AUTUMN

LAPWORTH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

AUTUMN TERM 1
2026 - 2027 School Year

Mrs Pugh - Preschool Assistant
Congratulations on 25 years service!

WELCOME

So many exciting things have taken place this term. Parents evenings gave many of you a chance to look at your children's work and see how well your child has settled into their new school year.

Our Harvest assembly, which many of you attended and gave generously to, was closely followed by our Macmillan coffee afternoon which had a fabulous turnout raising just over £400!



A HUGE THANK YOU TO EVERYONE FOR YOUR INCREDIBLE GENEROSITY

READING CHALLENGE

Our reading challenge has started this year. Your child should have brought home a reading booklet to help track their progress. Children will be awarded for meeting milestones with certificates and badges. I look forward to see the badges worn with pride in school.

SCHOOL START TIME

A reminder that the school gate is open from 8:50am and school starts at 8:55am. Children should be in class for the start of the school day. Much of our essential reading and phonics skills are taught first thing so it is important that your child arrives at school promptly.

AUTUMN HIGHLIGHTS

Photographer - 10/11/2026
The photographer will be in school to take individual portraits and family group photos.

PTA AGM - 17/11/2026
The meeting will take place at school - all parents are welcome to attend.

School Disco - 10/11/2026
The PTA disco will take place in school - tickets can be booked via the PTA Events website.

SCHOOL LEADERS



Head boy and Head girl
Congratulations to our new Head boy and Head girl, Ted and Ella. They are both very proud to serve as role models and student ambassadors for the school.

IMPORTANT DATES

Oct 26-30 — **Half Term**
School closed

Nov 2 — **Inset day**
School closed

Nov 3-6 — **Interfaith Week**
Various school visits taking place.

Studybugs

In the event of your child being absent please report absences using Studybugs. Download the free app or register on the Studybugs website to inform school if your child is unable to attend.

BRACELET SALE

Well done to our Year 6 who have raised £235 by making and selling bracelets. Thank you to all of you who sent money in with your children to support the school.



UPCOMING CHRISTMAS ACTIVITIES

- Dec 4 — Panto in school - Beauty & the Beast
- Dec 9 — Rocksteady concert
- Dec 9 — Preschool Nativity
- Dec 10 — Reception / Year 1 Nativity
- Dec 10 — Carol concert - Yrs 2-6
- Dec 16 — Christmas dinner day
- Dec 17 — Church service
- Dec 17 — Class Christmas parties

ORCHARD

The children have been having lots of fun at Orchard Afterschool Club! 😊
We have been enjoying a variety of activities, giving the children plenty of opportunities to play, learn, get creative and spend time with their friends. Whenever we can, we love getting outside to enjoy some fresh air. Children have been making the most of outdoor play, keeping active and having fun.



Fun and Games

The children have been busy playing with magnetic toys, building with blocks, enjoying games of Connect 4 and creative colouring. Encouraging imagination, problem-solving, sharing, and turn-taking.

Halloween

With Halloween approaching, the children have been busy making their very own spooky ghosts! They have loved getting creative and making some Halloween decorations to help us get into the spooky spirit. 🎃

PRESCHOOL

It has been a pleasure to welcome back familiar faces and get to know our new children and their families. The children have settled quickly into our routines and are happily building friendships with staff and one another. Butterflies and Caterpillars have enjoyed spending time together, learning about emotions and feelings, and exploring ways to be kind and helpful to each other. We have also been discovering how nature changes in autumn. Walks around the school grounds and time at Forest School have given the children plenty of opportunities to investigate these changes and collect autumn treasures.

We all had a lovely morning at Little Dots Play Village. The children loved dressing up and exploring the role-play areas, while the adults enjoyed joining in and helping their imaginative ideas grow.

Butterflies have been making great progress during their carpet-time sessions. In phonics, they have been clapping out syllables in words, developing their listening skills and sound awareness. In maths, they have been learning about sorting and matching by exploring the similarities and differences between objects.

Butterflies also made us incredibly proud with their performance at the Harvest Festival. It was lovely to see them taking part with such enthusiasm - well done to them all! Next half term, we will be learning about celebrations. We will also begin preparing for our preschool nativity play, it's going to be an exciting and busy half term with lots to look forward to as we approach the festive season.





SAPLINGS

A big warm welcome to our new Reception class. It has been lovely to see them settle into our school, we are so impressed with how quickly they are following the new rules, routines and expectations. The children have enjoyed exploring all areas of their new classroom and making lots of friends.

Our topic has been Autumn and we have been reading lots of stories relating to this theme including the story 'The Little Red Hen'. We have talked about how farmers harvest the wheat from the field and then had fun making our own bread. The children enjoyed measuring their ingredients and kneading the dough. We hope you enjoyed sharing it with them.







Maths

In our maths lessons we have also been learning to subitise. The children have learnt that subitising means to look at a group of objects and realise how many there are without counting them. This works with small groups of objects up to five, so we have been using lots of different objects around the classroom. We have also started to understand to use the words 'more' and 'fewer'.

Phonics

We have made great progress in our phonics lessons; learning the letter sounds with rhymes to help us remember them. We are so pleased with how quickly the children have started learning the sounds and how they are writing them, well done Saplings😊 A big thank you for taking the time out of your day to attend our phonics workshop, hopefully this has helped you to be able to support reading and writing at home.





Harvest & Little Dots

Our Harvest assembly performance for 'The Enormous Turnip' was a big success with the children performing with such confidence after only 4 weeks in school. Saplings also enjoyed a visit from Little Dots play village last week and what a super time they had pretending to be vets, police, florists and more!

ASH

We have had a lovely first half term in Ash class.

Phonics & English

In Phonics we have been learning lots of new sounds and new spelling rules.

In our English lessons we have been reading 'Jasper's Beanstalk' by Nick Butterworth. The children wrote instructions for teaching someone how they could be a gardener.

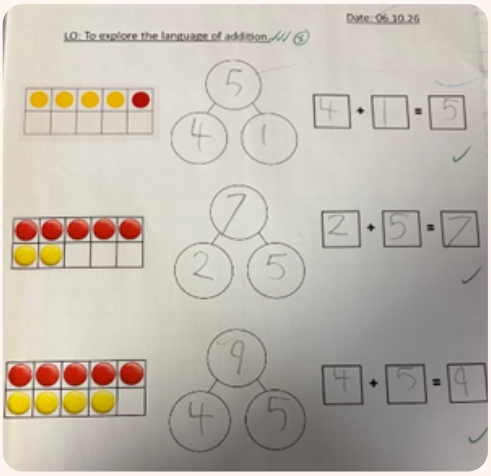
We have also enjoyed reading 'Puffin Peter' by Petr Horáček. We had great fun learning about puffins. Some of the fun facts we found out were that baby puffins are called Pufflings and a group of puffins is called a Circus.





DT

The children made some fantastic windmills in our DT lessons. We had to follow instructions to make them and attached all the different parts. We were really pleased with how they turned out.



Maths

During our Maths lessons we have been exploring part whole models and recalling different ways to make a number. We have also been solving addition and subtraction problems using the part whole model to help us too. The children have been trying really hard to make sure that all our numbers are correctly formed.

History

In History we have been learning all about our own timeline. We have ordered pictures from when were born to when we started in Year 1. We have talked about special things that had happened in our lives in between. We also enjoyed learning about birthday parties in the past and discussing similarities and differences.

BEECH

What a brilliant start to Year 2! The children have all settled in very well and have risen to the challenges of their new year group with enthusiasm. It has been lovely to see their confidence grow as they get to grips with new routines and learning.

Maths

In Maths, we have been consolidating our place value knowledge and exploring numbers up to 100. We have encouraged the children to think deeply about their mathematics, explain how they know an answer and make links between different parts of their learning. I have been particularly pleased with their willingness to share ideas and explain their thinking.

English

We started the year by reading Luna Loves Dance. The children used this story as inspiration to write stories about a character of their choice overcoming a problem. We had footballers, gymnasts and singers, with plenty of imaginative adventures along the way! The children worked through each stage of the writing process, planning their ideas, editing their work and finally writing up their stories in their best handwriting. They worked incredibly hard and produced some fantastic stories.

Science

We have been investigating different materials and their properties in our Science lessons. The children put their learning to the test by building houses for the Three Little Pigs, thinking carefully about which materials would make a strong, sturdy home. We then tested their creations to see whether they could withstand the huff and puff of the Big Bad Wolf! There was lots of excitement as the children discovered which houses stayed standing and discussed how they could improve their designs.





Well done Year 2

A real highlight of the half term was the children's fantastic performance of The Best Harvest Ever! Everyone joined in, remembered their lines and helped to put on a cracking performance. We were very proud of them, and hope you enjoyed watching it as much as we did!

The children have worked extremely hard this half term and should feel very proud of everything they have achieved. Thank you for your continued support.

MULBERRY

Mulberry Class have had a great start to Year 3! Moving into Key Stage 2 is a big step, and the children have settled in well. They are certainly a lively bunch who are never short of something to say! It's been lovely to see them growing in confidence and trying their best, even when things get a little tricky.

We've really enjoyed learning about The Stone Age this term, particularly during our trip to Compton Verney. The children had a fantastic day exploring Stone Age shelters, learning how to start fires using flints and grinding wheat to make flour amongst other things.





Science

In Science, we've been investigating different types of rocks, testing their properties and learning about the rock cycle. We've also enjoyed finding out about how fossils were formed.

English

Our English lessons have been based around Mini Rabbit Not Lost by John Bond, which inspired some lovely imaginative writing. The children have also enjoyed their first French lessons and are already getting to grips with greetings, and asking for and giving names.

RE

In RE, we've been looking at how nature and the seasons are important to people with different worldviews. We're looking forward to our visit to the Synagogue during Interfaith Week after half term.





Well done Year 3

It's been a busy first few weeks, and we're really pleased with how the children are getting on. They've worked hard and had plenty of fun along the way.

CHESTNUT

The children have made a fantastic start to Year 4. They have approached their learning with enthusiasm and determination. We are incredibly proud of all they have achieved so far. It has been a busy and exciting half term, filled with wonderful learning experiences. It has been lovely to see the children growing in confidence and developing new skills.

Maths

Throughout our Maths lessons, we have explored place value, addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. The children have worked hard to develop understanding and confidence when solving a variety of problems. They are also continuing to practise their times tables in preparation for the Multiplication Tables Check later in the year.

Science

We have focussed on States of Matter during Science. The children have thoroughly enjoyed exploring the differences between solids, liquids and gases through a range of exciting, hands-on experiments. They investigated melting points, observed fascinating chemical reactions and explored how gases behave. One of the highlights was making our own ice cream! It has been wonderful to see the children's curiosity and excitement as they developed their scientific understanding through practical investigations.

RE

In RE, we explored the question, how might our worldview lead us to do hard things for good reasons? The children shared ideas and considered how our beliefs and values can influence the decisions we make. They demonstrated maturity and respect when listening to different viewpoints and discussing ideas.

English

During our English lessons, the children have written and performed some fantastic persuasive speeches inspired by 'The King Who Banned the Dark.' They explored a range of persuasive techniques, took part in lively debates and developed their skills in presenting and expressing their opinions. Their ideas were very creative, covering topics such as protecting the environment and animals, encouraging others to start various sports and even thinking of different ways we can improve our school. We were very proud of their confidence and enthusiasm during their final performances.





Geography

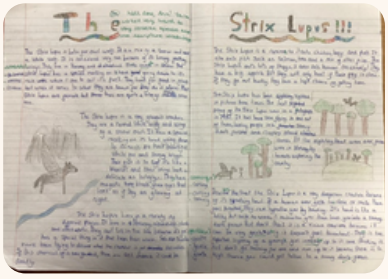
Our Geography learning has focused on rainforests. The children have discovered fascinating facts about these incredible habitats, exploring their features, the animals that live there and the importance of protecting them. They have developed a growing awareness of environmental issues and the need to preserve rainforests for future generations. It has been lovely to see their interest in conservation and caring for our planet grow throughout the topic.

Well done Year 4

It has been a wonderful start to Year 4. We are incredibly proud of their hard work and positive attitudes towards learning. We look forward to sharing more exciting experiences and celebrating their achievements throughout the year.

SYCAMORE

What a wonderful start to Year 5 we have had! It has been lovely to see the children settle so confidently into their new routines, embracing challenges and approaching their learning with excitment and growing independence.



Maths & Science

Maths has seen us tackling some tricky concepts, including place value up to 1,000,000, decimal numbers, negative numbers and multiplying by 10, 100 and 1,000. Our budding scientists have been busy investigating the properties of materials, carrying out practical experiments to explore reversible and irreversible changes.

Art

Creativity has certainly been on display in Art, where the children have explored 3D installations and worked together to construct imaginative sculptures using PE equipment. We had great fun getting messy with paint, creating our very own 'explosions in a box' inspired by the exciting work of artist Cai Guo-Qiang!





French

Our French lessons have also been full of fun, with the children applying their knowledge of masculine and feminine vocabulary to create some wonderfully imaginative 'French Monsters' fact files.

English

In English, the children have let their imaginations run wild, creating their own mythical creatures inspired by the chimera and producing some fantastic non-chronological reports.

History

In History, we have travelled back in time to the Viking era, discovering what life was like and exploring different perspectives through fascinating sagas.



Next half term...

We are incredibly proud of those who represented our school at the hockey tournament, demonstrating fantastic teamwork and sportsmanship. Looking ahead, we have another exciting half term planned! We will be heading to the French Alps in Geography, broadening our understanding of different faiths during Interfaith Week with a visit to the Gurdwara, and enjoying all the festive excitement that the build-up to Christmas brings.

OAK



We have learnt about the various responsibilities that come with being a Year 6 student, this includes the leading of the school's seven families in Family Time for all the children. Other responsibilities for some have included being part of the Worship Team; School Council, Maths ambassadors and, of course, Head Boy and Head Girl.

Many of the children now have the added role of Outdoor Ambassadors too, overseeing our terrific new resources for breaks and lunchtimes. Our responsibilities aren't just limited to these titles though; every one of us are aware of modelling to the younger children the right choices in our learning, attitudes and behaviour and this is something we will have high expectations for right until the end of our final Lapworth year.

Maths

In Maths, we have continued to use a range of strategies to enhance our learning, including focuses on long multiplication, word problems using the four operations and areas of triangles and parallelograms.

English

A suspense-filled start to English in Year 6 saw some truly terrific writing pieces being composed, based on the short story 'Night of the Gargoyles'. Our non-chronological reports about our own fictionalised planets followed this, as we researched our solar system's planets using this as a stimulus to create our own writing.

Science

In Science, one of the highlights was creating our own living creature which we then scientifically classified based on Carl Linnaeus' classification system.

History

History has seen us focus on the census as a historical resource, including conducting our own historical enquiry into the 1921 Census of Station Street in our own village!

Art

Our Art lessons have been focussed on photography which has been tremendous fun. The children have taken a variety of photographs inspired by famous photographers and artists to create their own in a similar style.





Macmillan Coffee Afternoon

Our Macmillan coffee afternoon ran really smoothly, the class received rave reviews from both parents and staff. Everyone, from cake sellers to those collecting the children from each classroom, played their part, and plenty of money was raised in return. Well done Year 6!

School Council & Leaders

School Council



Head girl and Head boy



Worship Group



Maths Ambassadors



Play Leaders



Eco Warriors



Outdoor Ambassadors



Wellbeing Ambassadors



PUMPKIN CARVING COMPETITION

Lapworth PTA would like to invite children to enter our pumpkin carving competition. This would be a great activity to keep children busy during the half term holiday. If your child would like to take part, please pay the entry fee of £1.50 per child via the PTA Events website. After checkout, we will email you instructions on how to enter.

Children should upload a photo of their carved or decorated pumpkin (ideally with them in the photo) using the link provided in the email by Monday 2nd November.



Please make sure the upload includes:

- *Child's full name*
- *Class name*

All children who enter will receive five family points and additional prizes will be awarded in three categories:

- *Early Years and Key Stage 1 (Butterflies, Caterpillars, Saplings, Years 1 & 2)*
- *Key Stage 2 (Years 3 - 6)*
- *Most imaginative design*

We look forward to seeing your creative and imaginative designs.

CONGRATULATIONS MRS PUGH!

We are delighted to let you know that Mrs Pugh has received a long service award for 25 years of employment with Warwickshire schools.

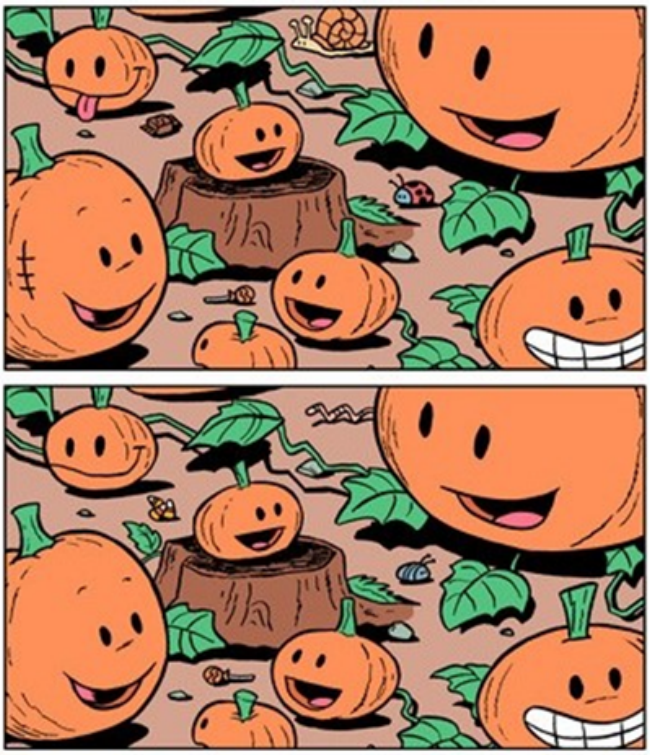


Mrs Pugh has worked at our school since 2001 and nurtured many of our youngest children in both Reception and more recently in preschool. I am sure your child has many fond memories of working with Mrs Pugh.



HALF TERM ACTIVITIES

Pumpkin Spot the difference:
Find 8 differences between the two pictures



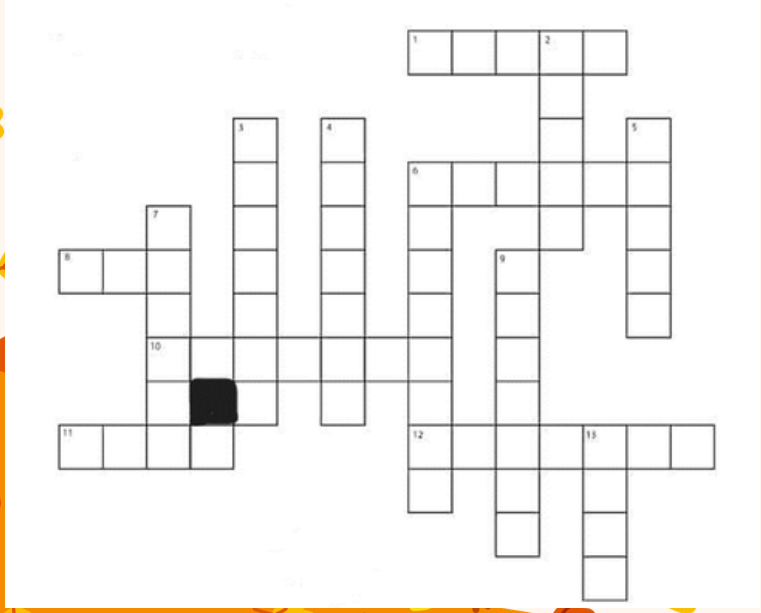
Halloween Word Search

B	P	C	P	K	H	Y	S	P	Y	L	T	R	C	E	F	Q
B	L	J	O	U	O	K	D	D	O	A	M	E	A	W	H	V
I	I	A	C	B	E	Z	E	N	E	I	G	T	U	Z	Y	G
P	W	M	C	L	W	T	C	R	A	J	R	S	L	M	W	P
E	F	W	E	K	N	E	T	H	A	C	E	N	D	J	S	C
F	M	T	U	U	C	R	B	F	Q	Q	P	O	R	M	R	B
S	O	U	A	K	O	A	H	C	T	I	W	M	O	S	B	U
N	Y	H	T	K	H	P	T	K	A	Q	Y	Q	N	A	V	D
W	D	F	C	S	W	K	L	N	I	K	P	M	U	P	S	Q
Z	A	I	W	W	O	V	A	M	P	I	R	E	V	A	P	J
B	R	P	E	U	K	C	B	M	F	J	N	G	S	U	O	A
T	Q	W	K	X	F	F	S	F	S	H	W	B	N	G	O	B
L	S	V	Y	Y	F	R	I	G	H	T	F	U	L	X	K	J
L	K	A	B	U	S	M	H	N	R	F	S	W	X	B	Y	P
K	F	W	K	G	Y	O	W	B	W	T	U	J	T	V	R	U
Q	T	G	H	V	S	N	C	J	S	U	W	Q	P	K	N	I
U	E	G	G	T	A	W	I	V	W	M	I	S	S	S	Q	E

BLACK CAT	FRIGHTFUL	SKELETON
CANDY	GHOST	SPOOKY
CAULDRON	HAUNTED	TRICK OR TREAT
COBWEB	MONSTER	VAMPIRE
COSTUME	PUMPKIN	WITCH



Halloween Word Search



Across:

1. She rides on a broom.
6. A _____ spins a web.
8. Something a ghost says.
10. He drinks blood.
11. You wear this to cover your face.
12. Halloween is always on the 31st of _____.

Down:

2. What do you get when trick or treating?
3. You wear this to go trick or treating.
4. Carving a _____ is a fun Halloween activity.
5. Trick or _____.
6. He is made of bones.
7. They like to howl at the moon.
9. You might see a ghost in a _____ house.
13. These flying animals come out at night.