

## Lockington CE VC Primary School

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Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> May, 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you enjoyed the long weekend!

It's great to see the sun out today – the start of a run of sunny days, perhaps – so it is good advice to apply sun-cream to your child before school and provide a **sun hat and cream**, which they can apply themselves.



It has been a busy half term, with the lead up to **statutory testing** this term. I have been running Year 6 booster classes from 8.30am every Tuesday and Thursday morning for the last half term, along with booster classes on Wednesdays for an hour after school for several months. The Year 6's have been working diligently throughout: they have been amazing in their conscientious preparation for next week's SATS, since we returned to school after Christmas. I am sure you will agree, we wish them all the very best next week. The timetable for SATS next week is:

- Monday morning: Grammar, Spelling and Punctuation
- Tuesday morning: Reading
- Wednesday morning: Mathematics Papers 1 and 2
- Thursday morning: Mathematics Paper 3

Once these tests are completed, the Year 6 pupils will then focus on finishing their portfolio of written work over the next few weeks, which will be teacher assessed against criteria set down nationally.

There are no longer any statutory tests in Year 2, although these tests remain optional and we intend to administer the tests in Grammar, Spelling and Punctuation, Reading and Maths during the week beginning 20<sup>th</sup> May – this will help to inform teacher assessments. Pupils in Year 4 will be taking the statutory Multiplication Tables Check during the week beginning Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June: please encourage your child to keep accessing TwinklGo to help prepare for these tests, and revising times tables at home. Year 1 pupils will be taking their Phonics Screening Tests during the week beginning Monday 10<sup>th</sup> June and have been working well to prepare for these in school and for homework.

Good news: our **IXL online** accounts have been upgraded to a new format, including diagnostics and rewards, which children can use to target specific concepts in Mathematics and English, both at home and at school. Children have their own login details. Our IXL leader board shows Finley, Jensen and Ailsa are in the top three this week! Well done to everyone who has logged in! Keep up the good work. IXL can be accessed at home, even if it is not specifically set for homework: it's good fun and a challenge too, as well as encouraging pupils to be independent in their learning. Please let your child's teacher know if you are having trouble logging on at home.

The same also applies to our **Lexia** accounts: these can be accessed at home and children can practise their English skills online, allowing them to move ahead in their learning independently.



I would like to say a very big 'thank you' to the Friends of Lockington School (FOLS) for their fund raising activities. The **Duck Race** last month helped to raise **over £900!** In a time of much higher costs, this will help to fund school visits, workshops, and upgrades to equipment, such as laptops and outdoor learning resources. The FOLS is a charity, run separately from the school, made up of parents/carers of our pupils, who organise events with the aim of bringing the community together and raising money to provide the things that make our school extra special. The East Riding Education Authority suffers from the lowest levels of funding in the country, increasingly impacting the schools in the area, so any support we receive from charities like the Friends is a huge bonus and very much appreciated. A **Car Boot Sale**, their first since Lockdown, is planned to take place on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> May: please look out for information from the Friends to find out more.

Our **gardening day** earlier this month has spruced up the outdoor area: the children enjoyed being in the great outdoors whilst also caring for their own environment, helping to develop a sense of pride and responsibility, whilst having fun. A very big thank you to our parent volunteers who helped – it is very much appreciated and we are hoping to develop this aspect of our school even more in the near future.

Congratulations to our Year 5 pupils who achieved success in their '**Bikeability**' awards last week: they were presented with certificates and badges to mark this milestone. We were all delighted with the feedback from their coach, who remarked on their excellent behaviour as well as their cycling skills! They were one of the nicest groups she has ever worked with. Well done Year 5.

We have lots of work and events lined up or in the planning stages over the weeks leading up to the end of term, and I know both classes are planning visits to link with their curriculum, which will be announced soon.

I was very sorry to hear the news that **South Dalton Playgroup** has closed. In what is a difficult time for them, we would like to thank them for their kindness and generosity: we have received a donation from them of many wonderful resources to use in school. The children in Little Lights Nursery will benefit from this immensely. Thank you – it is appreciated by us all.

I would like to thank Mrs Stewart for all her super work with the children – she has provided expert support for our Year 6 pupils with their SATS and also worked diligently with the children in Class 2 on Mondays with their maths and English. Miss Peacock and I will be working with the younger Key Stage 2 children after half term on Mondays: we will both enjoy having them back!

I will leave you with some dates for your diary and thank you for your support and loyalty over what has been an extremely busy time.

Dates for your diary this half term:

Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> May:	Year 6 Bikeability training
Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> May:	Golf Tournament at Longcroft School (with Mrs Trueman)
Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> May:	Year 5/6 Food and Farming Day at Driffield
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> May:	Final day of this half term – school reopens on Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> June

Yours sincerely

Julie Cattle Headteacher











