



February 7th 2025

Laleham Lea

A Catholic Independent School for boys and girls aged 3 to 11

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Dear Parents

It has been a very exciting week at Laleham Lea as we have officially launched our brand new 'Laleham Lea Rainbow Room' for use by our SENDCO and ELSA. Mrs Bagnall and Mrs Hall have worked tirelessly over the last couple of weeks to transform our former Year 2 classroom to what I am sure you will agree, is a beautiful space. Details were emailed to parents earlier this week and you can read more about the Rainbow Room as well as the role and benefits of an ELSA on page 2 of this newsletter.

The timing of the launch was perfect during Children's Mental Health Week where we have also been focusing on understanding, expressing and managing our emotions with classes taking part in a variety of activities on this theme.

On Tuesday I was delighted to be able to accompany Year 4 students to celebrate Mass with Father Murphy at John the Baptist. Our students are really enjoying the opportunity to celebrate Mass with parishioners on a regular basis.

Our footballers have had a frustrating week with the Greenvale Cup match and today's match at Regina Coeli both falling victim to the weather. The Greenvale match will now be played next Tuesday. We faced a strong Margaret Roper side on Wednesday this week and sadly lost both games 2-0 and 2-1 respectively. Mr Judge hopes to get back to winning ways on Tuesday at Greenvale! Good luck boys.

We have been busy building our social media presence and have now have an Instagram account too (link above). Do give us a follow/like/share and spread all the Laleham Lea news!

I hope you all have a lovely weekend

Mrs Reece

Acting Headteacher

House Points Scores

Wulstan

This week: 210

Total—1864

Alban

This week: 175

Total—1563

Edmund

This week: 203

Total—1421

Mayne

This week: 146

Total—1392

Place2Be's

**CHILDREN'S
MENTAL HEALTH
WEEK**

3-9
FEB
2025

This week is Children's Mental Health week with the theme 'Know yourself, Grow Yourself'. Classes have been taking part in assemblies and other activities to help children improve their self-awareness as the more we can understand about ourselves, the more prepared we are to express our emotions and take on life's ups and downs.



Children's Mental Health Week

During Children's Mental Health Week we are delighted to launch our new teaching, learning and wellbeing hub—the Laleham Lea Rainbow Room.

The 'Rainbow Room' supports teaching, learning and wellbeing for all Laleham Lea students across the school from Nursery to Year 6.

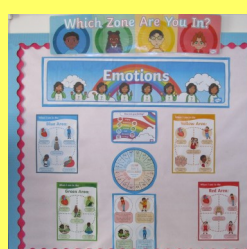
One-to-one and small group sessions, Emotional Literacy Support (ELSA) and Lego Therapy will all take place here with Mrs Bagnall and Mrs Hall our fully trained ELSA specialist, as well as providing an extra space for class teachers and teaching assistants if needed.

An ELSA is an Emotional Literacy Support Assistant. They work to support children and young people in a wide range of areas, such as mental health and processing emotions, helping them to reach their potential and cope with a variety of challenges.

Lego Therapy employs the use of three key roles 'Engineer', 'Builder' and 'Supplier' to build a model together using LEGO bricks. This is facilitated by a trained adult, although child led, to allow the children a means of developing their social communication skills.



If you would like any further information about how The Rainbow room can be used to support your child please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Bagnall our SENDCO—cbagnall@lalehamlea.co.uk





THE CATHOLIC LIFE OF THE SCHOOL



On Monday we celebrated the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord in our Celebration of the Word assembly and focused on how Simeon had been promised by God that he would see the Saviour.

'For my eyes have seen your salvation' (Luke 2:30)



Next Friday we are looking forward to welcoming Mary Carter from Cafod back to Laleham Lea for assemblies and workshops on the Jubilee celebrations and Cafod's Big Lent Walk. Mary has visited us several times of the last couple of years and her workshops are always enjoyable occasions.

Year 4 Mass at John the Baptist Mrs Reece attended Mass along with our Year 4 students who joined Father Francis and parishioners on Tuesday morning.



Mini Vinnies



Our Mini Vinnies are proud to lead the way in celebrating the Jubilee Year and launched an exciting fundraising event for the St. Vincent de Paul Society in assembly today. This international Christian voluntary organisation is dedicated to tackling poverty and supporting those in need, and we're thrilled to contribute to their mission.

To take part, all students are invited to unleash their creativity by decorating a special poster. To enter the competition, students can submit their decorated posters along with a £1 donation. There will be a winner in every class, as well as overall winners for EYFS, KS1, and KS2. We have some fantastic prizes lined up for our winners!

The winning posters will be proudly displayed around the school and shared with our local community at St. John the Baptist Church and Westside Care Home. Additionally, we are delighted to welcome members of the St. Vincent de Paul Society from St. John the Baptist Church, who will help judge the competition.



This event is a wonderful way for us all to become "Pilgrims of Hope" by supporting a meaningful cause and raising valuable funds for those in need. The deadline for entries is Monday March 3rd.

HAPPY CHINESE NEW YEAR

2025

YEAR OF THE SNAKE

新年快乐

Laleham Lea Reception Class



This week in Reception Class, we celebrated the Chinese New Year of the Snake. We explored the myth of the race across the river, learning how the animals in the Chinese Zodiac found their place. We also danced with scarves to traditional Chinese music and made beautiful lanterns in art class. We practised Chinese calligraphy and learned about the Great Wall of China, and the Terracotta Warriors. Earlier in the week, our school cook prepared delicious Chinese noodles, and we had fun making and eating our own noodles in the Reception role-play kitchen and restaurant!



Nursery

This week the children have been learning about different types of transport. Activities included:

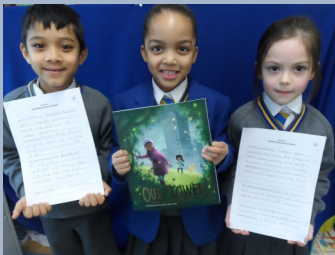
- Using a variety of junk modelling materials to create our own mode of transport and discussing how and where we could travel to.
- Listening to the story; 'The School Bus Trip' and answering questions afterwards.
- Playing the 'I-Spy' counting game and using a number line to help count the different types of transport.
- Playing the 'Transport Bingo' game with our friends to reinforce the importance of waiting for our turn.



Year 1



Year 1 have enjoyed exploring and developing their creative writing skills this week which included taking part in an inspiring virtual workshop led by writer Joseph Coelho. The workshop explored Joseph's book; 'Our Tower' as well as a range of interactive writing ideas to inspire storytelling



We kick-started our week using a range of writing activities based on 'Our Tower', inspired by the theme 'Reimagine your world'. These activities encouraged pupils to discover the magic of storytelling by drawing inspiration from the world around them and building a storytelling project for the week. The project culminated in students writing their own short narrative piece, with the chance for it to be published in a celebratory anthology!

Year 2



In English Year 2 have been reading; 'The Bog Baby' by Jeanne Willis. The children have had fun making their own Bog babies and writing a set of instructions on 'How To Make a Bog Baby' using imperative verbs.

Year 3



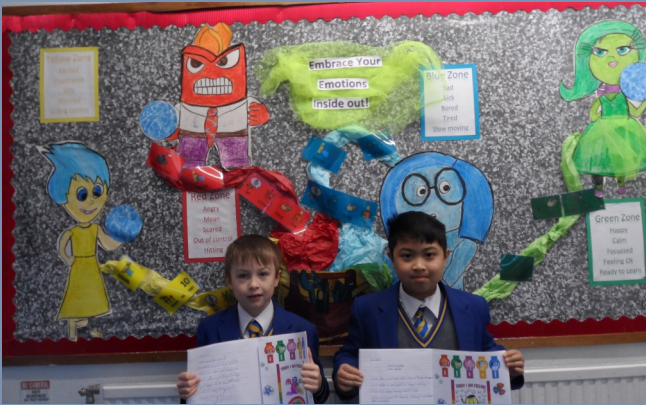
During Children's Mental Health Week Year 3 have been exploring their emotions and have been recording some of the things that make them joyful and happy.

"When I see other people smile and play together."

"My family, playing with my friends and learning new things."

"Drawing makes me feel joyful."

Year 4



For Children's Mental Health Week Year 4 also explored their emotions in PSHE and focused on the importance of understanding and sharing our feelings so we can all—

'Know Yourself, Grow Yourself'

Year 5



In their Science lesson this week Year 5 have continued to learn about the effect of forces.

To test the impact of gravity and air resistance, they made parachutes from a variety of materials in a range of shapes and sizes to see which one performed the best.



Year 6



It's been a very dramatic week in Year 6, an unseasonal, but very enjoyable Midsummer Night's Dream experience. The children have read and acted out parts of the play, spoken in iambic Pentameter, written diary accounts, their own play scripts and newspaper reports. But most of all, they have learnt that 'the course of true love never did run smooth'!

Taekwondo Champ



Well done to our Year 1 Taekwondo champ who recently passed his 9th kup Taekwondo grading and gained a Yellow Stripe Belt!

Operation Christmas Child Thank you



Dear Headteacher, all staff and pupils at Laleham Lea School.

A huge thank you for supporting Operation Christmas Child last year and for collecting so many boxes. Your 78 boxes made a great contribution to the 56,000 that were delivered and checked in our warehouse in Tonbridge last year. We are so grateful to schools for taking time to support us by filling shoeboxes thus sharing God's love with those who live overseas.

Do please let me know if we can help and support you in the shoebox season in 2025.

Many thanks again for your support. **Anita OCC Connect Volunteer**

Stars of the week

