



## Newsletter - Friday 13th June 2025

A busy fortnight again at Laddingford. I am thoroughly enjoying visiting the Latham's (the grassy space by the playground) each day and seeing how much it is changing. We are currently waiting for confirmation that we have been successful in applying for a grant to develop this space over the Summer holidays but are hugely grateful to Mrs Smith, our Year 6 team and a few other pupils for their continuous hard work to ensure the space is looking it's best.

An enormous thank you to Mr Smith, Mr Latham and Mr Arnold for their kind contributions of hardcore, wood and various other items to ensure we can begin to develop this space.

This week, our Year 6 children have performed amazingly at the Yalding Education Foundation Spoken Word competition. It takes an awful lot of confidence to stand up and speak in front of people and the amazing feedback we have received shows what mature, confident and sensible individuals our Year 6 children are becoming. Well done Year 6!

This week we have also had a visit from our Early Years Advisor, who mentioned how engaged, happy and hardworking our children in Early Years are. She also commented about our wonderful environment. Well done to everyone in Pippin Class.

I look forward to seeing you at the Summer Fair tomorrow - don't forget to wear suncream, it's looking like we will be blessed with sunny weather.

Mrs Clark

## Worship



We have enjoyed having an opportunity in worship to be 'technology free'. Due to a broken interactive whiteboard in Russet classroom, we are temporarily without technology in the hall. This initial inconvenience has surprisingly led to moments of calm, story sharing and reflection which we have enjoyed considerably.

## 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)<sup>1</sup> with the subject line 'Values in Action' and your child may have a starring role on our newsletter.

Congratulations to Poppy and Mikey who achieved 'joy' this week - Poppy and Mikey you have both worked incredibly hard. Well done.

Congratulations to Francis who achieved 'joy' this week

Congratulations to Oliver who achieved 'peace' this week.

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<sup>1</sup><mailto:office@Laddingford.kent.sch.uk>

## Attendance and Punctuality



**Our attendance expectation is 96%**

**Attendance from week beginning 3/6/25**

Pippin = 89.2%

Russet = 95.5%

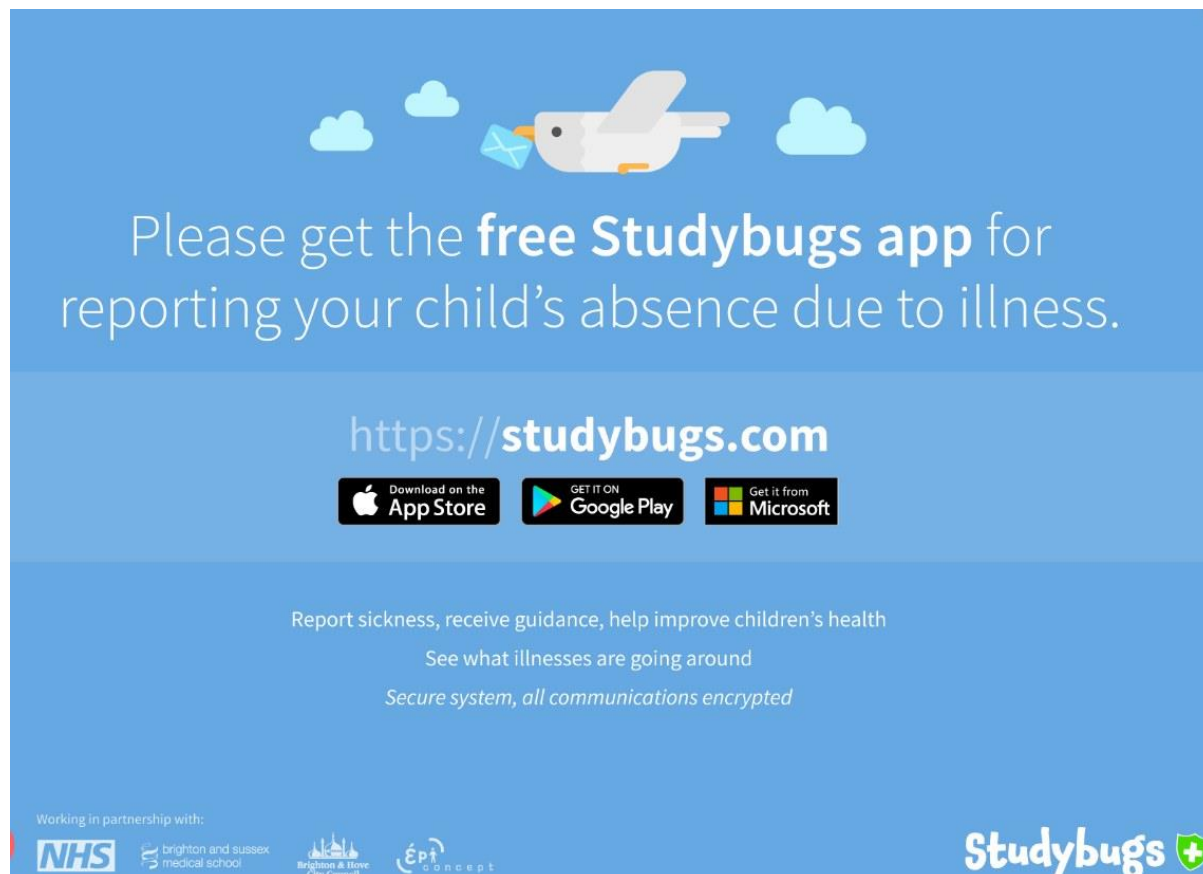
Jazz = 87%

Bramley = 84.3%

Whole School = 89.3%

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)<sup>2</sup>

## Studybugs



The banner features a blue background with a white bird icon holding a blue envelope, flanked by light blue clouds. The text is white and centered. At the bottom, there are logos for the App Store, Google Play, and Microsoft, along with a list of partner organizations including NHS, Brighton and Sussex Medical School, Brighton & Hove City Council, and Epi Concept.

Please get the **free Studybugs app** for reporting your child's absence due to illness.

<https://studybugs.com>

Download on the App Store | GET IT ON Google Play | Get it from Microsoft

Report sickness, receive guidance, help improve children's health  
See what illnesses are going around  
Secure system, all communications encrypted

Working in partnership with:  
NHS | brighton and sussex medical school | Brighton & Hove City Council | Epi Concept

**Studybugs** 

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>)

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<sup>2</sup><https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

## Over and Above



Don't forget, if your child participates in extra curricular activities and wishes to share their successes, please send these into school so they can be featured in our newsletter.

I have particularly enjoyed reading the incredible story written by Toby during his half term. Elliott was also very proud to share his amazing comic with me. Well done boys. Super imaginative writing.

## Spotlight on Pippin Class!



The children in Pippin have loved exploring outside recently, enjoying the different activities including an 'Under the Sea' and 'Dinosaur Stomp' tuff tray. We have also been busy practicing our writing with making postcards to send to our friends and creating patterns out of coloured lollypop sticks. The children are also having a fabulous time at Forest School, learning so many skills and showing their independence in so many ways! We have had a lovely few weeks and a great start to our last Reception Term!











## Spotlight on Russet Class!



The past fortnight has been incredibly busy for Russet Class. We have started our new book 'A River' and have been thinking about going on our own journeys and what we might see, hear and do. We have covered a lot in Maths too, thinking about halves, quarters and thirds! Additionally, we have started two science experiments, exploring how long a seed takes to germinate and if seeds need sunlight to germinate. Russet have started learning about tennis too, practicing balancing a ball on their rackets as well as starting to bounce the ball with control.

## Spotlight on Jazz Class!



Jazz class have been incredibly busy over the last few weeks. They have finished their story "The Wild Robot" - please speak to our Year 3 and 4 children about this book, they absolutely loved it! They have just begun a return narrative about the text Rhythm of Rain - I cannot wait to read their amazing writing.

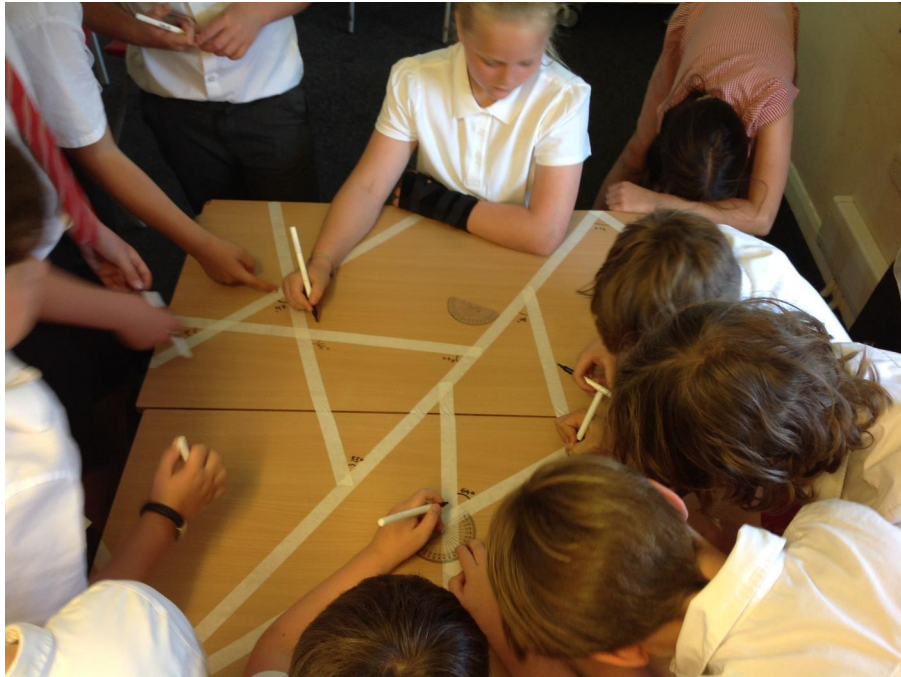
In maths, Jazz class have been learning about capacity and measure and in art they have completed mood boards, thinking about colours of the rainforest.

## Spotlight on Bramley Class!



This week we have started learning about angles. The children used protractors to measure different angles and focused on understanding the inner and outer scales. While measuring, they noticed that the opposite angles were all the same, the angles on a straight line added up to 180 degrees and the angles around a point were 360 degrees.





## Forest School



Two weeks of learning to report:

### **Week 3 at the Forest**

Today was one of the first rainy sessions I have run in a long time... The children absolutely love the rain, not one child complained about feeling wet.. we talked at the start of the session about all the fun that we could have with the rain and the mud around us. Positive conversations about the weather and being outside are super influential especially to our

younger friends. How we choose to model our language and behaviour is so influential to children especially under the age of 10!

The children had a wonderful time today using their imaginations playing together and using the woodland. Over the time we have been using this space, we have created areas for the children to foster further imaginative play.

Today two of the TA's made a seating area at the mud kitchen and we embarked on a project to make a pirate ship. The children have already made good use of the 'Stage' for singing and dancing!

Today I told the children a story about small imaginary pixies that live in the woodland - these pixies had had their homes destroyed by a dragon who was learning to fly... One of his wings smashed their village... This led to a springboard activity where some of the children wanted to make new homes for the pixies some of the children dug up plenty of mud to make cement to help build the houses

After lunchtime today, we went on a wildflower hunt in the meadow. We collected ox eye daisies, buttercups, dandelions, red clover, and Elder flower. some of the children were keen to make elderflower cordial with me, all of the children tried the cordial, not all of them enjoyed it but all tried it! Fabulous session today see you all next week for more fun

#### **Week 4 at the Forest**

Ahoy me hearties, splice the main sail and all aboard the ship setting sail for Laddingford Forest School!

Today - session 4 of 6- the children enjoyed creative and imaginative play on the pirate ship that we began to build last week. One of the best phrases I heard today was 'be careful there's a sea monster over there, use the steering wheel to steer the ship the other way!!'



I gave the children some chinks and some paint 🎨 and the children set to work painting their ship. What a jolly good effort they made too! Some of the boys explored an area of the forest school that had been out of bounds due to deep water.. in this area is now dried up but some pockets of mud were still found... And boy did they find these pockets of mud!

😬😬 the children had great fun squelching and playing with the thick oozy stinky mud ❤️ the photos will sum up exactly how the children felt about the mud today. After lunchtime a few of the children wanted to help me make elderflower fritters so we gathered our ingredients, and the children helped me to make the batter.



Vienna helped me to set and light the fire today well done Vienna.

Such a lovely session today the children are a real pleasure to teach. They are so resilient and independent and full of joy 💜 we finished the session with a sing song today which made the children smile 😊 and laugh 😂

See you all next week for more fun in the woods 🌲

## **THE RECIPE**

Sift 100g of plain flour into a basin then add 2 tablespoons of oil and 175ml of sparkling mineral water. Beat to a thick paste, then stir in a tablespoon of sugar. Set aside for 30 minutes. Just before frying the elderflowers, beat an egg white and fold it into the batter. Rinse 12-16 elderflower heads, shake them dry and snip the flower heads into small stems. Get a pan of oil hot then dip the elderflowers into the batter and lower them into the oil. Hold them under the oil by pushing down on the stem. Fry until the batter is pale gold and crisp then lift out and dip straight into a dish of caster sugar. Eat the fritters while they are hot and crisp.



















Friends of Laddingford School



We look forward to welcoming you to the Laddingford Summer Fair tomorrow.

You can always contact us at [Laddingfordfriends@hotmail.com](mailto:Laddingfordfriends@hotmail.com)



## Diary Dates



### **Week beginning Monday 16th June**

Mon - No rounders club

Tue -

Wed - Year 6 Rochester Cathedral celebration visit

Thurs - Pippin Forest School

Fri - EYFS/KS1 drama workshop

### **Week beginning Monday 23rd June**

Mon -

Tue -

Wed - Reception September 25 Stay and Play

Thurs - Pippin Forest School - Final Session

Fri -

## Instrument Tuition



We are very excited to announce that from September 2025 we will be welcoming Andrew Parry Music into the school to provide our instrumental tuition. Please see the letter sent via parentmail for more information.

Apply For Lessons — Andrew Parry Music<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>3</sup><https://www.andrewparrymusic.com/apply>

## Notices



We are requesting donations of:

- 2 watering cans
- garden tools
- tomato plants
- strawberry plants
- summer bedding plants

Thank you

## 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)<sup>4</sup> 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)<sup>5</sup>

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<sup>4</sup><mailto:office@laddingford.kent.sch.uk>

<sup>5</sup><https://www.laddingford.kent.sch.uk>