



## Parent Newsletter

Friday 16 April 2021

Dear Mums, Dads and Carers,

We've had an amazing week back in school. It's been wonderful to return to school for what we hope will be a nearly-back-to-normal term. Following the completion of assessments last term for every child, the teachers have been meeting with leaders in school to discuss the priorities for the term ahead to ensure our goals for the children are ambitious and that we capitalise on the remaining time we have this year. Each week, I'll include a learning update from one of our classes to share some of the wonderful things happening in school. We have a very busy but exciting term ahead of us.

### **Mental Health and Wellbeing**

The coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic is having an impact on everybody's lives. Regardless of their age, this will be a challenging time for many children and young people. How a child or young person responds to their individual situation will vary. Some may react immediately, some not at all, while others may show signs of difficulty later on. It is important to recognise that in most cases, these are normal responses to an abnormal situation.

How a child or young person responds to their individual situation may vary in different ways according to their individual characteristics and circumstances. For example, their age, physical or mental health condition, how they deal with stress, previous experiences or pre-existing mental or physical health condition.

During this time, it's important that you support and take care of the mental health of children or young people in your care, as well as your own mental health. There are lots of things you can do, and additional support is available if you need it.

The Government have provided advice and guidance on how you can support your child if you are worried about their mental health and wellbeing.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-guidance-on-supporting-children-and-young-peoples-mental-health-and-wellbeing/guidance-for-parents-and-carers-on->

[supporting-children-and-young-peoples-mental-health-and-wellbeing-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak](#)

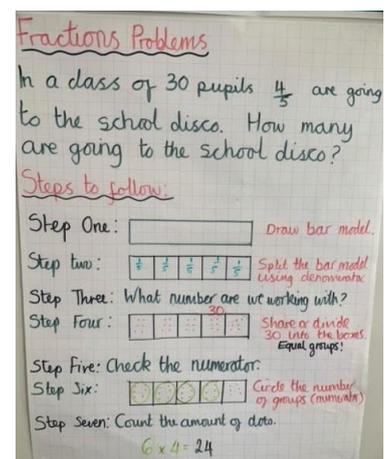
## Office News

We have sadly said goodbye to Mandip this week. Thank you for all her hard work. She will be greatly missed but we are pleased that we will still see her in the playground. We would like to welcome Deni who is covering Kelly's maternity leave. Kelly had a baby boy before we broke up. Mother and baby are well. On Monday, Lisa will be joining us in the office. Please bear with us this term as Deni and Lisa are training. We may be slower in answering your queries.

## Year 4 Acorn Learning

What a busy first week of term we have had in Acorn class!

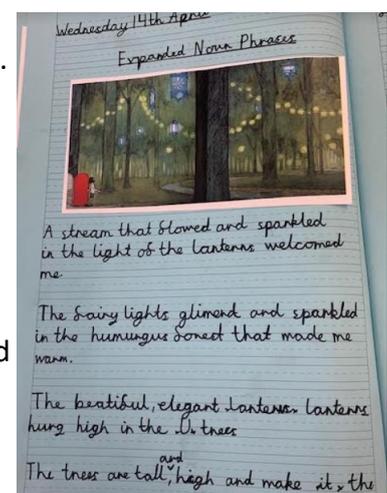
In Maths, we began to learn all about fractions. We used the words denominator and numerator to describe parts of a whole. We practised identifying fractions of numbers with different denominators and used this knowledge to help us to answer word problems. As a class we built up a helpful method for approaching tricky problems.



In English this week, we got to know the book Journey by Aaron Becker. It is all about lonely little girl that makes her own adventures.

To prepare us for writing our own story, we revised using features such as first person, past tense and expanded noun phrases.

Noun phrases are first encountered in Year 2 for description, for example, *the blue butterfly, plain flour, the man in the moon*. We build upon this in Year 4, by creating noun phrases that are expanded by the addition of modifying adjectives, nouns and preposition phrases, for example: the lanterns might be expanded to: the beautiful, elegant lanterns hung high in the trees (written by Jorgie).



As if all of that wasn't enough, in History we started to learn about The Maya civilisation. We discussed the differences between old and ancient. As a class we decided that ancient is usually around 1000 years or more ago. We also discovered that it would be REALLY tricky to track back to our ancestors in ancient times!

### **Parent Consultations – Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> & Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> June**

School is closed on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> June and Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> June in the first week back after half term. The Monday will be an INSET day for staff and the Tuesday will be used for online Parent Consultations (along with after school on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> June). Please keep an eye out for an email containing further details on when you will be able to book a slot.

### **Nursery Closed – Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> May**

On Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> May, our Nursery classroom will be used as a Polling Station. We requested that the school is no longer used as a Polling Station but this was turned down by the local council. All other year groups will attend school as usual and the site will be secured so that no members of the public can access the school building.

### **Term dates 2021 / 22**

Our term dates for the next academic year have been set - please make sure you check them on our school website.

Have a wonderful weekend!

Mrs Lyon and the Leavesden Team