



Spring Term 2 - 2023

Dear Parents/ Carers,

As we come to the end of another busy term, it's lovely to be able to look back at some of the fantastic opportunities our children have had...

Well done to Toby (Firefly Class) for winning the February newsletter challenge. For the **March challenge**, we have three questions to answer based on the newsletter (see below)

News

**New Arrivals:** As you may have been aware, earlier this term we interviewed for a Deputy Head. The governors and I were delighted to appoint two fantastic deputies and this will help to expand our leadership team going forward. Mrs Page, who has been a great leader and support in her role as Acting Deputy over the last year, will now hold one of the posts permanently and she will focus on pastoral care across school.

Mrs Cocks, who is joining us from a school in Newmarket, will take on the other deputy position and she will have more of a focus on teaching and learning and our curriculum. We very much look forward to welcoming Mrs Cocks after Easter.

**Staff Leaving:** Sadly, Mrs Buckle will be leaving us after the Easter break. She has been such an amazing teacher for Wombat Class, who I know will really miss her next term - as will all the staff who have absolutely loved working with her! Mrs Fancy will now be teaching four days a week in Wombat Class and we look forward to welcoming Miss Francis back (a former teacher here) to teach on Thursdays. I'm sure Mrs Buckle will pop back to properly say goodbye to the class after Easter and I dare say she'll pop in and see how they're all getting on throughout the term.

March Experiences

**Chick-hatching:**

This was such a wonderful experience that the whole school community got behind. Lots of parents were following on our live 'Chick Cam' - I counted 22 people still logged in watching the first couple of chicks hatch at 10:30pm one evening (long after most of the children would be asleep). All children got to see the chicks with their classes and most had the opportunity to hold them. Mrs Lewis and Dawn (one of our cleaners) were able to rehome the chicks at the end of the experience so we can still see updates of how they're getting on... who knows, maybe a couple can visit school again soon!



**Year  $\frac{3}{4}$  trip to High Lodge:** Children in Y3/4 went to High Lodge for a school trip. Whilst there, they took part in a bug hunt, music trail, nature walk (and obviously spent a bit of time exploring the play parks!) It was a really lovely day and the children were a credit to the school!



### **Year ½ trip to Mountfitchet Castle**

Children in KS1 went to visit Mountfitchet Castle and Toy Museum. They had a fantastic day exploring the grounds, learnt about toys throughout history and had close encounters with the livestock at lunch!



### **Year 5/6 - Live Author Event**

Children in Y5/6 took part in a live virtual author event. The author, Dr Maggie Aderin Pocock, has published various books about space and children were able to send in questions for her to answer.

### **Tag Rugby Festival**

We were able to take a group of children from Y3/4 to a Tag Rugby festival at Newmarket Rugby Club. Children had the opportunity to develop skills and work together as a team. They even got to hold the Rugby Union Premiership Trophy and meet a player from Leicester Tigers.



**Writing Competition:** Mrs Knight's annual writing competition took place, inspired by our author visit last month. Children had the chance to enter a story based on 'The Funny Life of....' We had 45 entries and it was a really tough competition to judge. All children that entered have received a voucher to wear non-uniform on **Friday 21<sup>st</sup> March** and the winners and runners up also received a lovely goody bag full of prizes and treats!

### **Gifted and Talented Maths Experience**

Four children in Y6 went for a Maths workshop run by A.I.M and hosted at Elveden Academy. They had to take part in Maths challenges throughout the day involving some fun problems and puzzles.



### **Lakenheath's Got Talent Show**

We've had such a fantastic morning today watching our school talent show. All children were given the opportunity to perform a talent in front of their year groups. We had some excellent auditions and the best 2 or 3 acts in each class got to perform in front of the school on our last day of term. The teachers even got in on the act! Check out some of the highlights on our school Facebook page soon.

### **School Dinners/ Breakfast Club**

Unfortunately, as we start a new financial year, the governing body have had to make the difficult decision to increase some of the costs for breakfast club and school dinners. We appreciate that everyone has been affected by the cost of living increases and sadly our school budget is no different. In order to cover our own expenditures our new prices have to be as follows:

**Breakfast Club: £3.50 (£1.50 for children in receipt of Pupil Premium).**

**School Dinners: £2.60**

However, our caterers are now offering more choices for school dinners including a cold option for all children. Please see the new menu for details which will be emailed to you before the new term.



## Family Wellbeing Store

### Fill a Bag for a Fiver!

**Fourth Monday of the Month at 9am to 11am**

**School Assembly Hall (access through the side entrance)**

A monthly drop-in especially for Lakenheath Primary School parents and carers to collect food essentials and other practical items to support family life (eg food, household items, toiletries, baby supplies, toys, games, books, clothes, etc.)

Recommended contribution of £5 to fill a large bag or storage trolley with various family items. (Bags and trolleys are provided). There will also be a café area with free refreshments and support and information available from our local NHS Social Prescriber.

#### Forthcoming Dates:

**Monday 27<sup>th</sup> February, Monday 27<sup>th</sup> March,**

**Monday 24<sup>th</sup> April, Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> May,**

**Monday 26<sup>th</sup> June, Monday 17<sup>th</sup> July**

### EPIC Dad Well-being Store:

With thanks to EPIC Dad, we've been able to provide another fantastic essentials store to support families with the ongoing cost of living. Word clearly got around after the first store in February as around 50 families were able to benefit from the opportunity. This store will be open again for families of school children on **Monday 24<sup>th</sup> April**.

### Parents' Evening:

Thank you to everyone who was able to attend parents' evening this week. During the evenings, a parent survey was available. **The results of this survey have been shared below.** Thank you so much for all your feedback and continued support!

**School Uniform:** Now we enter into the summer term, children may choose to wear summer uniform. Please see our website for our uniform policy. <https://www.lakenheath.suffolk.sch.uk>. Reminder: Hoodies are not part of our uniform policy and earrings should be studs only.

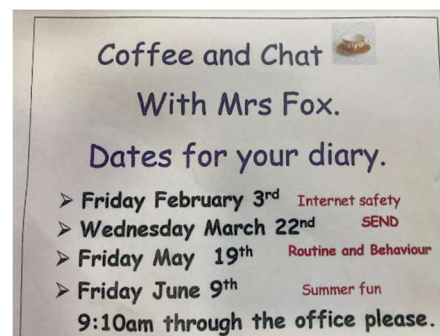
### Coffee and Chat:

Any parents/ carers are welcome to come to our "Coffee and chat" group with Mrs Fox at school on the dates shown. These provide a nice chance to chat with other parents, share worries or ideas, and to build a supportive network with other parents. Each session starts with a different theme albeit in a relaxed and informal way.

### Attendance:

Our attendance in school this year continues to increase gradually (93.9%) which is in line with the national picture (but still below our target). Thank you for your support with encouraging better attendance.

As always, when a child's attendance drops below 90% (equivalent of 1 day off every two weeks), letters are generated to encourage better attendance and the School Attendance Support Officer team become involved (formerly EWO).





**A few dates for the diary:**

- Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> April - Friday 14<sup>th</sup> April - Easter Holiday (children return on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> April)
- Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> May - Friday 12<sup>th</sup> May - Y6 SATS week (Y6 parents please avoid any appointments during the mornings of this week)
- Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> May - Early Years' 'Little City' experience
- Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> May - Sponsored Coloured Run - Details to follow
- Friday 19<sup>th</sup> May - Mrs Fox's coffee and chat group

Wishing you all a wonderful Easter break.



Yours sincerely,

Michael Tingey

Pass your answers to me on the gate after Easter for a chance to win a prize:

**March Newsletter Competition**

**Questions**

- 1) What is the name of our new Deputy Head teacher starting after Easter, alongside Mrs Page?
- 2) What was the name of the author that Y5/6 children listened to on a virtual 'meet an author' session?
- 3) How many children entered Mrs Knight's writing competition this year?

**Answers:**

Child's name:

Class:

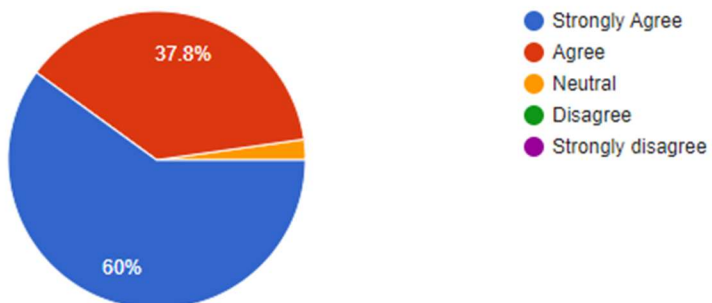




## Parents Survey: March 2023

My child is happy at LCPS

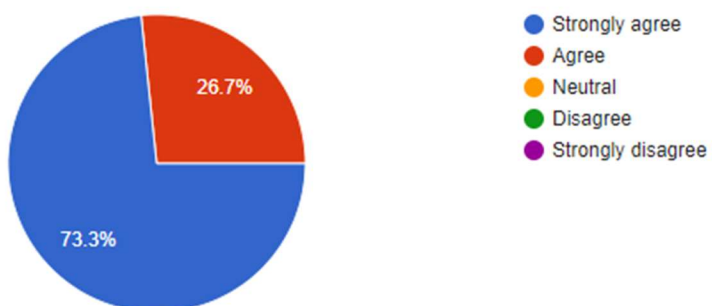
45 responses



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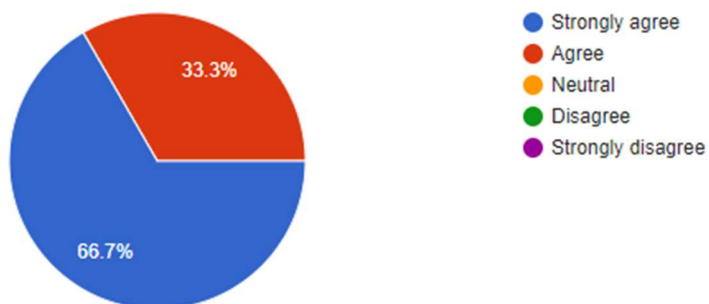
My child feels safe at school

45 responses



The school care about my child's wellbeing

45 responses

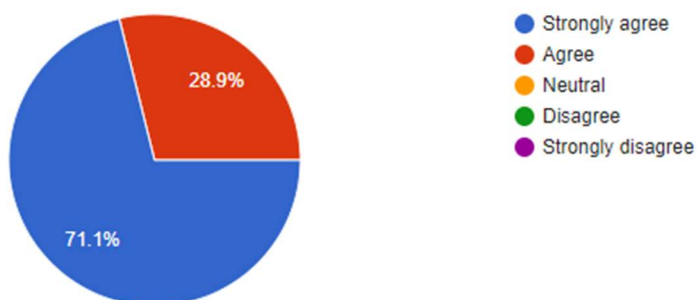




## NEWSLETTER ACADEMIC YEAR 2022-2023

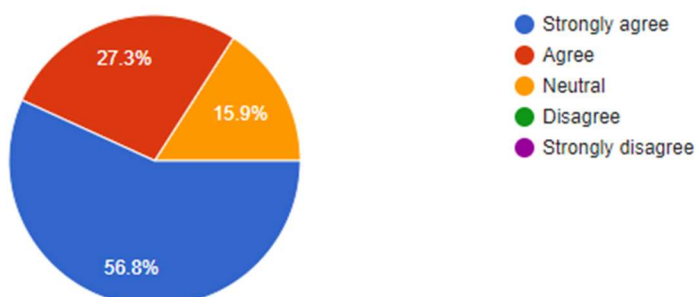
There is someone I can talk to at school if I have any concerns

45 responses



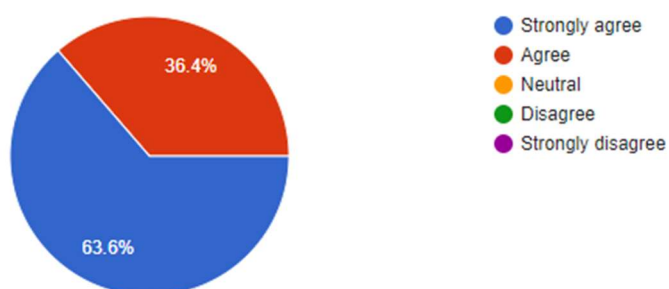
The school responds to any concerns raised in a timely fashion

44 responses



Staff expect my child to work hard and do their best

44 responses

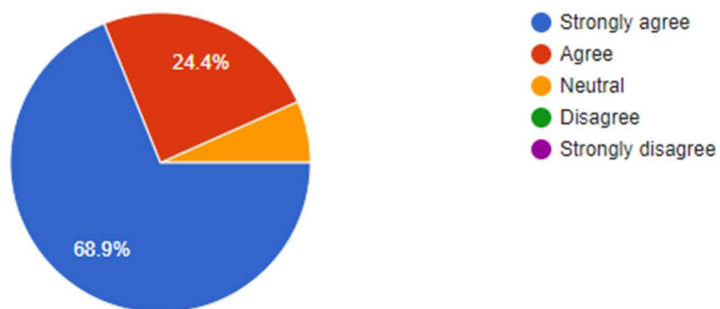




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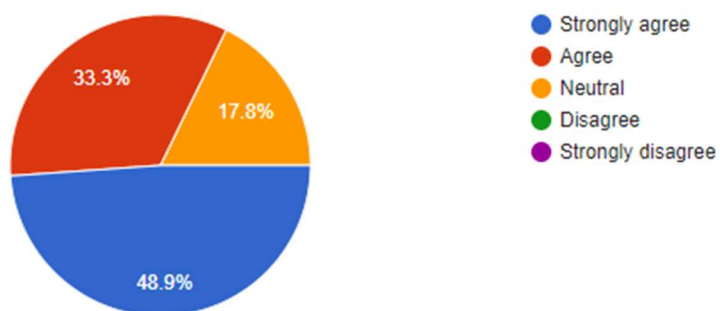
I am pleased with the progress my child is making

45 responses



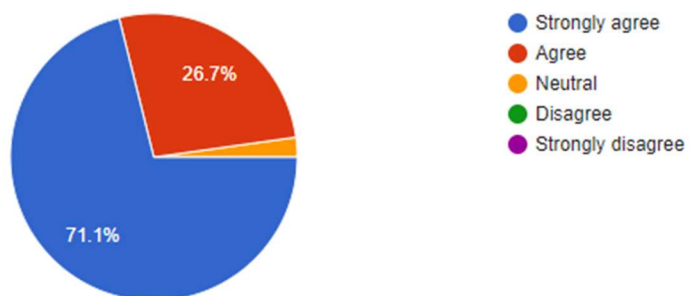
I am kept informed about what my child has been doing/ learning in school

45 responses



I would recommend this school to others

45 responses





### **All the general comments:**

"Amazing school, amazing staff, and it has been an amazing experience for all of my children."

"I'm so happy XXXX gets to be a part of such a lovely community, I look forward to the tapestry entries every week and can't praise the school and his teachers enough for the outstanding, over and above effort they put in week in and week out. Thankyou."

"XXXXXX loves coming to school, so much so that she doesn't want school holidays! All the staff at the school genuinely care about the children. As a parent, all you can hope for is that your child enjoys going to school and enjoys learning and ours does. ☺"

"The younger children such as year 3 and 4 should have more talks about bullying and being kind to each other."

"A very happy school, with lots of extra-curricular activities. My daughter loves it"

"Overall very happy with child's progress since starting school."

"Happy with the teaching and general work the school do for the kids, both with curriculum and extra-curricular activities."

"I could not fault Lakenheath primary school in any way. They are fantastic. Happy with how my girls have really come on leaps and bounds since starting. Teachers are all absolutely amazing!"