



NEWSLETTER

DATE 27th January 2023



UP COMING DATES

Friday 10th February - Academy closes for February half term

Monday 20th February - INSET day

Tuesday 21st February - Academy opens for Spring 2

Please see our website for this year's term dates and INSET days:
<https://www.lofthousegate.outwood.com/term-dates-and-closures>

INSET days for 2023/2024:

Monday 4th September 2023

Friday 27th October 2023

Friday 22nd December 2023

Monday 22nd July 2024

One more INSET day to be confirmed

Reading at Lofthouse Gate

We love to promote a love of reading across the academy! Our Reading Ambassadors are extremely dedicated to their role and work alongside Miss Park to organise lots of engaging events. This includes: reading for pleasure sessions, keeping our bookshelves and book areas well stocked, assemblies, competitions and they are currently running their own reading club interest club! Our EYFS, Year 1 and Year 2 children have also loved the 'Read With Me' sessions so far. Thank you to all the adults who have been able to join us.



AGM

Thank you to those who joined our AGM meeting this month. Voted in were Sophie Berrie as Chair, Katrina Goodison as Treasurer and Alina Palethorpe as Secretary. Next meeting 8th February 6pm at OPALG.

Darling Reads

We are pleased to announce a new collaboration with a local, independent book shop, 'Darling Reads' in Horbury. On Thursday, 9th February, members from Darling Reads will be coming to host an assembly and visit our Reception classes for a storytelling session. Darling Reads are also going to hold a book sale in the hall on Thursday 9th February. This will be from 2.45-3.45pm and give 10% off each order! A letter was emailed out with full details. Please visit their website for more information:
<https://darlingreads.co.uk/>



Writing Competition

We are very excited to be taking part in the Canterbury Tales writing competition. The children will be given the opportunity to complete this in school but information was also emailed out for children to complete at home. More info can be found here: <http://chaucer.org.uk/the-canterbury-ales-writing-competition-2022-23-promises-promises/>

Questions and Queries

Children's safety and happiness is our ultimate goal. If you have any questions or queries, please speak to a member of staff or contact school via the admin email address enquiries@lofthousegate.outwood.com You can also phone (01924 821 160) and leave a message with your name, number and child's name.

Mental Health and Wellbeing

Our Mental Health and Wellbeing Champions have been very busy planning for Children's Mental Health Week (6-12 February). Please see the letter sent for further details on assemblies, activities, competitions, family workshops and a free meditation session for adults!

<https://www.lofthousegate.outwood.com/posts/5315>

Big Garden Birdwatch

Mrs Jagger and School Parliament introduced the RSPB's Big Garden Birdwatch and launched a competition for children to create a recycled bird feeder. Please see the letter sent for further details.

<https://www.lofthousegate.outwood.com/posts/5278>

We look forward to seeing which birds you spot and to see your creative bird feeders for our school garden.



Safeguarding

We continue to ensure our children are aware to 'Speak Out and Stay Safe', along with the PANTS rule. Please continue to have these conversations with your child/children at home and ensure they know the trusted adults they can speak to.

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/>



National Online Safety have a wealth of resources to support Internet Safety.

On Twitter, they share a weekly #WakeUpWednesday one-page guide on key up to date, key information for families.

For more information, visit their website <https://nationalonlinesafety.com/> or Twitter page (@natonlinesafety). Here is a link to January's guide:
<https://twitter.com/natonlinesafety/status/1615702344876044294/photo/1>

Our Digital Leaders created and hosted their own assembly on Digital Wellbeing. Please see their fantastic presentation and competition information here:
<https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1Otfjiff2m7QqbWRwYExRHc7jGCKceaFafKLERfi5-lo/edit?usp=sharing>

Safeguarding Lead: Mrs Hewitt

