



LING MOOR

A PRIORY ACADEMY

NEWSLETTER February 2022



It is an absolute pleasure to share with you the February newsletter as February was a month full of fantastic learning despite the most difficult of circumstances. The resilience of the Ling Moor Family has been so impressive and this is shown in the impressive learning that the children have produced. February is always an exciting month of learning as it is often the point where we really see progress take off – the point at which it 'clicks' and the children shift collectively to even higher quality outcomes.

The biggest progress seen has been in the children's writing – an area where we had the most concern following the school closures of the last two years. The children's commitment to their writing has been phenomenal and the outcomes that they are producing are wonderful. We are seeing wonderful ideas, detail, description and engagement of the reader. Alongside this, we are seeing fantastic punctuation, presentation and improved spelling.

The quality outcomes the children have been producing are not only in their writing but also their art. The Ling Moor gallery is officially open – a space where the highest quality of artistic skills and creativity can be seen. From EYFS painting to Year 1 quality colour mixing and outstanding Year 5 portrait work, the quality is very high. The children have been inspired by works of art by artists such as Van Gogh, Paul Signac and Hans Holbein.

We have also seen quality from the Year 5 children in their commitment to the Bikeability programme. It was great to see all of the children taking part and learning the important life skills of keeping safe on the roads. We do hope that we are getting our curriculum offer right outside of those more traditional subjects and when we do offer something different, we really do see the children grow as members of our Ling Moor Family. Alongside the Bikeability this month, we have seen a mental health focus and an online safety focus for the whole school.

This wider curriculum offer has been celebrated in the Achieve and Aspire awards that we have given out through the month with well over 50% of the Year 6 children now wearing their Priory Start with pride. The children in Year 3, 4 and 5 are now adding to their booklets. Please do ask to see your child's.

It is not only the children's learning we celebrate at Ling Moor, we also celebrate the achievements of the staff team. We were very fortunate to host a visitor to the Academy this month who spent time with Mrs Durkin looking at our History curriculum. The feedback was really positive so a huge thank you to Mrs Durkin for her hard work and to the teachers for delivering really high quality learning.

Ling Moor Family Library

We are very excited with our plans for a Ling Moor Family library to be placed at the front desk. If you ask the children, they will tell you that the most important thing in learning is, 'Reading! Reading! Reading!' and we wanted to make sure that our community could benefit from access to lots of books. The library will be open to all of our parents and family members with books free to take home. The library will be based on donations so if you have any books that you have enjoyed reading and feel that others would enjoy, we would be grateful if you could drop these off at school. With the library being open to the Children's Centre as well, if you have any parenting books that you have 'grown out of' these would be great.

Ling Moor Kitchen

Thank you to you all for supporting the Kitchen during February as we had to deal with Covid related staffing challenges. Your understanding was very much appreciated and the offers of

support (and washing up!) were most welcome.

The Kitchen continues to offer a really positive lunch experience for the children with a great and nutritious menu. Over coming months, we will be working with the children to improve the menu further so please keep an eye out for some exciting changes.

Comic Relief and St Barnabas

On March 18th we will be taking part in the national Red Nose day. Our Year 6 children in the Ling Moor Parliament put together a proposal for the day and approached Mr Sisman with plans for the day. They are going to host another danceathon in the afternoon and have asked if all of the children could come in non-uniform. There is no theme for the day and the children are able to come in non-uniform of their choosing. If it is their sports day, please make sure they are wearing appropriate clothing. We appreciate that finances are tight for many so any donations would be gratefully received. The funds raised will be split 50/50 between Comic Relief and St Barnabas.

Thrift shop

With the squeeze on family finances being felt more than ever, please do remember that we have a very well-stocked thrift shop run by the wonderful Mrs Fenton. If you do have any uniform that your family has grown out of, please think of donating them to the thrift shop. All of the donations are sorted and washed prior to being made available so please do have a look if you need anything. In return, we ask for a small donation that is put directly back into school funds that are used to benefit all of the children. So far, we have spent £300 pounds raised through the Thrift shop on playtime equipment.

Attendance

The Academy attendance figures continue to be above the national average but the impact of covid and isolation is noticeable. Your support in keeping our attendance figures so high is really appreciated. We know that many of you will have had holiday plans disrupted by the restrictions placed on us all, however the Academy is only allowed to authorise absence when circumstances are deemed to be exceptional. Family holidays are not deemed as an exceptional circumstance. If you have any questions regarding this, please do contact the office.

Friends events

Our wonderful Friends of Ling Moor will be hosting another disco on the 31st March. Details of tickets will be with you shortly.

They have also asked for you all to keep the 1st July free for our first Giant Ling Moor Picnic! This will take place after school on Friday 1st July (obviously depending on the weather!).

