



Liskeard Hillfort  
Primary School

# Newsletter



**1<sup>st</sup> December 2017**

**Old Road**

**Liskeard**

**Cornwall**

**PL14 6HZ**

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**Principal: Tim Cook**

## Dear Parents...

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that you are well. We have been sniffing through here at school, so a big well done to all of those children and staff who have made it in, perhaps aided by a little Calpol!

As per usual, it has been busy here in school. From the flu immunisations, trips to Pendennis Castle and preparing our lanterns, the school has been a hive of activity. As we begin to prepare for productions and the Christmas Fayre, you can really feel our school community coming together. Perhaps you may consider a few early presents from our Scholastic book fair or participating in the jingle jar competition. More jars are available from reception.

I am pleased to say that Cornwall Council has supported our request for a Park and Stride scheme. We have 25 permits available that will offer motorists one hour in the morning and one hour in the afternoon of free parking. The afternoon session is particularly useful as it runs from 3pm to 4pm, and after 4.00pm the parking is free anyway! We hope that these permits might alleviate a little of the traffic congestion in order to make that 3.15pm pick-up that little bit easier.

Finally, I am delighted to inform you that Mr Paul Baker, current Principal at Gulval School, will be taking over the role of Executive Principal with oversight of four primaries and one secondary school here in Cornwall. Many parents might remember Mrs Heidi Hoskin who was in that role until about one year ago. There is a note below from Mrs Hoskin herself. Mr Baker is a good man and has done a wonderful job in turning Gulval School around over a three-year period. I am sure that parents will see him around school when he takes his new role up after Christmas, supporting our school in its ongoing journey.

I wish you all a lovely weekend –and I especially hope that Liskeard ‘lights up’ with our incredible lanterns!

Dr Tim Cook  
Principal

### **Message for Heidi Hoskin:**

*Mary McKeeman has taken the difficult decision to leave her current position as COO to spend more time with her family. I'm sure you can appreciate that wouldn't have been an easy decision, but she has said she is leaving knowing that the schools are in good hands and that dedicated, focused and inspirational leaders are working within them.*

*I know you will all join me in wishing Mary well with her new venture.*

*Whilst this news will inevitably involve change, the Trust board want to ensure a seamless transition and a priority on business as usual. The executive leadership group are working hard to ensure the focus remains on supporting all of our schools to continue their drive for better outcomes for all of our children. I am honoured and humbled to have been asked by the board to lead the Trust with immediate effect. An offer I was excited to accept. Across our Trust we have supportive and talented teams who are all hardworking, dedicated and incredibly committed. They not only ensure the best for your schools, but also the wider success of the Trust as a whole. Together, I know we can achieve even greater success.*

Kind regards,  
Mrs Heidi Hoskin

## Gooseberry Tip:



### **Gooseberry Parent ‘Top 10 Tech Tips’ for the festive season.**

The pressure of having to own the latest technology can be overwhelming for most of us, but knowing the safest devices and toys to buy for ourselves and our children (and being able to afford it), can be the biggest challenges of all. Keeping safe online can begin even before a purchase has been made!

Before making the decision to buy **any type of technology**, smart toy or device you might find it helpful to consider the following.

- **Do your research! Read reviews** of the product you are looking to buy. Importantly, **find out about the safety and security features. Understand what it does, how it works and how your child will use it.**
- **How is data used and protected?** Reading the terms and conditions of what data is collected and how it is protected or shared when using smart toys and devices, might help you to decide whether to buy or not.
- **Take notice of 'age recommendations' and follow them.** You know your child the best and have the responsibility when it comes to making safe decisions about the kinds of technology they use and own. **Following 'age recommendations' can help to ensure that your child is playing with toys and technology that is suitable for their age group.**
- **If in doubt...think before splashing out!** If you have any concerns at all about the safety, privacy or security of the toy or device the toughest but safest decision might be not buying it at all.
- **Be patient! Waiting a while to see how new technology performs,** in the first few weeks of its release, can help to see if there are any problems with the software. You probably would not buy a toy or device that could cause injury, so avoid buying toys and devices that are proven to be insecure online. Waiting before buying or giving it as a gift, should also give manufacturers time to fix any bugs, glitches or safety concerns with the product.
- **Secure your router!** Ensure that your home router (the box that makes it possible to connect to the internet) is **password protected. Use the manufacturers website to secure the router and set up parental controls.** It is easier than you might think. Some routers will allow you to customise settings for different users and devices.
- **Open the box and set it up!** Before giving the toy or device to your child **reduce the stress** of having to take it away again **and just like putting in the batteries, take time to 'set it up' beforehand.**
- **Encryption!** Unsecure web connections are not the only thing that can put our online safety at risk. Some toys and devices have been found to have unencrypted Wi-Fi connections or unsecured Bluetooth, which can make it easier for people to access the devices. **If there is no option to secure these in the device's settings, consider whether using the device is worth the risk.** If there is an option to **protect them with either a password or a PIN** ensure you choose a strong one.
- **Security and safety.** Some toys and devices are fitted with web cameras/microphones and location GPS. The ability to take, share and store information is both their biggest selling point and, if not set up correctly, potentially their biggest weakness. **Take time to read the instructions beforehand, to help manage and secure these functions.**
- **Health and wellbeing.** Toys and devices are a great source of entertainment and can be a welcome distraction in a difficult situation but remember, they can never really take the place of spending quality time with friends and family. Think about the best time for playing with toys and devices to help everyone enjoy the best of both worlds.

## Scholastic Book Fair:



Don't forget the Scholastic Book Fair continues in the main foyer each morning and afternoon until Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December. Commission from each book purchased is donated to the school to buy more books for the children. Thank you for your support.

## Christmas Performances:

The EYFS performance will be held on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December at 10.30am.

The KS1 performance will be held on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December at 2pm and 6pm. Each family is allowed 2 tickets per performance.

The KS2 performance will be held on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> at 2pm and 6.30pm. Each family is allowed 2 tickets for **ONE** performance.

Order forms for Tickets will be available soon. (Free of charge).

## Christmas Lunch:



A reminder that the Christmas School lunch is next Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December. All meals have been pre-ordered according to parents' slips.

No other menu will be available so if you have not ordered, please remember to send your child to school with a packed lunch – how about with a festive theme?

Menu change for Wednesday – there will be **no** roast this Wednesday. The menu will be:

- Chicken tikka with rice or creamy vegetable pie with mashed potato topping
- Followed by Dutch apple pie and custard or yoghurt and fresh fruit.

## Christmas Fayre:

A week today, it's our Christmas Fayre with a visit from a very special guest! Why not come along, buy some Christmas gifts or local crafts, enjoy a pasty and festive refreshments for your supper and join in the Christmas fun!

Each year group is running a stall alongside many festive games!

Please can we ask parents to bring in something for their child's class if you they can:

- ❖ Year 1 – Teddy Tombola, please bring in a pre-loved teddy who is looking for a home!
- ❖ Year 2 – Small gift, suitable for a lucky dip (no more than 50p - £1 in value). Please can the gift be wrapped.
- ❖ Year 3 – Chocolate tombola – any chocolate item
- ❖ Year 4 – Cake stall (please do not bring cakes/buns in until the day of the fayre). Please list ingredients of homemade goodies.
- ❖ Year 5 – Book sale – book donations please.
- ❖ Year 6 – As always are running an array of stalls themselves.

Luxury raffle this year with grateful thanks to many organisations who have donated prizes:

- Eden Project
- Adrenadlin Quarry
- Flambards
- Heligan Gardens
- National Marine Aquarium
- Trethorne
- Newquay Zoo
- White River Cinema
- Liskeard Cycles (£50 voucher)
- Bean Coffee Shop
- Affina
- Liskeard Co-op
- Community Auctions
- Cornish Soapcakes
- Liskeard Book Shop
- Philp Warrens Butcher

## Christmas Jingle Jar Competition:



Year 5 are running a Jingle Jar competition for the Christmas Fayre - open to all children.

1. Get an empty jar, decorate with a festive theme then fill it with small treats such as sweets, lollies, hairbands, beads, coloured pencils and Lego.
2. Give your jars into Mr Larcombe's class by **Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December**, clearly labelled on the bottom with the child's name and class. There will be a prize for the best-decorated jar in EYFS, KS1 and KS2.

We're looking forward to seeing all the entries. Good luck!

**Jingle Jars will be sold for £1 each at the Christmas Fayre on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December.**



### Liskeard Lights Up:

Tomorrow evening, Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup>, our Year 6 pupils along with many other local schools and organisations will be taking part in the Liskeard Lights Up parade. Our pupils have been busy over the last few weeks making lanterns with local artists.

Come along and enjoy a wonderful festive evening through the streets of Liskeard from 5.30pm. The Christmas lights will be switched on and the evening topped off with a firework display.

### Christmas Jumper Day:

Christmas Jumper Day will be held on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December. We ask for a donation of £1 to go to the charity, Save the Children. Please wear non- uniform with your festive jumper.

### Accelerated Reader Information sessions for KS2 Parents

On Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December, Mr Larcombe and Mrs Eyre will be running two information sessions for parents who would like to more about Accelerated Reader which we have launched in KS2. The sessions will run at 2:45pm and 6pm in the Hall. We will be covering:-

- How children get their ZPD level
- How children choose their books
- How we know children understand what they are reading (quizzing)
- How parents can support children at home

Sessions are expected to last 15-20 minutes. Please come along to find out more.

Mince pies will be provided!

### Residential Trips 2018:

If your child is due to go on the residential trip with their year group and you have paid the deposit, don't forget to keep topping it up the balance on Parent Pay to spread the cost.

## Attendance:



Each week the class with the highest attendance gets to look after CJ Bear from Commando Joe. We aim to achieve greater than 96% each week which is the national and county attendance target.

**13/11/17 – 17/11/17**

**Whole School: 94.37%**

Rockets – 94.62%  
1ET – 83.91%  
2SW – 97.86%  
3RK – 95.6%  
4SM – 99.29%  
5ML – 88.62%  
6VM – 97.14%

Stars – 91.48%  
1BH – 86.25%  
2NB – 98.46%  
3DW – 94.59%  
4CH – 99.29%  
5HB – 94.44%  
6JF – 97.35%

This week's KS1 winners are 2NB with 98.46%

This week's KS2 winners are 4CH & 4SM both with 99.29%

**16/10/17 – 20/10/17**

**Whole School: 91.43%**

Rockets – 96.54%  
1ET – 84.35%  
2SW – 96.79%  
3RK – 95.2%  
4SM – 92.86%  
5ML – 92.41%  
6VM – 96.43%

Stars – 89.63%  
1BH – 76.67%  
2NB – 96.54%  
3DW – 88.79%  
4CH – 85.71%  
5HB – 91.85%  
6JF – 93.33%

This week's KS1 winners are 2SW with 96.79%

This week's KS2 winners are 6VM with 96.43%

Well done to all classes.

## Diary Dates:

Christmas Lunch – Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December

Reception classes' Nativity play – Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December, 10.30am

Christmas Fayre – Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December 3.30-6.00pm

KS1 Christmas Performance – Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December 2.00pm and 6.00pm

KS2 Christmas Performance – Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December 2.00pm and 6.30pm

**Break up for Christmas – Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December – 1.30pm**

**Christmas Fayre**  
 Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December  
 3:30pm-6pm  
**Refreshments**  
**Stalls Games**  
 Glitter Tattoos Face Painting  
**Santa's Grotto Raffle**  
 Live music and much more.....

Liskeard Hillfort Primary School  
 Old Road, Liskeard, PL14 6HZ

**SAMBA KERNOW** Performing at 4pm

**Our Community:**

**SISTER ACT**  
 CARADON YOUTH THEATRE  
 present this Divine Musical Comedy  
 12th-14th April 2018  
**OPEN WORKSHOPS (age 10+)**  
 Sun 29th Oct & Sun 26th Nov 1 - 5pm

Director: Nic Early  
 Musical Director: Kate Rogers  
 Choreographer: Gemma Nicholson  
 More info: 07899 953091  
[www.earlyenergy.co.uk](http://www.earlyenergy.co.uk)

THE EARLY ENERGY CENTRE

OUR NEW GROUP 'ALPHA' FOR 4 & 5 YEAR OLDS  
 STARTS THURS 2<sup>nd</sup> Nov 3.45 - 4.30PM  
 MORE INFO/ BOOK YOUR PLACE CALL 07899 953091

**CARADON YOUTH DANCE**  
**THURSDAYS**  
 LISKEARD HILLFORT PRIMARY  
 OLD ROAD, PL14 6HZ  
[WWW.EARLYENERGY.CO.UK/ENSEMBLES](http://WWW.EARLYENERGY.CO.UK/ENSEMBLES)