

December 2025

Wow! What a rollercoaster of a term. The Autumn Term is always a challenge with settling into new routines, classes, adults, buildings and returning after the long summer break or starting a new school. However, with all of the newness to contend with, the children have grown, made progress but most importantly made us all incredibly proud as they navigate and embrace school life at Lake Haven.



We have introduced a new Life Skills curriculum this year and seen the children learning first aid skills, investigating careers and cooking for a purpose. Our charity work has been awesome and we are all very proud that such a small school can be so supportive for Children in Need, Cancer Research and also the Dunelm Christmas Gifts of Joy. It is joyous to see our children wanting to participate in these activities to support others in need.



The Kingfisher Class achieved their red rosette for their LEEP award in stable management which we are all very proud of them for this. We will continue to build on this throughout the year. Our Puffins have completed their turn building on their riding skills. Wrens have enjoyed a couple of sessions and will continue after the Christmas break and then will be the turn of Woodpeckers and Swans. The riding lesson is more than just riding. It is a whole new level of moving outside of comfort zones - leaving our school site, wearing hats and boots which feel unfamiliar, sitting

on a moving animal and then being taught by someone that is unknown. So many unpredictable things, yet the children do so well.



The classes have been enjoying the minibus and the freedom that this provides. They loved purchasing their pumpkins from the supermarket, going to buy a gift for the Dunelm - not to mention the hot chocolate in the cafe or a quick play in a park!



The animals at Lake Haven continue to be plenty of fun and keep us on our toes including the new edition the gerbils in the Kingfisher class, Stormy and Snowy. The goats will enjoy, and will be very grateful for, the Christmas trees over the festive break.

We have such a great team that the animal rota is already full and complete including Christmas morning, so no one is going hungry this holiday.



Training is always high on our agenda to ensure that our adults are abreast of the best ways to support our children. We have received various inputs from different sources including increased Safeguarding Awareness, Interactive Whiteboard, Sensory Integration OT including Interoception and our lovely Miss Farmer has achieved her practical Forest School which took place in Storm Bram this week. Well done Miss Farmer, we are so pleased you didn't get blown away!



We are all very thankful to those who joined us for the Journey through the Nativity. Our lovely school became this magical winter wonderland with fantastic window art, amazing figurines and crafts galore. We hope you enjoyed the experience. A special thanks goes to lyla for helping to organise us and instruct the classes in what was required - Thank you lyla! We have so many talented artists who work and come to this school, we couldn't create such magic without you. Please click the link below to watch the 'Journey Through the Nativity Story' narrated by our children and the accompanying carols sung by our singing club.

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Eyz4YN76c8W9TTAzKEDqaA8gcOYs4mbs/view?usp=drive_link . It does make us incredibly proud when we all; children, team and families come together.



We may be a small school, but I can honestly say that the team has the biggest heart and makes Lake Haven a special place for all. Behind the scenes they are the very best of the best ensuring that your child has fabulous learning opportunities, an abundance of experiences but more so they feel comfortable. However, we completely understand that additional needs bring additional bumps in the road. When there is a wobble, we will always try our hardest to support where needed where we can and in our capacity as a school. Our pastoral team never switch off, trying hard to provide as much support and emotional literacy as they can, as do all of our adults working alongside your child. If you do have any concerns, please pick up the phone and speak with one of us. We are here to support you, as a family, as much as your child - sometimes just having a listening ear can help (even if just a little).



PIC•COLLAGE

As a school, we have completed a collection of thoughts and feelings from staff and children over the last few weeks about their feelings towards Lake Haven School to see how we can improve things moving forward. We are always welcome to new ideas or hearing of ways in which we may have fallen short of what you require and improving

our service where we can. We are asking all parents to complete a survey that is completely anonymous. If you could complete this, we would be grateful for your time. It shouldn't take more than 5 minutes. We thank you in advance.

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdVzwCOGR04fuYvLKXw9x4rKWPwY8E0FAUaXSVduD4dsPkUsQ/viewform?usp=sharing&oid=112736122587186718789>

Please find attached the Spring Term overview so you can see what we will be covering during this upcoming term. Below is a handout should you need support over the Christmas break, there is a handy sheet with various contacts and information of help and how to reach that help. During the Christmas holidays, we will all be taking a much needed break, but should you need a member of staff, please email hello@lakehavenschool.co.uk as this will be monitored throughout. We may not get back to you as swiftly as in term time, but it will be monitored.

The last thing we need to do is wish you all a restful and calm Christmas break. Sometimes this is a period of complete awe, wonder and magic and yet for others it can be a complete overwhelm with a time when you just need to dig deep and get through or a mix of both, we get it! I need to say a huge thank you to our team. Lake Haven wouldn't be the same without them. They give everything, all of the time and we are grateful.

We return to school on Tuesday 6th January 2026 as Monday 5th is a teacher training day.

Have a lovely Christmas, be safe and we wish you all a Happy New Year!

With love from Mrs T, Miss Marshall and Mrs Hill x



Mental Health Support for You and Your Child

If your child is in crisis and they need mental health intervention please call **111** and choose the **mental health option**. This will put you in contact with the crisis team.

If you are fearful of your child's or other's safety please don't hesitate to also call 999 or go to A&E.

Direct Lines:

Shout: text SHOUT to 85258

Samaritans: call 116 123

Papyrus: call 0800 068 4141 or text 07786209697

Young Minds Parent Helpline: 0808 802 5544

Young Minds Young Person Helpline: text "YM" to 85258

Ripple

Ripple is a digital crisis intervention tool that supports individuals who are searching for content regarding self-harm or suicide. When it is flagged, the individual will be signposted to support.

<https://www.ripplesuicideprevention.com/>

Support and Advice for Young Adults and Parents

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

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

<https://www.studentsagainstdepression.org/>

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

<https://www.kooth.com/> - free, safe and anonymous support for young people

<https://amparo.org.uk/>

<https://www.zerosuicidealliance.com/>



As well as support from mental health organisations, Warwickshire have a selection of courses and information for parents. Even if you are not in the Warwickshire local authority, use the school's postcode (CV11 6QJ) and the code word 'BEAR' and you will have access to the courses below:

<https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/parentingcourses>

<https://www.recoveryandwellbeing.co.uk/>