

December 2023





Wowee! We made it!

Our very first full term with everyone in place and I couldn't be prouder. The children have worked their socks off with the curriculum, but more importantly, they have attended school and brought an absolute sparkle of magic with them in their own special way.

In addition to our wonderful Mrs Hill, at the start of term we welcomed new adults to school, Mrs Smith, Mrs Blurton, Mrs Moore, Miss B and Mrs Robertson. We couldn't have been so fabulous without them, thank you to our great team! All of the staff at Lake Haven work tirelessly to ensure that the children's needs are catered for at all times but also to go beyond this to make sure they feel safe, loved, nurtured and feel a sense of belonging. I just would like to say a huge thank you to them all, I am very grateful they continue the ethos and values that Lake Haven instill in us all.



We are building our team of adults from January where we welcome Mrs Randle (who has already started with our Owls class), Mrs Norton (who has been popping in - we have known Mrs Norton for years and she is perfect for our school), Mrs Bettoney and Mrs Burnham. Lots of new faces and names to learn, but all amazing people who will make Lake Haven even more of a special place to learn. Mrs Bettoney is coming in to devise a curriculum pathway to Key Stage 4 and enable our older children to stay at Lake Haven, in Years 10 and 11, and work towards GCSEs and ASDAN qualifications. This will also be in conjunction with the independent career curriculum that adheres to the Gatsby Benchmarks - this will provide our children with the equal opportunities that our mainstream pupils receive. We are excited to know Mrs Bettoney is coming to help Lake Haven develop this map for our older pupils and school.

			
Mrs Bettoney	Mrs Norton	Mrs Randle	Mrs Burnham

We have a staff training day on Friday 5th January and would like to welcome you between 2-3pm to come and meet the new teachers if you would like a prior hello before the children return to school on Monday 8th. This isn't compulsory, but we will be here and the kettle will be on with biscuits a plenty!

#### Classroom Staff from January

##### Squirrels:

Mrs Sarah Hill  
Mrs Emma Moore  
Mrs Gemma Burnham

##### Badgers:

Mrs Anne Norton  
Mrs Su Smith  
Miss Annie B

##### Owls:

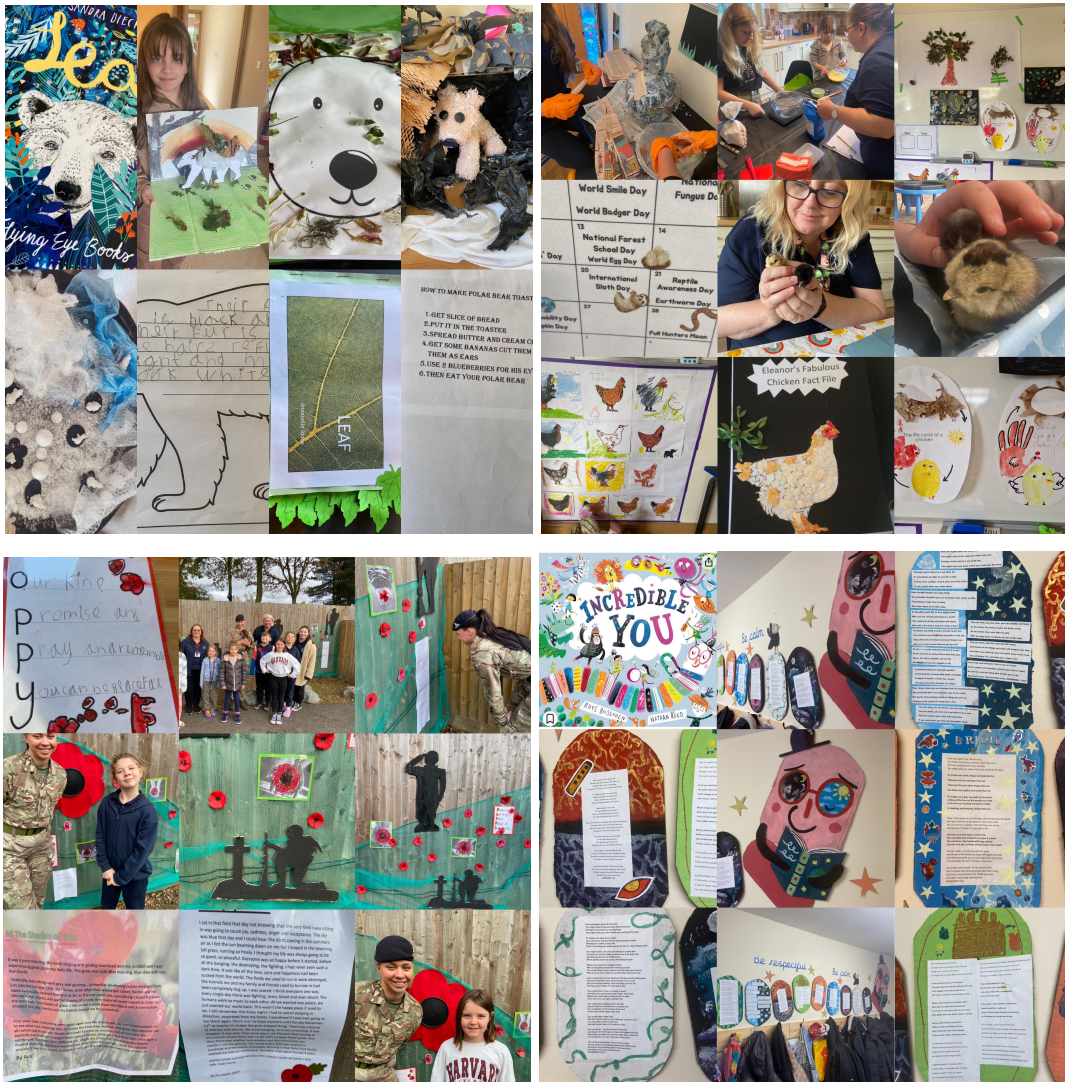
Mrs Lisa Bettoney  
Mrs Emma Blurton  
Mrs Amanda Randle

Mr Dean Clafferty - Sports Coach

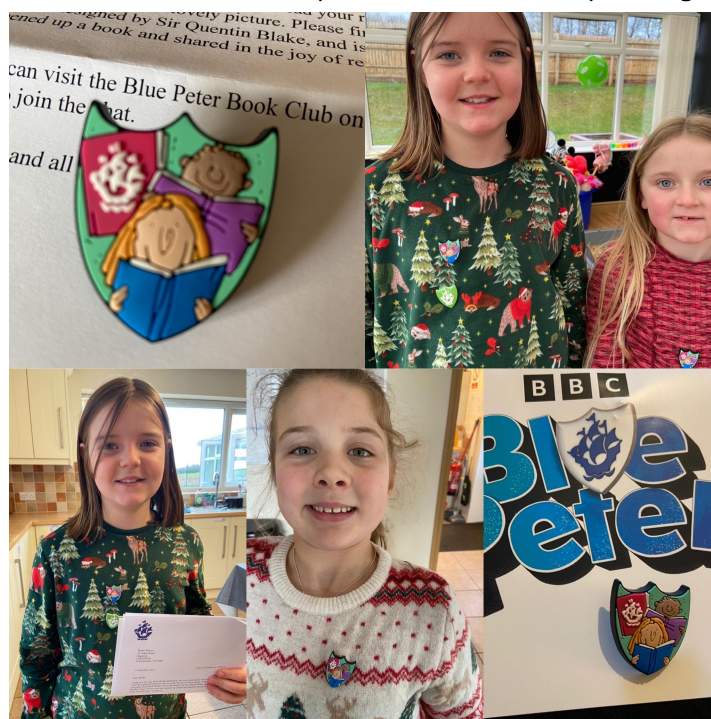
Mrs Claire Robertson - Forest Lead and Alternative Provision Lead

Minnie and Bruno - School Dogs 😊

Looking back over the time we have been incredibly busy, from flying our very own kites, welcoming new chicks which we hatched, working on the story 'Leaf' and applying for a Blue Peter badge, saying good luck to our sheep, Bo and Peep as they returned to the fields to become mummies, creating the most wonderful structures to help bring our learning to life and looking after, and loving, all of our animals. We did have a sad point when we lost our most loved, Mummy Goat - we all found this particularly tricky. As the Spring term comes, we will be adding to our farm with a new set of lambs and two young goats which I am sure is something we will all find exciting. Alongside being outside and enjoying our environment, we have also been knuckling down to work. You would be amazed at how much work the children have actually engaged in. A full cohort of subjects are carefully planned, delivered and children are learning. For some of our learners, just being able to get through the day is an achievement, but to complete the timetabled subjects on top - is awesome and we are very proud.



We will have shared our spring overviews with you so you will be able to see what learning and topics will be taking place in your child's class. I am excited to see how the Geography units of work unfold as we haven't done any of this until this upcoming term.



Dates for your diary:

We will complete our parents afternoon/evening Tuesday 5th March when we review IEPs and update you on children's progress. However, as always, you are more than welcome to get in touch at any time to ask questions.

Staff Training Days: 2nd and 5th February 2024. School will be closed on these days.

Half Term: 19-23rd February 2024

Easter Break: Monday 25th March school closes to return Monday 8th April 2024.

The final thing is to wish you all a very healthy and happy Christmas and let's hope we can bring some Lake Haven magic to 2024.

Merry Christmas,

Mrs T and Miss Marshall

