



# LINGFIELD PRIMARY SCHOOL

Partners in Learning

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AUTUMN TERM 2010

NEWSLETTER NUMBER 5

5<sup>th</sup> November 2010

Dear Parents,

### Electronic News

Welcome to the first school newsletter being sent electronically. No hard copies will be sent, except for a few families who are unable to access a computer. This will reduce paper and copying costs as well as reduce staff time needed for copying and distribution. If it has so far slipped your mind to provide your email address, please do so without delay. This can be given by recording it on the return slip, sent out with the newsletter of 24<sup>th</sup> September or, preferably, by logging on to the school website and clicking 'newsletters' on the left hand side then clicking register for newsletter.

### Mrs Elizabeth Clarke

Sadly, Mrs Clarke, our 'Lollipop Lady', is moving out of the area and her last day will be Friday 19<sup>th</sup> November. We will be holding a special assembly and presentation for her, with the children, on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> November to thank her for her 25 year sterling service to the school and to the local community. If you would like to make a contribution towards a leaving gift for her, please send cash in an envelope (marked Lollipop Lady) to the main school office, thank you.

### LPSA Firework Display - Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> November, TOMORROW

Tickets for the LPSA Firework Display have sold out. Consequently, tickets will not be available tomorrow evening. You will not be able to gain entry without a ticket. Please note that the school car parks will only be available to staff and helpers who arrive early.

### Autumn Term Class Assemblies For Parents

You are invited to attend your child's class assembly. These are opportunities for you to see work and hear about some of the things the children have been learning in class. The assemblies will be related to the 'Context for Learning'. The assemblies are not polished performances and in most cases have been put together fairly quickly. However, it gives you an insight and the children an opportunity to perform in public. All Friday assemblies start at 9.15 a.m. Friday 12<sup>th</sup> November - Year 6 Friday 19<sup>th</sup> November - 4I  
Friday 26<sup>th</sup> November - 2B Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> December - Year 3 Friday 10<sup>th</sup> December - 5J

### NFER Parent Questionnaire

At this time of the year, for the last three years, we have sent out school designed parent questionnaires. This year we have ordered NFER (National Foundation for Educational Research) attitude surveys for parents. We hope that parents will give up 10 minutes to complete the on-line survey so that we can use the information in our school development plans. This service has been developed by NFER to support schools in consulting with parents. The questionnaires have been specially designed to provide data for self-evaluation. You will find a letter at the foot of this newsletter explaining how to complete the survey. Thank you in advance for your help in this important matter.

### Science Extravaganza

We intend to hold a special science day in January or February next year and would like to make use of parents' expertise. If you have skill / know-how or interest in science and would be willing to share this with a group of children, please let us know. In the first instance, email Mrs Hayley Cook, our science co-ordinator at [info@lingfield.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:info@lingfield.surrey.sch.uk). For example this week Mr Hindmarch, one of our dads, has been working with year 6 children making and firing water rockets, to learn about forces and soon Mr Brind will be talking to them about flight and how to pilot an aircraft. We would be delighted if many more parents got involved to develop children's interest and expertise in science.



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



### Parents and Internet Safety - Protect your child

I have been asked by a parent for advice regarding child internet safety in relation to parental control systems. We believe there might well be a number of parents who would like support in this subject. Mrs Dervishi, our ICT technician, would be willing to provide 'hands on' advice to those who request it. With this in mind, there will be an initial meeting on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> November at 2.15 p.m. in the school library, to gauge interest and specific needs. Following the meeting there will be practical support available.

### Screen Entertainment

In line with the above paragraph on internet safety, I have reprinted the following information that was first sent to parents three years ago. It seems timely and is a useful reminder for all of us. Without wanting to 'teach grandmother to suck eggs', I thought you might be interested in some information on 'The evils of screen entertainment'. The information has come from research. Scientists at Oxford University have calculated that many children are losing up to month's worth of sleep a year due to late night TV and texting, while others have demonstrated that too much TV can have a detrimental effect on a child's ability to concentrate. You might not be surprised to hear that computer and TV programmes do affect a child's emotional state. Children can be left lethargic and de-motivated. The big worry is when young children see adult rated programmes. Some of our children tell us they watch 12s and 15s. A 'media diet' has been suggested by the research group, which would be prudent for parents to follow:-

|    |   |                       |
|----|---|-----------------------|
| 1. | Parents stay in control of TV and computers                         | <b>MEDIA<br/>DIET</b> |
| 2. | When it comes to media time, think in half hour units               |                       |
| 3. | Don't allow televisions in the bedrooms of under 12s                |                       |
| 4. | Watching TV during mealtimes should be a treat - not the norm       |                       |
| 5. | Limit TV or computer time in the mornings, or avoid if possible     |                       |
| 6. | Don't allow any screen activity in the run up to, or after, bedtime |                       |
| 7. | Create periods of time without the computer or television           |                       |

### Library Help

Help is needed on a Wednesday or Thursday in our school library. If you can spare an hour or two to restock book shelves and help tidy up please contact Mrs Nicki Dervishi on [ndervishi@lingfield.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:ndervishi@lingfield.surrey.sch.uk)

### Year 6 School Council - FINAL REMINDER

The School Council pupils have launched 'Operation Shoebox' at Lingfield. The children are being asked to put quality toys that they are prepared to give up, in a shoebox, wrapped in Christmas paper with a note inside. On the outside please tape a £1 coin to the box, indicating if the toys are most suited to a boy or a girl. The boxes will be sent to orphanages abroad. The closing date is Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> November.

### Parking

Thank you to all parents for your cooperation in making the new car park rules work. However, I must ask parents using Old School Place not to park in this small cul-de-sac. I have received several complaints from residents in this road. The Star car park is equally close by and we have permission to use this space. Alternatively, the car park in Gun Pit Road is only a short walk from school.

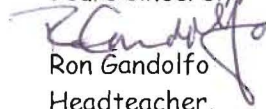
### School Council

The school Council children have put together three additional events and activities for this term.

1. A poster competition on the theme of personal safety, with £5 book tokens to be won. The children were told in assembly on Monday all about this.
2. School Council Spotty Day will be held on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> November. Essentially, this is a mufti day to support the Children in Need Charity. Children do not need to wear school uniform on this day and in return are being asked to pay £1 for the privilege.
3. The School Council Disco will be held on the last Friday of term, 17<sup>th</sup> December. The Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 disco will be from 5 to 6 p.m. and the Key Stage 2 disco will be from 6.15 to 7.30 p.m. The theme is 'Whacky Wonders!'

If you have any queries or concerns please contact me.

Yours sincerely

  
Ron Gandolfo  
Headteacher.



*Dear Parent/Carer*

**NFER attitude surveys (PPS) - Primary Parent Online Survey**

We are writing to ask for your help with a survey that the NFER (National Foundation for Educational Research) is undertaking on behalf of your child's school. The survey provides an opportunity for parents to let the school know what *they* think about different aspects of school life. It will provide key information to support the school self-evaluation process.

To assist the school in learning more about what parents think, we would like to ask you for **10 minutes** of your time to complete an online questionnaire on the following topics:

- The curriculum, teaching, behaviour, school facilities, pastoral care, communication with parents, out of school clubs and opportunities for adult learning
- The effectiveness of the school's policies on important issues such as admissions, bullying, homework and uniform
- How well the school encourages children to be healthy, behave responsibly and work hard
- How the school helps pupils achieve their potential, how the school creates a safe environment and children's happiness at school
- The effectiveness of school leaders
- How the school works with, and communicates with, parents.

The survey has been set up as an online questionnaire. To access this, please follow the instructions below:

- Type the following internet address into the **web page address bar**:  
**[www.nfer.ac.uk/PPS/prpa](http://www.nfer.ac.uk/PPS/prpa)**
- Enter your **login: 9362948**
- Click on '**Begin Questionnaire**'
- When ready, click on '**Next**'
- Enter the following **password: VFJX**
- Instructions for completing individual questions will appear on each page
- When you have completed the questionnaire, click on the final '**Next**' button and the responses will be sent securely to us.

**Please ensure that your survey is completed before 26 November 2010, otherwise your responses will not be counted.**

The parent survey is completely confidential and anonymous and participation is entirely voluntary. The login details on the questionnaire are only used to link your response to the school, they do not identify any individual pupil or parent. Your response will provide valuable information to the school, so we do hope that you will participate.

If you have any queries about the survey please do not hesitate to contact the school or the PPS team at the NFER on 01753 637300 or [PPS@nfer.ac.uk](mailto:PPS@nfer.ac.uk) by email and we will be happy to answer your queries.

Yours sincerely

*Maria Charles*

Maria Charles, Head of Research Data Service