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Message from Mrs Keep

The new term is well underway with spirits and energy high. While we would be fibbing if we didn't admit to being a little disappointed that we are still working within our contingency measures, we are confident that we have the balance right at the moment with keeping the children's school days joyful but safe. While we have some children who must remain at home, it is always a genuine delight to see them in class virtually. It isn't the same as being in school but it means that the children maintain not only their academic learning but also their social contact with their peers.

Staying in bubbles meant the first whole school assembly of the term was online this year. We considered the resolutions we might have made last year and how well we kept to them. With a little help from Hundred Acre Wood we reflected on how to use the principles of SMART targets to ensure our own resolutions are a little more likely to be effective. I've heard some lovely ideas from the children about not only what they hope to achieve, but how they intend to do so. I'm quite certain many of them will be more successful than me in their resolve!

As always, the start of term has brought a renewed impetus from us all to learn and achieve new things, and as always our learning carries on beyond the classroom and curriculum. I must use this opportunity to say well done to the children in Stewarts who attended the winning House reward and the pupils in Year 8 who took a trip to London this week. Both groups prompted a number of comments regarding the children's conduct – all positive, I hasten to add. To hear that LPH pupils have prompted members of the public to seek out a member of staff to give them praise is music to my ears.

We have used in-person assemblies to remind the children of some important themes in school. In the prep school, we have revisited the Learning Attitudes and considered the ways in which each of these has an impact on everything we do. The Pre-Prep have been introduced to their own learning characters, about which Mrs Morrison has written in this newsletter. Whether starting out in Pre-School or nearing the end of the journey in Year 8, our aim is to give the children the ability to be lifelong learners – to be skilled in understanding HOW to learn. If we can develop resourceful, reflective learners who are resilient when things are hard and who can relate to others, we are preparing them for the future whatever it might bring.

Mr Price has also talked to the children about the power of their voices. We want to hear from them and value what they have to say. Please do remind your children that there is a postbox outside Mr Price's office for any ideas or suggestions they might have. They can of course also talk to their form's School or Food Council rep, or to a peer mentor, or to anyone in the school they would like to share their ideas with. However they do it, we know they are brilliant at innovating and January is the perfect time to think about what we could all do better or differently. I can't wait to hear what they've all had to say.



Pre-Prep News

Pre-School

The children have had a wonderful full week at school and have enjoyed starting our new topic. This week, our story focus has been Goldilocks and the Three Bears. To help their understanding of the story, we created a class story map before they then made their own to retell the story. The children have also taken part in lots of mathematical learning linked to size ordering. One of their challenges was to give the three bears the correct size bowl and spoon. They then filled the bowls with porridge, counting the spoonfuls as they did this.



Reception

The children had to play detectives at school. When they arrived back from lunch, the classroom was in such a mess. A chair was flung over, boxes had been knocked onto the floor, the rug had all been twisted and the window left open! Nobody had any idea; however after locating some magnifying glasses and discovering some clues everybody soon seemed to have a hunch as to who it might have been. There was a small green ball, some purple prickly things and a bit of brown fur! Do you have any idea? There was a note saying 'I'm looking for the big scary mouse, love G.' we're almost certain we know who it was!



Pre-Prep News

Year 1

The children are beginning their Polar topic and have been invited to go on an expedition by the National Polar society! The children have been discussing what they should take with them on their trip, including appropriate clothing.



The children had lots of fun in the Puzzle Workshop in the Laurent Hall where they put their creative thinking skills to the test and used teamwork to complete the different tasks.



Pre-Prep News

Year 2

The children have been thinking about how to represent two-digit numbers using various images and resources.

They showed terrific teamwork when beginning our topic of Explorers. The children demonstrated an excellent level of curiosity when exploring the continents of our world!



The children thoroughly enjoyed their puzzle workshop with Year 1 on Monday, pictured above.

They transferred the problem-solving skills they gained from the puzzle session into the classroom later in the week.

This is what the children chose to do in our 'What shall I do Wednesday?' morning session.



Pre-Prep News

Year 1 and 2 Philosophy Club

The first-ever session of our KS1 philosophy and thinking club took place.

The children explored what sort of questions we could ask about the world and they are beginning to understand that there is not always a straightforward answer. Here the children are practising their 'thinker' pose.



Lunch at the Head of Pre-Prep's table

This is similar to dining at the Captain's table on a cruise ship but rather less formal than black tie!

Pre-Prep children who have been nominated for excellent lunchtime manners enjoyed having lunch with Mrs Morrison today (Friday).

Each child was nominated by either their class teacher or our kitchen staff for displaying excellent table manners at lunchtimes.

Mrs Morrison was very impressed that the children chosen this week often try lots of different foods, try hard to use their knife and fork, ask before leaving the table, consistently say please and thank you, help out by passing foods and clearing the table and show that they have finished eating by putting their cutlery together neatly on their plate and waiting patiently for their friends to finish.

Mrs Morrison looks forward to having different guests and seeing more lovely table manners at her table each week!

Pre-Prep News

Pre-Prep Characteristics of Effective Learning

Your child is likely to be arriving home from school informing you that they 'were just like a tortoise today' or proudly wearing a sticker of a puppet; they will be referring to the Pre-Prep characteristics of effective learning. The explanation below will explain this in more detail. Please do use the language at home, as this will help the children's understanding and ask your child's class teacher if you would like to know more.

Mrs Morrison

The characteristics of effective learning focus on how children learn, rather than what they learn. Understanding types of learners, and how children learn, can help teachers plan provision and enables teachers to give the opportunity for all the characteristics to occur in the classroom environment. At LPH we have based our characteristics on the EYFS framework of playing and exploring, active learning and creating and thinking critically, which are introduced from Pre-school. To ensure continuity throughout the Pre-Prep, we continue with these characteristics and have added a fourth characteristic of resourcefulness for our Year 1 and Year 2 classes. In our Pre-Prep classrooms, you will hear both adults and children talking this language of learning. Our language framework is 'hung' on an animal puppet, chosen to represent each characteristic of learning. If we look at each in detail:

Playing and Exploring is our engagement characteristic, represented by a unicorn. Teachers focus on whether the children are playing with what they know, finding out and exploring, engaging in activities, showing particular interests and if they are able to take risks, and learn by trial and error, so are not afraid to make mistakes, as they know that they can learn by them.



Active Learning is our motivation characteristic, which involves children being involved and maintaining focus. This characteristic of learning is represented by a tortoise. They keep on trying, attempt different approaches and children will enjoy a task and be proud of what they set out to do.

Creative and Thinking Critically is our thinking characteristic, represented by a cat. We can break this down into children having their own ideas and finding ways to solve problems. We should also observe children making links and noticing patterns in their experiences, making predictions and testing ideas. Children will be confident when making decisions about how to approach a task, solve problems, review and change strategies to reach their goal.



Resourcefulness is our fourth characteristic introduced in Year 1, alongside the first three. Resourcefulness is represented by a squirrel. Adults would observe children becoming more independent both academically and socially. Resourcefulness can be defined as the ability and creativity to overcome difficulties and the ability to help oneself. Adults can encourage children to become more resourceful by providing an enabling environment with organised, accessible resources, ask open ended questions, encourage a growth mindset ('I can't do it **yet!**') and support children in being proactive.

Prep News

Year 3

The children engaged in their new topic of 'Rainforests' with huge enthusiasm. They were set the challenge of locating the whereabouts of rainforests using iPads and transferring this information onto a map of the world. Next, they had to research, in more detail, a rainforest of their choice and include information such as the capital city, the population, languages spoken, the flora and fauna and some interesting facts too. Working collaboratively remains a constant theme and the children are becoming adept at this.



Year 4

This term the children are learning all about teeth and digestion in science. They made salt dough and created their very own sets of teeth out of it. They had to make all of different types of teeth and label them.



Problem-Solving Resilience Activity
Solving everyday problems is a great skill to develop. Each and every day, we come across problems that need to be sorted out. They might be little problems or big problems. Take a look at the problems below and suggest some possible solutions.

Problem	Solution
Your two best friends have fallen out with each other, making you feel awkward.	
A group of classmates are all going to the park after school but they haven't invited you.	
You wanted to be picked for the school athletics team but you weren't.	



Prep News

Brain Blaster Puzzle Day

On Monday this week, The Happy Puzzle Company visited the school and pupils from Year 1-8 took part in a 'Brain Blaster' puzzle solving event. There are some photographs of this in the Pre-Prep pages of this newsletter and more from the Prep School on these pages.

Pupils gained skills to work through real life challenges and situations, respond to others with awareness, and use creative and deliberate strategies to achieve a positive outcome. It helped them to become more resilient and encouraged them to persevere when faced with challenges in everyday life. It was a huge success and enjoyed by pupils of all levels. There are some great puzzles and family games on their [website](#)

Years 5 & 6



Prep News

Year 7

The pupils dissected a sheep's 'pluck' in their biology lessons. A pluck consists of the trachea, heart, lungs, and liver. They investigated this by exploring the breathing system, including pumping air into the lungs to see how much they can expand. The pupils understood that the sheep had been raised primarily to provide meat for people to eat, and the opportunity for it to be used for educational purposes required them to carry out their investigations in a mature and respectful way.



Prep News

Year 8

The children enjoyed tackling the 'Brain Blaster' puzzles too at the start of the week and demonstrated excellent teamwork and cooperation as they battled their way through the challenges!



Later that week, they spent a day immersed in creativity and culture from around the world when they visited the Horniman Museum in Forest Hill as part of this term's Mask project. They made some fantastic sketches in both the Natural History gallery and The World Gallery, equipping themselves with plenty of inspiration and knowledge from the amazing collection of crafts and artefacts from all continents. Pupils also had a hands-on session with the museum teachers where they learned about masks from across the globe and had the opportunity to try them on and study them in close detail. We even had time for trying out the musical instruments in the museum gardens.

The pupils did Lancing Prep Hove proud once again, highlighted by a member of the public who commented on 'how beautifully behaved they were and could we please pass it on to the school'.



Prep News

House Treat

Stewarts were crowned Prep School House champions for the Autumn Term 2021! Their reward was a trip to Worthing Dome cinema in January with the private use of two screens (*Boss Baby 2* and *Spiderman*). They had a splendid time and we heard back from the Dome Cinema manager, 'Thank you - I've spoken to the duty manager on the day and he said that your school screenings were the best school screenings he's ever dealt with and that the kids were all so well behaved, so thank you for that!'



Girls' Sport

Years 5 and 6 fielded two teams against Burgess Hill Girls. They very graciously won one match 8-1 and lost the other 10-7. The girls represented the school outstandingly well and displayed great teamwork and sportsmanship. It was all the more commendable a result against an all girls' school!



Music & Performing Arts News

External Exam Results

Congratulations to the following pupils who took their exams last term:

New Era Speech & Drama

Leo A	Grade 3	Poetry and Prose	83%	Distinction
Isobel C B and Ella F	Grade 2	Duologue	84%	Distinction
Beatrice S and Jasmine D	Grade 2	Duologue	82%	Distinction
Molly A and Hannah M	Grade 2	Duologue	78%	Merit
Xander A E	Prep Test	Speech and Drama	81%	Distinction

ABRSM and Trinity Music

Jethro S	Grade 4	Singing	Merit
Hugo M	Grade 2	Trumpet	Merit

ABRSM Private visit

The school has been approved to host ABRSM exams as a private visit. There will be an exam entry towards the end of this term.

Pupils in Years 2-4 and choir members in Year 5 are encouraged to take Singing Prep Test. The children are enjoying learning the songs with Mrs Bunker in class and many have expressed an interest to take the test this term. Parents in these year groups will be emailed in due course.

Other notices

Practice rooms in the music school are available to book before and after school and during break times, subject to availability. Please ask your child to book a practice slot with Mrs Bunker.

Spaces are available for Piano, KS1 Violin group, Recorder, Flute, Clarinet and Saxophone lessons. Instruments are available to hire. Instrumental scholarships are available to assist with tuition fees.

For all enquiries about music and drama lessons, please email Mrs Bunker: nbunker@lancing.org.uk

Noticeboard

Senior Schools

It's the time of year when thoughts begin to turn to life after LPH at 13+ and parents may well be contemplating a range of senior schools in the area. This term, many are holding open events or opportunities for parents to visit or discuss options.

Lancing College has a number of small group meetings on a Saturday morning. For details and booking links please visit <https://www.lancingcollege.co.uk/lancing-college/admissions/open-mornings-and-sixth-form-evenings>

Brighton College are holding a virtual Open Morning on 22 January
<https://www.brightoncollege.org.uk/admissions/open-mornings/>

Hurstpierpoint College have limited availability right up to 2024 entry. Personal Visits/Open Morning attendance is via this page <https://www.hppc.co.uk/admissions/prospectus-open-morning-requests/>

Bede's are planning a senior school open morning on 19 March. See here for details
<https://www.bedes.org/open-morning>

As ever, please do talk to me about your choices, so that we can work together on the next step of your child's educational journey.

Mrs Keep

The School Calendar

As parents will know, events have been subject to change and sometimes at short notice in these uncertain times.

This is just a reminder that the online school calendar is the best place to check for the most up-to-date situation.

The calendar is available here:

<http://www.lancingprep-hovecalendar.org.uk>

The dates for this academic year are also online and for those parents who like to plan ahead, we have published our term dates for 2022-2023 (also shown on this page up to Spring Term 2023).

Both are available from our Information for Current Parents Page here:

<https://www.lancingcollege.co.uk/prep-hove/information-current-parents>



Term Dates 2022-23

Spring Term 2022

Half term from Friday 11 February 2022
usual collection times,
re-starting Monday 21 February 2022
Term ends Friday 25 March 2022

Summer Term 2022

Term starts Wednesday 20 April 2022
Bank Holiday Monday 2 May 2022
Half term from Friday 27 May 2022
usual collection times,
re-starting Monday 6 June 2022
Term ends Friday 8 July 2022

Autumn Term 2022

Term starts Monday 5 September 2022
Half term from Friday 14 October 2022
usual collection times,
restarting on Monday 31 October 2022
Term ends Friday 9 December 2022

Spring Term 2023

Term starts Wednesday 4 January 2023
Half term from Friday 10 February 2023
usual collection times,
re-starting Monday 20 February 2023
Term ends Friday 24 March 2023

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about CRYPTOCURRENCY

What is cryptocurrency?

Cryptocurrency is software enabling the exchange and storage of digital 'coins' representing financial value. To monitor who owns which coins, platforms save an online record of every transaction, called a 'ledger' or 'blockchain'. This is secured by cryptography: a set of methods for protecting sensitive information. Bitcoin, released in 2009, was the first cryptocurrency; other platforms have since launched such as Ethereum, Tezos and Filecoin. As cryptocurrency becomes a more established part of digital life, young people are bound to encounter it – so it's vital that trusted adults understand its risks, and how it can be explored and used safely.

COMPLEX TECHNOLOGY

Like any new software, cryptocurrency comes with bugs, flaws and limitations. Broadly, it hasn't yet evolved to be as user friendly as web browsing or social media. Using it safely means spending time learning about the complicated technology it uses. We would strongly suggest anyone considering getting involved in cryptocurrency should consult specialised tutorials to learn about it properly in advance.

WIDESPREAD EXAMPLES

Cryptocurrency software for smartphones is often free to download from app stores. Emails with links to cryptocurrency services can land in any inbox. Cryptocurrency is also advertised on search engines, on social media and in online games (for example to buy add-ons which help players level up). It can't be purchased easily without a credit card or bank account, but young people will still be exposed to cryptocurrency in various settings.

CHANCE OF SCAMS

Cryptocurrency provides another opportunity for scammers to extract personal data and money from unwary web users. Unlike credit card transactions or wire transfers, a bank can't reverse cryptocurrency transactions after a suspected fraud – making it an appealing channel for online extortion. These transactions do leave evidence in the blockchain, however, which means that cryptocurrency scammers can and do get caught.

BEING LOCKED OUT

If you forget your online banking password, you can reset it by proving your identity in another way. In the world of 'crypto', however, the private key to access your funds can't be reset. Cryptocurrency operates without intermediaries like banks – so no-one stores a copy of users' private keys. This has security benefits, but also presents the huge risk of permanently losing access to your account. Learn how to store private keys securely before purchasing any significant amounts of cryptocurrency.

RISKY INVESTMENT

Prices can be very volatile, so cryptocurrencies are considered high-risk investments. If you might need your savings soon, don't hold them in cryptocurrency as their value could drop suddenly and sharply. Sometimes, cryptocurrency may be a profitable investment – but note that any gains are taxable. You may even have to pay tax when exchanging one cryptocurrency for another if the currency you're exchanging is priced higher than it was when you bought it.

Advice for Parents & Carers

AVOID IF UNSURE

In the UK, cryptocurrency is considered risky, because users aren't well protected if something goes wrong. Most cryptocurrencies use software developed by decentralised communities, so there's no customer service and no support if your funds get stolen or you lose access to your mobile cryptocurrency wallet. Unless you understand cryptocurrency, it's probably best not to use it. After all, if you couldn't comprehend the highway code, it wouldn't be safe for you to drive.

EXPECT EXPOSURE

If your child plays online games that involve some form of virtual currency, and has access to some kind of payment method, they may find themselves in a position to buy and use cryptocurrency. There's probably no immediate danger, but discussing the potential risks with them could be useful. If your child is old enough to understand the concepts of spending and saving or to grasp the basics of programming, then they're old enough to learn about cryptocurrency.

CHECK CREDENTIALS

Buying cryptocurrency for the first time involves wiring funds from your bank to a cryptocurrency exchange – a business that converts your money into cryptocurrency. They can also store cryptocurrency for you, though this could present a security risk. Cryptocurrency businesses in the UK must now comply with money laundering regulations: the Financial Conduct Authority's website has a list of all business that are approved, and it's best to avoid dealing with any that aren't.

STAY CAUTIOUS, STAY INFORMED

Approach cryptocurrency with caution as well as curiosity. Don't click on links in unexpected emails referring to cryptocurrency and beware of promotions promising free cryptocurrency in exchange for personal information. Avoid mentioning on social media that you own cryptocurrency, as this can attract scammers. Stay informed of potential new risks and regulations by regularly checking specialised sources (such as CoinDesk).

Meet Our Expert

JP Vergne is an educator and associate professor at University College London's School of Management. His award-winning research on technology and organisation has been published in leading academic journals as well as in two books. JP is also a speaker and advises on startups. He tweets at @PirateOrg.



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