#### Message from Mrs Keep

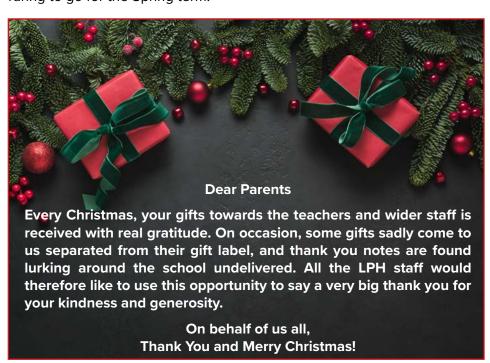
Under crisp sunlit blue skies, the autumn term drew to a close at LPH in fine style.

The final week was a whirlwind week of nativities, christingles and christmas feasts, the highly competitive Christmas Tree House decorating competition (congratulations to Lavies for a superbly elaborate vision in blue), the House Christmas Song competition (congratulations to the joint winners, Youngs and Lavies), a visit from Santa himself, and finally our two carol services at the Church of the Good Shepherd.

Amidst all the jollity, it was good to see the generosity of our school community with the delivery of a veritable mountain of contributions to the Love in a Box campaign run by the YMCA Downslink and our collections at the end of the services at CoGS will benefit the charities the school is supporting this year, and those being supported by the church.

The autumn term is always the longest in the school year and it has certainly been packed full of activities. Now it's time to start to think of time to be spent with our families and friends as we reflect on the joy that this time of year brings.

May I wish you all a calm and peaceful Christmas and New Year and look forward to welcoming the children back after the break, refreshed and raring to go for the Spring term.



#### **Notices are on Page 14**







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#### **Pre-School**

It has been a very festive couple of weeks in Pre School. On 1 December the classroom became very Christmassy; a tree was put up and decorations were made. The children made Christmas tree-themed cards and we walked to the post box to post them home.

The children have received a message from the elves every day. They often seem to leave a chocolate coin in the calendar, but it can only be eaten if the children can work out what day it is!











#### **EYFS Nativity**

The Pre-School and Reception children worked very hard on their Christmas songs and dancing for their Nativity, which they performed twice with great aplomb to packed audiences of parents.













#### Year 1

The children have been collaborating in small groups to create fact files based on the knowledge that they have gained through this half term's topic of Space.

We linked this with our Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) by asking children to work with new learning partners. This enabled some children to build new skills and overcome any challenges that moving out of their comfort zone may pose.

Adults are delighted to report that all the small teams worked exceptionally well; sharing facts they knew, looking in books, using ipads to research planets and deciding between them who would be the reader, note taker or technician! By working together, the children were enthusiastic, productive, proactive, making their own decisions, respecting each other's views and being adaptable, to name a few skills we observed! Excellent work!









#### **Pre-Prep Nativity**

The children have enjoyed performing a more traditional Nativity story this year and were exemplary in their dedication to rehearsals. From Roman soldiers, shepherds and their flock, and innkeepers to angelic dancers, kings and of course Mary & Joseph, they captivated the hearts of their families.











#### Year 3

After learning about Victorians all term, the day we had all been waiting for, some with excitement and others with trepidation, arrived! The children looked truly Victorian in their costumes, and we couldn't have been more impressed with how they took to the 'learning' style. We did stop for a 2022 dance break and discussed how lucky we felt to being taught in this modern era. We also noticed the difference in sounds in the classroom - the scratching of the chalk on slate and the absolute silence surrounding that! We finished the day, to the children's delight, with Queen Victoria's favourite treat - Victoria sponge!





#### **Christingle Service - Years 3 and 4**

The children at the lower end of the Prep School undergo a bit of a transition for their Christmas service. Year 3 have moved on from Pre-Prep and this is their first year not in Nativities.

Both Years 3 and 4 instead put on a wonderful Christingle, focusing on the light at the heart of Christmas celebrations.

It was lovely to have some of the older pupils in the school orchestra and choir join us for the Christingle service, before the more traditional Christmas services held for pupils Year 5 and above at the very end of term.











#### Primary Maths Challenge for Years 5 and 6!

In November, the children took part in the Primary Maths Challenge, a national competition for pupils in these year groups. We got some fantastic results!

Huge congratulations to Dino (Y5) and Luca (Y6) for achieving a gold certificate!

Well done to the following who achieved silver: Fin (Y6), Max H (Y5), Otto (Y5) and William (Y5).



Finally, well done to following pupils who achieved a bronze certificate: Beau (Y6), Bobby (Y6), George (Y6), Raphael (Y6), Joel (Y6), Heja (Y6), Alan (Y5), Luca (Y5), Maisie (Y5) and Stanley (Y5).

We will hear in the new year who has achieved scores high enough to go through to the next round, watch this space!

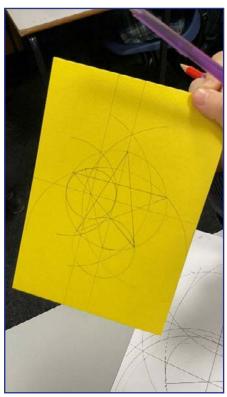
#### 'Girls in Maths' event at Lancing College

All our Year 8 girls in 8 and those in 7L participated in a morning of 'Girls in Maths' at Lancing College. Studies show that girls are less likely to pursue a career in STEM, and we are determined to do our part to change this!

The girls participated in four different workshops hosted by Maths teachers from Lancing College. These were aimed at encouraging risk taking in Maths which included tracking a zombie apocalypse!

Other highlights included Ella explaining patiently to Mrs Wheeler an answer to a question about socks, hot chocolate in one of the day houses and a chat with a girl Sixth former studying A-Level Maths. We're already looking forward to next year's event.





#### **Geography Gameshow returns for Years 7 and 8**

Neal from Cape Cod, USA returned after a couple of COVID affected years to perform his wonderful Geography Gameshow! He has combined his love of geography and travel with his talent for art to create a wonderful interactive experience! He draws incredibly detailed maps from memory and creates fun and engaging ways of remembering information with the draw of winning amazing prizes from his travels around the globe.

The Year 7 children experienced the Europe show and Year 8 pupils tested their knowledge with the world show. All the children (and some staff) were wowed by what they saw... It was a great way to improve their global location knowledge and have lots of fun in the process!











#### Tree Decorating at CoGS...

The Year 7 Art club pupils have been busy making decorations for the annual Christmas tree festival at The Church of the Good Shepherd. They chose a 'circles' theme inspired by a recent art workshop they took part in at Lancing College. Leina M, Maia B, Arran D-K & Reuben S went over to the church to put the decorations in place and the tree looked super!





#### ... and Tree Decorating at LPH

The annual House Christmas Tree Competition took place with some inspired decoration making. Congratulations to Lavies for their resplendent blue entry!









#### **Christmas Music**

Our choir, brass ensemble and orchestra were in full flow at our Christmas celebrations!













#### **Christmas Lunches**

Our children love their food at LPH and the Christmas feasts this year were simply superb! There was some great singing by the pupils too; we were impressed with their extensive knowledge of Christmas lyrics from Wham's iconic 'Last Christmas' to Mariah Carey's evergreen 'All I want for Christmas is You'. Huge thanks to our wonderful catering team who pulled out all the stops for these meals.



















#### **House Song Competition**

The Teams! Well done to joint winners Youngs and Lavies









#### **Year 8 Panto**

We can't bring you photos of the Staff Panto sadly but Year 8 had great fun doing their own Nativity panto, which they performed with gusto in the studio to the younger pupils.



#### **Notice Board**



Term Dates for the remainder of this academic year 2022-23 and the start of 2023-24 are shown below:

#### 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

#### Summer Term 2023

Term starts Tuesday 18 April 2023

Bank Holiday Monday 1 May 2023 & Monday 8 May 2023

Half term from Friday 26 May 2023 usual collection times, re-starting Monday 5 June 2023 Term ends Thursday 6 July 2023

#### Autumn Term 2023

#### Inset Day Monday 4 & Tuesday 5 September

Term starts Wednesday 6 September 2023

Half term from Friday 20 October usual collection times, re-starting Monday 6 November 2023 Term ends Friday 15 December 2023 12.00 noon

#### Spring Term 2024

#### Inset Day Friday 5 January 2024

Term starts Monday 8 January 2024

Half term from Friday 9 February usual collection times, re-starting Monday 19 February 2024 Term ends Friday 22 March 2024

### The 12 Online Safety Tips of Christmas

# FOR CHILDREN WITH NEW DEVICES

Christmas is almost upon us once again, and soon some lucky children will be excitedly tearing the wrapping off a new mobile phone, tablet or games console. For some of them, it will be the first time they've owned a device that connects them to the online world. Even for older children, a new device means new corners of the digital landscape to explore – and, unfortunately, new risks to be aware of.

We've put together our top tips so that you can guide your young ones in enjoying their new digital gifts safely and responsibly throughout the year to come.

Merry Christmas!

### ALWAYS SET • A PASSWORD

If your child's new device has a password protection feature, use it! It'll help to keep their private information safe and will deny others access to their device without permission. Your children's passwords should be something memorable to them – but something which other people can't guess (it's also a good idea for parents to write it down in case it gets forgotten!).

### 2. SET UP TO PARENTAL CONTROLS

This really is an essential when your child gets a new device, so they're protected from the outset. Most phones, tablets and consoles allow you to customise their settings to determine which games your child can play, how they can communicate (and who with), what content they can access and so on. It will give you peace of mind that they can't inadvertently do something they shouldn't.

### **3.** PAY ATTENTION TO AGE RATINGS

One of the first things children want to do with any new device is play games and explore apps. Before they download anything or install a new console game, check its age rating. Many popular games and apps have content that's not suitable for younger ages. The safest long-term solution is to adjust the device's settings so they can only download and use games and apps appropriate for their age.

### 4. KEEP NUMBERS ? AND DEVICES PRIVATE

Make sure your child understands that they should never share their phone number with someone they don't know or accept a friend request from them. They should also appreciate that it's a good idea to mainly keep their device out of sight, never lend it to a stranger, and never put it down somewhere that other people could steal it or take it to use without asking.

## 5. HAVE 'THE MONEY CONVERSATION'

Before your children start using their new device in earnest, talk to them about in-app purchases and other ways that money might be spent through their device. Once they understand, you might want to agree on a spending limit and reassure them that they can come to you if they're uncertain, or if they have made a purchase by accident.

# 6. DISCOURAGE DEVICE DEPENDENCY

Of course, children who've just got a new device will naturally want to spend as much time on it as possible. But whether they're zapping bad guys, watching videos or connecting with friends, it's easy for them to get attached very quickly. Gently remind them that having family time, going outdoors and getting some exercise are still fun, too. And the device will be there when they get back.

### 7. EXPLAIN SECURE WIFE NETWORKS

Your home WiFi is protected by a password that only your family knows, whereas public networks (like those found in coffee shops, for example) can be accessed by anyone. It's important that your child grasps this difference because, if they're using a portable device on an unsecured network, then a hacker could access their personal information without them even knowing.

#### 8. LIMIT SCREEN TIME

Using a device for too long, especially just before bed, can interfere with a child's sleep quality and reduce their concentration and overall enthusiasm. It might be helpful to agree on certain times of day when they don't use their device. Most devices' settings let you specify a screen-time limit, helping your child to stay fresh and focused in order to perform well at school.

# 9. BLUETOOTH DEVICES

Your child may want to connect to another device via Bluetooth, so they can listen to music wirelessly or share pictures and videos with nearby friends. But if they use Bluetooth to link with a device that they don't know, they're at risk of a stranger being able to see their personal information or having someone transmit a virus onto their device.

### 10. TURN LOCATION SETTINGS OFF

It's safest to disable the device's location services (if it's a portable device) so your child doesn't inadvertently make other people aware of where they are. You can usually do this via the device's privacy control settings. Turning location settings off not only means your child's whereabouts can't be tracked by others, it also significantly extends battery life.

### STAY AWARE OF • THE SURROUNDINGS

It's quite common to see adults not looking where they're going while engrossed in their phone. Children are even more easily distracted. In some cases, children have been hit by cars or cyclists because they were staring at their device and lost track of where they were. Remind your child that screens and walking don't mix. If they need to use their device, they should stop in a safe place first.

### 12. BE THERE IF THEY

Even when you've made a device as secure as you can, there's still a possibility of your child seeing something that bothers them, or someone they don't know attempting to contact them. If this happens, listen to their concerns, empathise and reassure them. Once they've explained what happened, you can decide if you should take further action like blocking or reporting another user.











