



## Newsletter - Friday 14th March

Our newsletter this week has an attendance focus.

Every school day counts. This weekend, I have spent time analysing whole school attendance and sent out lots of congratulatory emails acknowledging children's excellent attendance records. Over the next week, Miss Fittall and I will be sending out another set of letters to parents of children whose attendance has fallen below the statutory 95%. At primary school, children who attend school nearly every day in Year 6 (95-100% attendance) are 30% more likely to reach the expected standard in reading, writing and maths compared to similar pupils who attend 90-95% of the time.

We are in the process of developing our break and lunch time provision to enable all children to be active during this time. Some of the activities your child might take part in at break and lunch times are:

- football (each class is allocated a day per week)
- ball games such as netball/basketball
- table tennis
- Jenga
- construction/den building/obstacle course building

- colouring/jigsaws in the calm cabin
- lego
- reading
- digging/gardening with Mrs Smith (fully risk assessed)

A huge thank you to Miss Fittall who has just secured an incredible grant of £1000 to be spent towards improving our playtimes. Watch this space for more information.

Mrs Clark

## Worship



We are proud to be supporting Neurodiversity Week 2025 (March 17th - 23rd)! This week is all about challenging misconceptions, breaking down barriers, and celebrating the incredible strengths and talents of neurodiverse individuals.



## 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 Daisy for showing excellent respect towards all adults all of the time.

Mikey - Love - For offering help to other children around the class when they are finding something difficult.

### Attendance and Punctuality



**Our attendance expectation is 96%**

**Attendance week beginning 10th March**

Pippin = 94.5%

Russet = 100% **Amazing!**

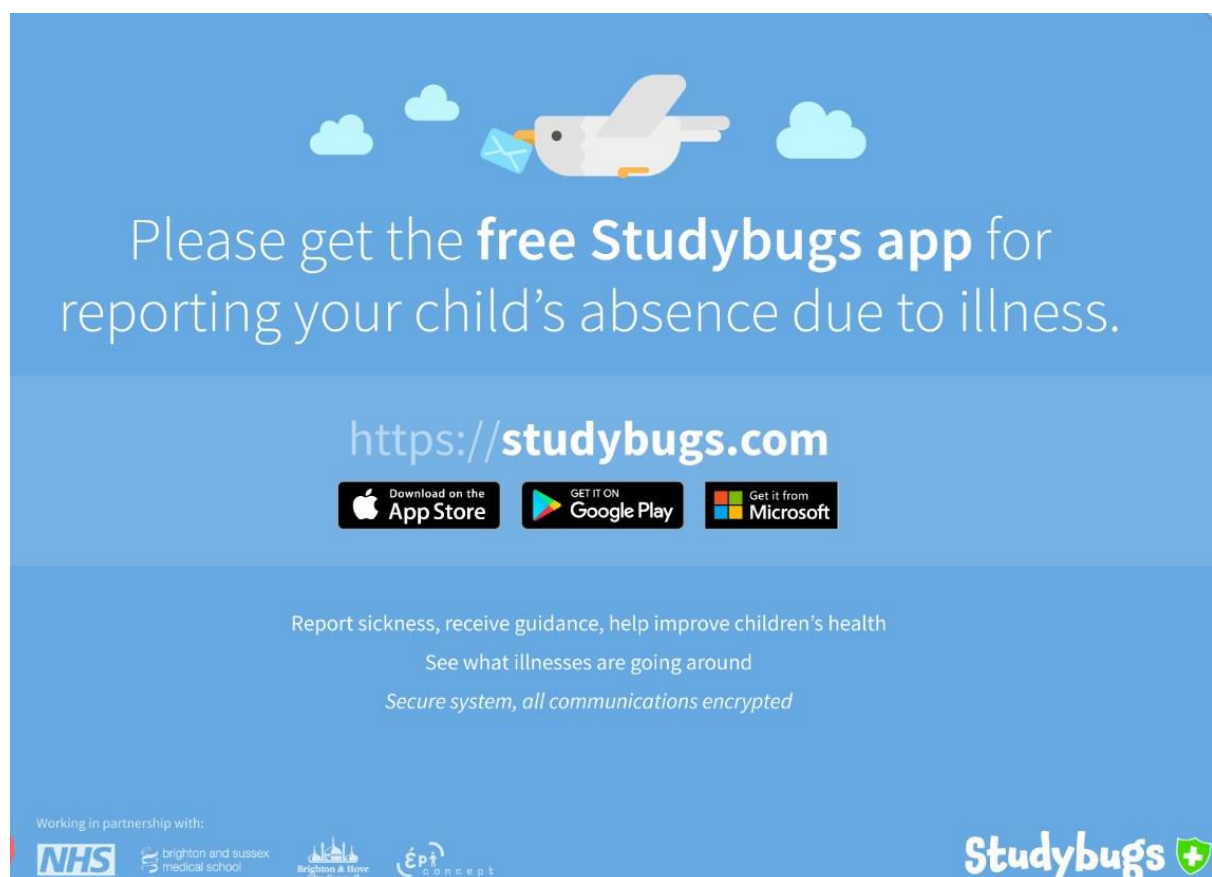
Jazz = 89.8%

Bramley = 84.9%

Whole School = 92.6%

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 \(www.nhs.uk\)](http://www.nhs.uk)

## Studybugs



The advertisement features a blue background with a white bird-like character holding a blue envelope, flying between two light blue clouds. Below this illustration, the text reads: "Please get the free Studybugs app for reporting your child's absence due to illness." The URL "https://studybugs.com" is displayed in white. Three download buttons are shown: "Download on the App Store" (with the Apple logo), "GET IT ON Google Play" (with the Google Play logo), and "Get it from Microsoft" (with the Microsoft logo). Below the buttons, the text states: "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 Ept 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



Another week of lots of little visitors to my office to receive over and above certificates for magnificent work. So much so, I am going to have to order more certificates.

## Spotlight on Pippin Class!



This week the children in pippin have continued their exploring of mini-beasts. We collected sticks, twigs and stones to create our own bug hotel. The children worked really well together thinking about how they could make it inviting for all the bugs. We have already found a worm and spider living in our hotel!







## Spotlight on Russet Class!



This week Russet have been writing their own setting narratives and had an exciting Easter Story workshop! We have continued learning about plants and made our own smoothies in DT. Russet class had lots of fun practicing their food preparation skills. Chopping, juicing and tasting different fruits!











## Spotlight on Jazz Class!



In Jazz class, we have been learning about "Animals, including Humans," in Science. This week, our lesson focused on the skeleton and the three main reasons we need one: protection, support, and movement. To understand this, we tried writing with a pencil and high-fiving our friends while wearing plastic gloves filled with water, which helped us understand what our hands would be like without bones. We found it very difficult to do!







## Spotlight on Bramley Class!



This week in science we have been learning all about the importance of blood. To support our learning, the children created a model using orange squash as the plasma, raisins as the platelets, red dyed cheerios as the red blood cells and marshmallows as the white blood cells. We spoke about how models help scientists to study things that are too small to see or very complex.











## Forest School



Today's Forest School session was a joy to watch unfold. The children were given the opportunity to lay the fire and light the fire again. This week we had some new children take an interest. Leon and Skylar wanted to try fire striking for the first time, I was so impressed with their perseverance. Florence, Xander and Mikey also tried very hard, Carter decided that he wanted to create his own larger fire. He maintained this fire for over two hours!

While the fire striking group were busy, a group of children were digging in the meadow, digging up clay/earth to make their own models. I have seen a real change in some of the children since week one, the children settle beautifully in the woods and are much calmer. The year four boys worked very hard today to create their own then lifting and hauling pallets and planks using their body and their physicality to create an area for them to spend time.

This afternoon, we spent time with Bek from the patch helping her to create new flowerbeds. It was an absolute privilege to spend time with Bek, the children absolutely loved their afternoon digging the compost and transferring it to the new flower bed using trugs and wheelbarrows. The farmer Mr Smith came to visit the children and told them all about his world record! Growing the world's largest apple, the children got to see a bronze replica of the apple.

We finished the day today with hot chocolates and roasting marshmallows over the fire that the children had lit.

A super day with so much teamwork, resilience, building, and friendship.















Friends of Laddingford School



Sales of tickets for our Mother's day events have been going really well. The cream tea is now sold out but there are some tickets remaining for the breakfast. You can book on Parent Pay.

Mother's Day Gift Shop. This is an opportunity for the children to buy a gift for their mothers and carers. We run the gift shop in school, so all you need to do is pay via parent pay and the children get to come to the shop and choose a gift perfect for you! It's already wrapped so you don't need to wrap your own gift (some of you have been there, right?!). The children can give you the gift on Sunday to open as you enjoy breakfast in bed (maybe?) or a cup of tea made for you (possibly?)...

### **Join the FLS WhatsApp Group – Launching Soon!**

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>

### **Easy Fundraising – Raise Money for the School with Every Online Purchase!**

Did you know you can **raise money for the school at no extra cost** when shopping online? With **Easy Fundraising**, participating brands donate **up to 5% of your purchase** to our school! We have raised nearly £50 already last term!

**How to get started:**

- 1 **Download the Easy Fundraising app** on your phone or via the computer browser extension.
- 2 **Shop as usual** at participating retailers.
- 3 A **donation is made automatically**—no extra cost to you!

It takes a few minutes to set up, but once done, it's an effortless way to **support our school** without spending anything extra!

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/friendsofladdingfordschool/>

**You can always get in touch with the FLS via the following email [Laddingfordfriends@hotmail.com](mailto:Laddingfordfriends@hotmail.com)**

# Mothers Day

Breakfast and Afternoon Cream Tea  
28th March 2025, Laddingford Church Hall

## Mothers Day Breakfast

8.30am

A delicious range of pastries served with tea/coffee and squash

£5 per adult, includes pastries and a hot drink

£3.50 per child, includes pastries and squash

## Mothers Day Afternoon Cream Tea

14.30pm

A delicious range of pastries with clotted cream, scone cakes and squash

£5 per adult, includes cakes, scones and a hot drink

£3.50 per child, includes cookies, cakes and squash

**SOLD OUT**

Bookings can be made through 'Parentpay' up until the 25th March.  
Book quickly to avoid disappointment, booking is on a first come first serve basis, **no booking no entry.**  
Please ensure to let us know of any allergies or dietary requirements at time of booking

Hosted by  
The Friends of Laddingford School



## Diary Dates



**Week beginning 17th March - Neurodiversity Week**

Mon - Board Game Club

Tue - Bramley Tiger Troop, Gymnastics Club

Wed - Coding Club

Thurs - Forest School Year 1 & 4, Forest School & Cartoon Club

Fri - Choir Club 8am

### **Week beginning 24th March**

Mon - Board Game Club

Tue - Bramley Tiger Troop, Gymnastics Club

Wed - Coding Club

Thurs - Forest School Year 1 & 4, Forest School & Cartoon Club

Fri - Choir Club 8am, Year R & 6 Vision & Hearing checks, 2:30 - Jazz class assembly (parents invited)

### Notices



A gentle reminder about children wearing full school uniform. PE days - children get changed at school therefore should have full school uniform PE kit in school.

### **Red Nose Day - Friday 21st March 2025**

This year we would like children to wear a crazy red accessory to compliment their red school uniform - you might want to wear a sparkly hat, crazy hairband, a shiny red pair of shoes... the choice is yours. Just remember, you still need to wear school uniform - don't forget your red nose! Donations can be made via parentpay.

### 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)