



Primary Newsletter: Spring 1 -

A message from Mr Tharme:

Dear parents, carers and the wonderful children of Livingstone Academy,

I have had such a wonderful time working with the staff and children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 this term and I am always blown away by the positivity, kindness and engagement that I see.

Our Reception children are busy learning everyday and making incredible progress in their reading and writing. It was also so lovely to see them visiting the local shops to apply their learning. It was so lovely seeing so many happy and engaged Year 1 children presenting their work to their parents all about the Ocean and I have been so lucky to join Year 2 on their local walks to learn all about towns, rivers and coasts this term. It is wonderful to witness the children's learning coming to life!

Thank you to all of the parents for your patience, understanding and support as we try to improve the road safety around our academy. We are really pleased with how this change has improved the drop-off and collection part of the day and will be continuing to do this until a more permanent solution is in place.

Home learning in Primary has been launched this half term and we are receiving positive feedback from the children and families who are engaging positively with the new apps provided. It is lovely to see the children getting competitive with their times tables learning too! Please do ensure that you are promoting this at home. We are providing an excellent and important opportunity for your child to develop their fluency in reading and maths to enable them to access all learning.

Finally, we continue to receive such positive feedback from our families and wider community through parent forum, on the school gate and most importantly, from the big smiley faces that enter school every day!

If you can, please do complete our Parent Survey: <https://forms.gle/jyEV5rQCWkxPVCkz5>

Warm regards,

Mr Tharme



A message from Mrs Joiner:

It is hard to believe that we are now half way through the academic year! It feels like only yesterday that we were welcoming the children back from the summer holidays. The evenings are gradually becoming lighter, and before we know it, Spring will be upon us. The children have continued to work extremely hard this half term and continue to amaze us with their positive attitudes and growth-mindsets when faced with challenge. They are excited to share their newly learnt knowledge with both their peers and adults, and they have been showcasing their learning during their lessons and our assemblies.

Best wishes,
Mrs Joiner

Parent Forum

We held our second successful Parent Forum for parents: an opportunity for parents to share their suggestions to support improvements to school and listen to our new incentives and initiatives we have planned. This term we discussed attendance and improving punctuality across the academy, as well as what home learning will look like for Primary pupils. We look forward to sharing our plans with you in an additional letter. Our next parent forum is **19.03.2024** - we hope to see as many of you there as possible.

Assemblies:

This term we have had many exciting assembly opportunities. We were visited by Keith Jewell who talked to us about respect and the importance of it, and what this might look like both in and outside of school. We learnt about safety around railways and why it is important to know what the signs and symbols mean, as well as Stranger Danger. We would advise you to talk to your child about who their safe adults are, and where there are safe places near you if help is needed.

We also had our Livingstone lecture by Mr Ian Livingstone himself, which was live streamed for pupils to watch. Some of our children in Year Two watched the lecture and have 'reported' back, sharing their news report with their classmates.

This term we have also started our singing assembly with Mr Butler, our music teacher. We have started learning the song Proud by Heather Small, a song we feel is very appropriate as our Primary pupils make us proud each and every day. The children are really enjoying learning the lyrics and singing along with Mr Butler and his piano.



Photography:

Mr Girling, one of the secondary teachers, and a professional photographer, visited Primary to capture some wonderful memories of the fun and learning that takes place each and every day. We hope to display these within the academy, as well as on the school website, in the not too distant future.

What have we been up to this term?

Reception:

Once upon a time there were two reception classes who loved learning traditional tales. The children learnt about the plot (what happens), the characters (who is in the story) and the setting (where the story takes place). We have been so impressed with the children's ability to perform the stories, remembering the repeated phrases.

During our week studying *The Gingerbread Man*, the children wrote a shopping list and visited the local shop to purchase the ingredients, handling money and speaking clearly to the shopkeeper. They also remembered our road safety learning. Back at school, they followed the instructions and made some delicious ginger biscuits.

The children also visited Bournemouth Library where they were introduced to the range of books and activities available. If you haven't already done so, please join the library this holiday as the children would love to come back and collect their reserved book.





Year 1:

It has been a jam packed half term in Year 1! During the half-term, the children have embarked on an exciting journey, exploring the fascinating world of the oceans. From the depths of the sea to the creatures that call it home, they've delved into the wonders of marine life through a series of engaging and immersive learning experiences. The children have enjoyed learning our '5 Oceans song' and they have been singing along with it in every lesson. The ending of our exploration of the oceans was the acclaimed Oceanarium Showcase, where our students shared their learning and creativity with their school community.

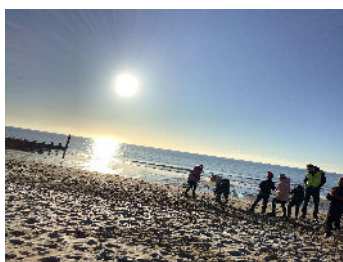
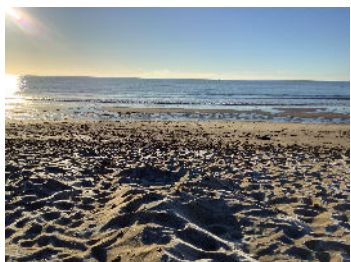


Another exciting activity this term has been cooking lessons with Mrs Ross. Cooking is not only a valuable life skill but also a fun and educational activity that promotes creativity, teamwork, and healthy eating habits. We believe that by teaching children how to cook, we are empowering them to make nutritious choices and develop a lifelong appreciation for good food. We are excited to report all the positive feedback from both classes; the children came back to class always very proud of their work and it was lovely to see how excited they were to be able to share with their families.

In PE, the children have explored the amazing world of dancing and they have learnt different styles and techniques, focusing on improving their coordination, rhythm and balance. They have put so much effort in learning their routines that they were extremely excited to share with you the amazing work they have done - we hope you enjoyed the performance!

We would like to wish you all a lovely half term holiday; we hope it will be filled with moments together and a nice occasion to recharge ready for our next exciting learning adventure!

Year 2:



The children have had yet another busy term learning about Bournemouth, and exploring the key features of beaches, towns, and rivers. We have enjoyed a number of walks around the local area and the children have applied their learning in a real world context. On our most recent walk, the children took the most phenomenal photos of the beach - it was a chilly but beautiful winters' morning! The children have also been using atlases to locate the capital cities and the key features of the United Kingdom. They particularly enjoyed singing about this learning - scan the QR code for a catchy geography song!



In science this term, we have been learning about everyday materials. The children have planned and conducted a number of investigations to test whether materials are waterproof, transparent, or opaque. Each group worked as a team to predict what may happen before the test, and communicated their ideas to form conclusions; all important skills when working as a scientist.



In English, we have been focusing on writing to inform whilst using the photos taken on our geography walks as a stimulus for writing. The children have worked towards creating a documentary about Bournemouth, encouraging people to visit and informing them about all the wonderful places you can visit in the area. Within their writing, the children had to build a paragraph which included coordinating and subordinating conjunctions and a number of different sentence structures. Scan the QR code below to view one of our documentary creators reading their informative piece about Bournemouth.





We look forward to welcoming the children back to school, refreshed and ready for another term of creativity and learning. Enjoy the break!

Reading Books

Please ensure your child's Little Wandle book is returned each morning in your child's school bag. This book cannot remain at home because it needs to be read at school each day.

If books are not returned, on the first occasion your child will receive a reminder slip. If books are not returned after two occasions then we will require a payment to cover the cost of replacing the book. However, if books are still not returned after three occasions, physical books will no longer be sent home and will instead be replaced with our Collins ebooks.

Reminder: Please note that on a Friday, your child will not have their Little Wandle book in their book bag as teachers will collect these in. Instead, your child will come home with a library book for you to read as a family over the weekend. You are already familiar with this routine as these books are sent home to promote reading for pleasure; they are chosen by the children and can be used as a bedtime story. Please ensure you record your child's reading in their Reading Log - this can be reading their Little Wandle book, shared book or any book you have at home.