.

XXXX has loved coming to school every morning since she started in September. She did not have any wobbles. I think that was because there was a fantastic transition between school and Krakatoa and the transition days helped. It is a lovely class and my daughter will continue to grow. She is happy and this will enable her to learn.

We are pleased that more sports, in particular football, has been introduced this year, which has made our children very happy.

The school has fantastic teachers and teaching staff – it really is the best school!

Our children's individual needs are always met, and they love coming to school. They make great progress at Lewknor – thank you.

Wonderful trips and a brilliant PTA for fundraising to support the school and allow the children to experience some wonderful opportunities.

I really like how the school / teachers insist on excellent behaviour and that the children look smart in their uniform. I think it really helps the children to take pride in themselves.



# Lewknor C of E Primary School



The KS2 summer production was amazing! Well done!

All the staff are wonderful!

We have been welcomed so well into the school family. Thank you for the guidance and time you have given us to make our transition so smooth. My son is happy, settled, making good progress and has lots of friends.

Staff are helpful and approachable.

Good wrap around care.

Excellent leadership.

Fantastic, caring, creative, enthusiastic, passionate, dedicated, dynamic and clever teachers and support staff!

Like the new style report.

Teachers are available to talk to and will do their best to help.

Love the sports day / Christingle / Mother's Day / Friday celebration assemblies / transformation evening/ carols at care homes for the elderly / war horses to the Remembrance assembly / science trips.

## IMPS SAY THANK YOU TO LEWK NOR SCHOOL

The children in the Upper Juniors raised £90 after holding a cake sale and asking for donations at a Friday celebration assembly for IMPS, the Injury Minimisation Programme for Schools. School received a letter of thanks this week from co-ordinators, who are based at the John Radcliffe Hospital, Oxford.

Every year, children in Years 5 and 6 visit the hospital to learn what to do if they ever find themselves in an emergency. The children learn various aspects of first aid such as cardio pulmonary resuscitation (CPR), how to put someone in a recovery position, and what to do if they saw, for example, someone choking.

These essential skills help to teach our children how to keep safe as well as how to help others.



## YOUR VILLAGE NEEDS YOU!

The Lewknor village hall committee would like to recruit a new member to represent the school. If you feel you would like to get involved then please speak to Vicky in the office. The next meeting is on Monday 18th November at 8pm. Meetings, which last half an hour, are held every two months.

## **BIG ME DAY SUCCESS!**

Thank you to all the parents who volunteered to come in to talk to the children about their very interesting careers, which included a pilot, a forensic scientist and a dad, who worked in sound production for the theatre.

The children also looked amazing dressed up in outfits showing what they would like to be when they become an adult. Look out for all our photographs and a write-up in the next newsletter after half term.

And just to remind all parents that school ends at 3.15pm this Friday, 25th October.

**Mrs Cole**

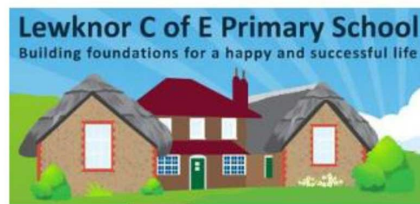


# Lewknor C of E Primary School



## Friends of Lewknor School

Registered Charity No: 1045910



# WE'VE LAUNCHED A LOTTERY

**Buy Your Tickets Today  
To Help Our School**



- Lewknor C of E Primary School has launched a lottery!
- Tickets cost just £1 per ticket, per week and 40% of all ticket sales are donated to our school.
- A **GUARANTEED** cash prize to someone on our supporter list every week.
- A further chance of winning £25,000 in a separate draw **EVERY WEEK!**
- Draws are every Saturday at 8pm and results are posted online.

To start supporting, Visit:

**[www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/play](http://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/play)**

And Search For:

**Lewknor C of E Primary School**

Supporters must be 16 years of age or older.







## Ideas for a *'healthy'* lunchbox.....



A healthy packed lunch should include something from each of the four main food groups -

starchy carbohydrates (bread, rice, potatoes, pasta), fruit and vegetables, protein containing foods (meat, fish, eggs and beans), and milk and dairy foods – as well as a drink. Here are some ideas of items for each group:

### **Starchy carbohydrates**

A sandwich/roll/wrap/pitta bread (trying using wholegrain varieties or 50/50)

Pasta/couscous/rice

### **Protein filling**

Lean meat/chicken/turkey (add lettuce or tomatoes!)

Fish/tuna (add cucumber or peppers!)

Eggs

Beans

### **Fruit and vegetables**

Chop raw vegetable crudités such as carrot sticks which can be great for dipping in hummus

Fresh fruit (apple, grapes, banana, kiwi)

Dried fruits (raisins, apricots)

### **Dairy**

Low fat yoghurt – plain or fruit (watch out for those high in sugar!)

Small pot of rice pudding

Low fat cheese slices

### **Added extras**

Plain popcorn or reduced fat crisps

Sugar-free jelly pot

A plain biscuit

(There's nothing wrong with this, just try to make healthier choices when you can)



# Diary Dates

Diary dates for this academic year—new or changed diary dates are highlighted in green.

**2019-2020**

**Every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings - Daily Mile**

24th October	Make Me Smile Day—parent assembly at 2.30pm
25th October	School Open Morning (9.00-11.00am)
25th October	Flu vaccinations (all year groups)
25th October	Break up for half term at 3.15pm
TBC November	Year 5 visit to ICC
4th November	Return to school
5th November	Bag2School collection
11th November	Remembrance Day assembly at 10.50am (all welcome)
14th November	Transformation Evening - come and see what your child has been learning at school (time TBC)
22nd November	FoLS Film Night for children
26th November	Big Christmas Sing (selected children in KS2)
29th November	Bright Sparks assembly
5th December	Christingle making (afternoon)



**Assemblies are held every Friday at 9.10am. Parents and members of the community are welcome to attend.**



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**2019-2020**

**Every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings - Daily Mile**

6th December	Christingle Assembly
6th December	FoLS Christmas disco (evening)
9th December	School choir visit to Chiltern Grange Care Home
10th December	School choir visit to Hempton Field Care Home
11th December	Whole school visit to Oxford Playhouse to see Beauty and the Beast
17th December	School Nativity (morning performance at 9.30am)
18th December	School Nativity (evening performance at 6.00pm)
19th December	Whole school Christmas lunch provided and served by FoLS
19th December	Break up for Christmas at 1.30pm
6th January	Return to school
20th January	National Childhood Measurement Programme weights and measures for children in Reception and year 6
3rd-7th February	After School Book Fair
13th February	FoLS Community Concert fundraiser
14th February	Break up for half term at 3.15pm
24th February	Return to school
TBC March	Junior Citizens trip for year 6 children
4th March	UJ Class Trip to Chiltern Open Air Museum
5th March	World Book Day at Lewknor (children to dress up)
16th-20th March	Sport Relief Week
19th March	Mothers' Day posy making (pm)
20th March	Mothers' Day assembly
26th March	School choir visit to Hempton Field Care Home



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# Diary Dates

Diary dates for this academic year—new or changed diary dates are highlighted in green.

**2019-2020**

**Every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings - Daily Mile**

27th March	School choir visit to Chiltern Grange Care Home
TBC April	Kingswood residential trip meeting for LJ class parents
1st April	Parent evening (3.30-5.00pm)
2nd April	Parent evening (5.00-7.00pm)
3rd April	Easter Egg Hunt (whole school)
3rd April	Last day of Spring term - school finishes at 1.30pm
20th April	Return to school
TBC April	LJ class swimming lessons
22nd April	Bikeability training for all year 5 children (safe, serviced bicycle and helmet required)
23rd April	Bikeability training for all year 5 children (safe, serviced bicycle and helmet required)
24th April	School Open Morning
28th April	Bag2School Collection
29th April - 1st May	LJ Kingswood residential trip
TBC May	Year 6 trip to IMPS
TBC May	Puberty talks for UJ class
TBC May	Whole school and class photographs
1st– 22nd May	KS1 SATS (year 2 children)
7th May	May Day celebrations
8th May	Bank Holiday
11th-15th May	KS2 SATS week (year 6 children)



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# Diary Dates

Diary dates for this academic year—new or changed diary dates are highlighted in green.

**2019-2020**

Every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings - Daily Mile

22nd May	Break up for half term at 3.15pm
1st June	Return to school
6th June	Sydenham Fayre
8th-12th June	Year 1 National Phonics Screening
19th June	Fathers' Day Assembly
20th June	FoLS Fun Day
24th June	Practice Sports Day
24th June	Year 6 outing
26th June	FoLS BBQ for whole school and families (midday-1pm)
26th June	Sports Day from 1pm
2nd July	IMPS fundraiser (year 6 children)
3rd July	Whole school moving up day
9th July	KS2 production - morning performance at 9.30am
9th July	KS2 production - evening performance at 6.00pm
10th July	Reserve Sports Day
16th July	Parent evening
17th July	Year 6 Leavers' Assembly
17th July	End of Summer Term - school finishes at 1.30am



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## FREE SCHOOL MEAL ENTITLEMENT

From April 2015, the threshold figure which forms part of the tax credit free school meal eligibility category is £16,190.

Pupils whose parents/carers receive the following support payments are entitled to free school meals (assuming the parent does not receive Working Tax Credit). Under the current criteria, children who receive, or whose parents receive, one or more of the following support payments are entitled to receive free school meals and eligible for two-year-old funding:-

- Income-based and contribution-based Jobseekers Allowance or ESA on an equal basis
- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseekers Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Child Tax Credit, provided they are not entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual income, as assessed by Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs, that does not exceed £16,190
- Guaranteed Element of State Pension Credit
- Where a parent is entitled to Working Tax Credit run-on (the payment someone receives for a further four weeks after they stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit).
- Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999.
- Working Tax Credit, provided they have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190 per year (eligible for two-year-old funding only)
- Universal Credit

If you believe your child may be eligible to receive free school meals, please complete an application form and return it to the school office **as soon as possible**. Application forms can be downloaded from the school website or found in paper form in the letter rack at school. There is a very simple, confidential, process we can run through Oxfordshire County Council to check eligibility.

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If you would like help raise additional funds for our school via AmazonSmile, please visit <https://smile.amazon.co.uk> and search for Lewknor School Educational Fund. Thank you!



# Lewknor C of E Primary School

## SCHOOL INFORMATION

### PIANO LESSONS

Michael Davies works in many Oxfordshire schools and has worked at Lewknor for several years.

Michael offers piano lessons and if your child is interested in learning to play, please contact him as follows:

**07857 896600**



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**Have Fun**  
learn to  
**& Drum**

If you would like to sign your child up for drum lessons with Terry Lucas at Lewknor School, please complete a Drum Lesson Interest Form which can be downloaded from the school website (Parents/Music Lessons) and return it to the school office.

LEWK NOR C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL HIGH STREET LEWK NOR OXFORDSHIRE OX49 5TH

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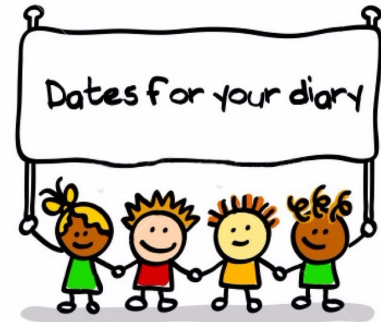
## Friends of Lewknor School

Registered Charity No: 1045910



### DIARY DATES

5th November	Bag2School collection
22nd November	Film Night
6th December	Christmas disco
19th December	Christmas lunch
13th February	Community Concert
7th May	May Day
20th June	Fun Day



**easyfundraising**  
.org.uk

Don't forget that FOLS is registered with Easyfundraising. For more information, please click on this link:-

[www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/friendsoflewnorschoolfols](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/friendsoflewnorschoolfols)



# Lewknor C of E Primary School

## COMMUNITY INFORMATION



### GRAPEVINE MAGAZINE

The most recent publication of The Grapevine (Parish magazine for Lewknor) can be found by clicking on the link below:-

[www.issuu.com/grapevinezine/docs](http://www.issuu.com/grapevinezine/docs)



[www.ravenscroftsportsacademy.com](http://www.ravenscroftsportsacademy.com)

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