

Newsletter - December 2024

As we draw close to the end of term, we need to take a huge deep breath and realise just how far we have all come in a short (albeit at this current time, feeling like a rather long) term. Christmastime is so easy to become overwhelmed and overstimulated and that is just the adults. So although some of us have had a few wobbles, please know that we are always here and always trying to find ways to settle and soothe as we go. Demands, as always, are kept low especially at this time of the term. I think we are all looking forward to finishing this term, enjoying Christmas and being ready to forge ahead in the new year.

Staffing:

Sad to have to report that Mrs Robertson will be leaving at the end of this year as she has decided to dedicate more of her time to her family. We are all very saddened by this news as she has been incredibly generous with her time, skills and creativity for our Forest School sessions. I am sure that you will join us in wishing Mrs Robertson all the very best and she has promised that she will not be a stranger popping in from time to time. Although Mrs Robertson can't be replaced, we welcome Miss Farmer to the role of Forest School Lead. She will be taking over the sessions from the new year.

New to our team will be Miss Chloe Stirley. She is a qualified teacher and is joining us in the Squirrels Class. She will be with Mr Cooper, Mrs Moore and Mrs Burnham to start off with and then once all children are settled, she will take over the reins from Mr Cooper who will be joining the Foxes and Owls at the upper end of our school. As I am sure you can imagine, all of our staffing needs to remain fluid as it is important to ensure that all needs are met by the skillset of our staff. We never make changes lightheartedly, there has always been a great deal of thought and discussions for changes to take place. Your teachers will be sharing a weekly timetable with you in the new year to show what an average week will look like.

Squirrels: Miss Stirley Mrs Burnham Mrs Moore Miss B	Badgers: Mrs Norton and Mrs Taylor Mrs Smith Miss Sparks Miss Bates	Rabbits: Mrs Long Ms Manley
Foxes: Miss Nattrass/Mr Cooper Mrs Randle	Owls: Miss Nattrass/Mr Cooper Mrs Blurton	Tiny's/ Pastoral Mrs Hill Miss Farmer (+Forest School)

OT Sheryl	SALT Ali	Finance and Office Miss Marshall
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Swimming:

Just as a reminder, we will be swimming again starting from Tuesday 14th January. The bus will collect us at 10:15 and we will return to school by 12:00. We know that on swimming days this can cause overwhelm and exhaustion, we are very mindful of what we plan for the remainder of the day and week in the initial few weeks. If you could give us a quick overview of where your child is in relation to their swimming ability, this would be very helpful. We will have three groups: Non-swimming/highly supported; able to swim but not so confident; free swimmer and confident. Please click the link to share this information with us. The swimming teachers will assess this when we are swimming, but just as a starting point. <https://forms.gle/sABvGtF9JkAtuy2i6>

Overviews:

Please find attached the overviews of what your child will be learning within the Spring Term.

Christmas Fair:

Thank you for supporting your child and our school by visiting our Christmas Fair and purchasing their wonderful festive makes that they have been busy creating over the last few weeks. The money raised from this event will be collated and then used to purchase resources for the children.

Amazon:

Amazon Community has been wonderful and made a donation of resources to Lake Haven, many of which have been used to create the Christmas Fair alongside some brilliant PE and Science equipment. They have also donated some money which we will use to fund a school trip of hopefully mutual interest when the weather warms later in the year. We are very grateful to Amazon for this donation.

Dates for your diary:

- Tuesday 7th January 2025 - School reopens for the Spring Term
- Tuesday 14th January 2025 - Swimming Starts
- Wednesday 12th February 2025 - Parents Evening
- Environmental Week 7th April - 11 April

Finally, I just want to reach out to you all to wish you a very merry christmas and hope that your festive breaks are as restful as possible. I know that all of Lake Haven's staff are taking a well earned and much deserved break to recharge their batteries in time for welcoming everyone back in the New Year. They work tirelessly to ensure that everything runs smoothly at Lake Haven to which we are very grateful.

Merry Christmas to all,

Love Lindsay, Alex and all of Lake Haven School