



## Newsletter - Friday 22nd April

A warm welcome back to school and the beginning of our summer terms. I have enjoyed hearing all about the mountains of Easter treats that have been on offer over the break, and incredibly happy to see lots of smiling faces ready to start term 5.

A huge welcome to Mrs Beirne, Jazz class teacher who has settled in brilliantly and another huge welcome to Mrs Alexander who has been incredibly busy in the school office getting to know Laddingford systems and who is already keeping me very organised!

We are very proud to be one of 750 schools across the country to have launched the DfE Early Adopter Free Breakfast Scheme. This means your child can attend school from 8am and have breakfast and take part in a fun activity for **free**. If you would like your child to attend, please either use the link to complete the form or let the school office know.

We are also very proud to announce that our Reception class for September 2025 is full! We will be welcoming 13 new reception children through our doors very soon and cannot wait to meet them.

Mrs Clark

## Worship



This week we have considered our personal values. We thought really carefully about how to live out our personal values. We have also begun to map out the values we have in common and over the coming weeks, we will begin to think about how we can use these values to instill change within the school, local community and wider world.

## Our School Values in Action



Our school values are **love, peace** and **joy**.

At Laddingford, love means to be kind and inclusive, showing care and understanding to everyone.

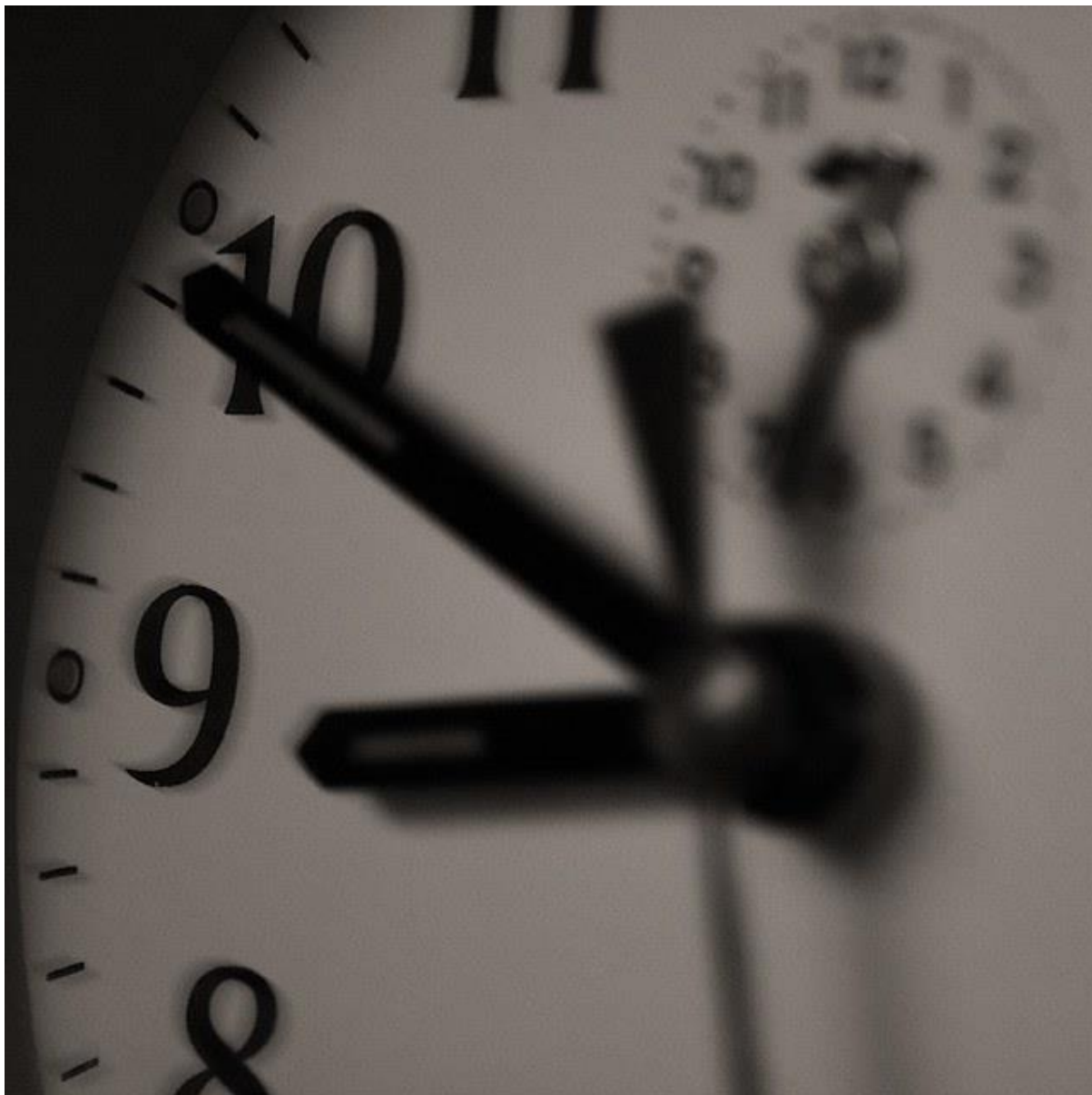
At Laddingford, peace means to be respectful, calm, confident and responsible.

At Laddingford, joy means to be a team-player, have fun, to be resilient and achieve excellence in all we do.

Each week, we plan to celebrate children who are noticed putting our values into action. If you spot your child putting a 'value in action' at home, please take a photo and send this along with a brief caption to [office@Laddingford.kent.sch.uk](mailto:office@Laddingford.kent.sch.uk) with the subject line 'Values in Action' and your child may have a starring role on our newsletter.

Congratulations to everyone for coming back to school so well - great work!

## Attendance and Punctuality



**Our attendance expectation is 96%**

**Attendance week beginning 22nd April.**

Pippin = 88.6%

Russet = 94.9%

Jazz = 82.7%

Bramley = 81.9%

Whole School = 87.2%

Please remember, if you are concerned that your child may not be well enough for school, please check the following website: [Is my child too ill for school? - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk/health-conditions/when-to-worry)

## Studybugs



The banner features a blue background with a white bird-like character holding a blue envelope, flanked by light blue clouds. Below the illustration, the text reads: 'Please get the **free Studybugs app** for reporting your child's absence due to illness.' The website URL 'https://studybugs.com' is displayed in white. Three app store logos are shown: 'Download on the App Store', 'GET IT ON Google Play', and 'Get it from Microsoft'. Below these, three lines of text describe the app's benefits: 'Report sickness, receive guidance, help improve children's health', 'See what illnesses are going around', and 'Secure system, all communications encrypted'. At the bottom left, it says 'Working in partnership with:' followed by logos for NHS, Brighton and Sussex medical school, Brighton & Hove City Council, and Epi concept. The Studybugs logo with a green shield icon is at the bottom right.

We're pleased to announce that Laddingford St Mary's is introducing a new, more efficient and secure system for reporting your child's absence due to illness, called Studybugs.

If you haven't already, please get the free Studybugs app, or register on the Studybugs website, and use it to tell us whenever your child's ill and unable to attend school.

Get the app or register now (<https://studybugs.com/about/parents>)

### **Top 3 reasons to use Studybugs.**

1. It helps us know sooner if your child is unaccounted for.
2. It's quick and easy to register and use and automatically reminds you to keep us posted.
3. You'll be helping the NHS and other public health organisations improve children's health. (<https://studybugs.com/about/schools>)

## Over and Above



I have a new set of over and above certificates ordered and I cannot wait to start handing these out - this term, I have asked staff to keep an eye out for children who manage to achieve all three school values within a day - if you do so, another special certificate will be coming your way!

## Spotlight on Pippin Class!



This week in Pippin Class we have been busy settling back into the routine of school. We have introduced the theme of traditional tales, our reception children are getting very busy with their writing, reading and maths and we have welcomed lots of new nursery children. A very busy week indeed.

### Spotlight on Russet Class!



This week Russet have been starting to explore their new book 'The King Who Banned The Dark'. They have thought about the pros and cons of banning the dark using drama to help them. Russet have also started their new topic of Statistics in Maths by looking at tally charts. They had a busy PE lesson working on their agility too.

## Spotlight on Jazz Class!



This week we have started new topic in history, Ancient Maya and we explored the challenges and solutions they may have faced. In Science we learnt about seed dispersal. We have also started a new class book 'The Wild Robot'. In Art, we created a mood board, exploring different colours inspired from the rainforest.

## Spotlight on Bramley Class!



At the end of last term we were very lucky to complete our science unit with a bang by taking part in a heart dissection at The Malling School. After a little persuasion, the children got stuck in and all had a go at feeling the heart and cutting it open to reveal the four chambers. Some of the children even found the aorta and used their finger to go through a vessel into the heart.

## Forest School





On the last day of term, the FLS hosted an Easter Egg hunt – for all children to have a bit of fun at the end of term. All the children received a chocolate egg for their participation – we also raised nearly **£60** in voluntary donations.

So, as we start the summer terms, we begin planning some of our next events:

**The Summer Fair** 🍩 date to be released soon!

**Father's Day events** 🍳 – the much-loved Father's Day breakfast and gift shop.

Supporting the school **Sports Day** 🏃

**More updates to follow soon.**

📢 **FLS WhatsApp Group – now LIVE.** At the end of last term we launched the group and are now able to share more messages to the school community. Don't worry if you are not signed up yet, there is still time.

**Sign up below:**

We've been asked how our new **FLS WhatsApp group** differs from other class and parent groups, so here's a little more info:

- ✓ **One central place** for school-wide updates.
- ✓ **Open to all families**—not limited to specific classes or groups.
- ✓ **Managed group** to ensure everyone has access to the same information.
- ✓ **A space for questions, updates, and key dates.**

👁️ **Sign up using the QR code below or the link provided!** Don't miss out—join today!

<https://weachieve.typeform.com/FLS-WhatsApp>



## Diary Dates



### **Week beginning 28th April**

Mon - Rounders Club

Tue - Summer Sports Club

Wed - Art Club, Cornwallis transition visit (at Laddingford)

Thurs - French Club, Local Elections

Fri - No Choir Club (this will be caught up in the week during lunch break instead for this week only)

### **Week beginning 5th May**

Mon - NO SCHOOL - BANK HOLIDAY

Tue - Summer Sports Club

Wed - Art Club, Cornwallis transition visit (at Laddingford)

Thurs - French Club, Local Elections

Fri - Choir Club - Bramley Class Kent College Drama Workshop

## Notices



Due to local elections being held in the school hall on **Thursday 1st May**, children will be required to bring a packed lunch or order a packed lunch as we will not be able to provide a hot lunch. More information to follow on Monday morning.

## Contact Us

To contact your child's class teacher please either speak to them on the gate at the end of the school day or email [office@laddingford.kent.sch.uk](mailto:office@laddingford.kent.sch.uk) FAO - class name - child's name. The teacher will then endeavour to get back to you with two working days.

Visit us on the web at [www.laddingford.kent.sch.uk](http://www.laddingford.kent.sch.uk)