

Newsletter | October 2026

LYDNEY CHURCH OF ENGLAND COMMUNITY SCHOOL

A CARING CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY WHERE EVERY CHILD ACHIEVES A LOVE OF LIFE AND OF LEARNING.

HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

Dear families,

As we come to the end of our first term, I would like to thank all of our children, staff and families for making it such a successful and enjoyable start to the year. The children have worked incredibly hard and have produced some truly amazing work across all areas of the curriculum. It has been wonderful to see their enthusiasm, resilience and determination every day.

We are now looking forward to celebrating together at our Harvest Festival. Thank you in advance for your generosity in supporting our collection. Any donations of non-perishable food items would be gratefully received and will help support members of our local community who need them most.

I wish everyone a restful break and look forward to another exciting term ahead.

Wrap Around Care

Wrap Around Care at Severnbanks School is available for all children at Lydney C of E.

Children are collected and transported by minibus to Severnbanks School, to play and take part in organised activities.

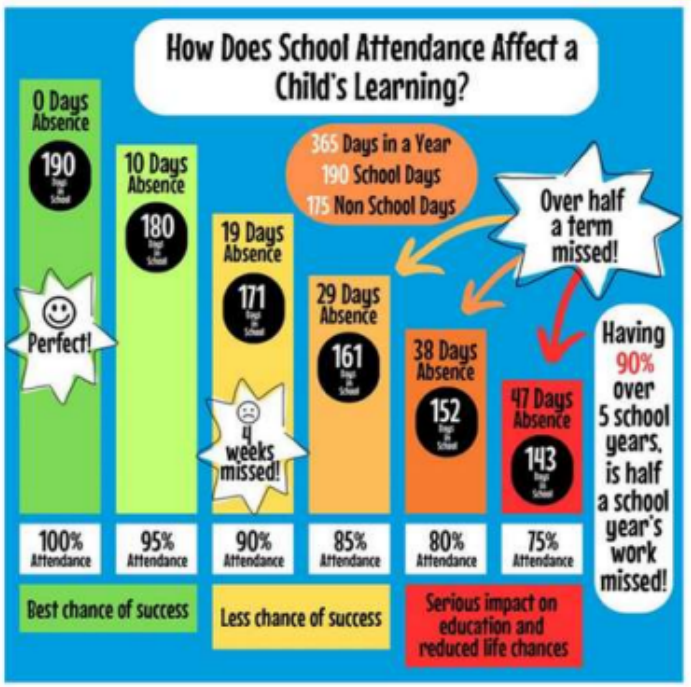
They are also provided with a snack and drinks.

Further details including fees and timings, can be found on our school website.
https://www.lydneycofe.co.uk/after-school-club/



READING SUGGESTIONS

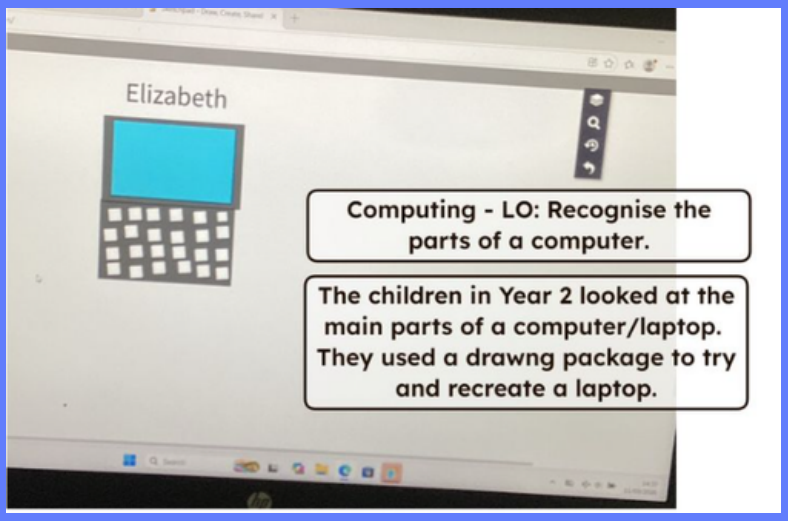
- ☑ Skandar by AF Steadman, Jacob Year 3
- ☑ The Hobbit by J R R Tolkien, Ralph Year 3
- ☑ The Magic Faraway Tree by Enid Blyton, Blythe





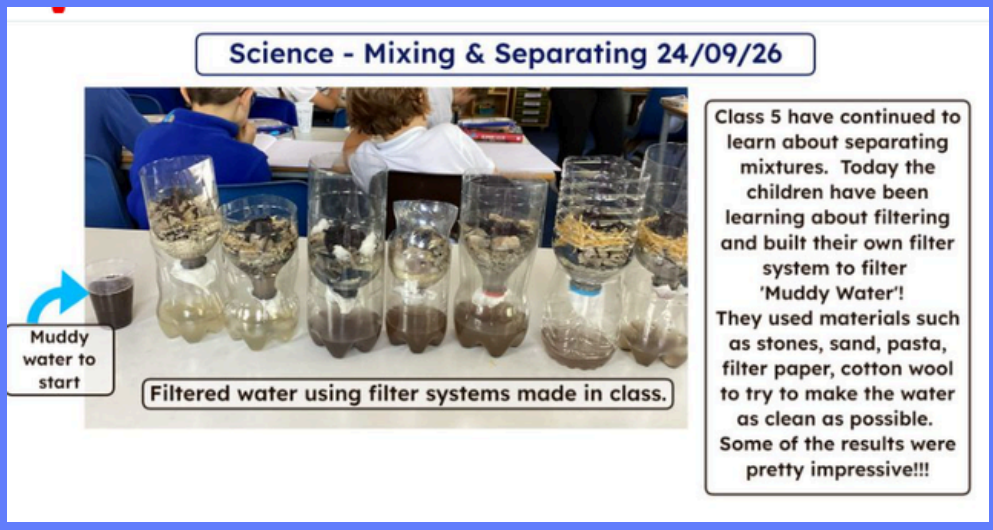
Look at our Learning

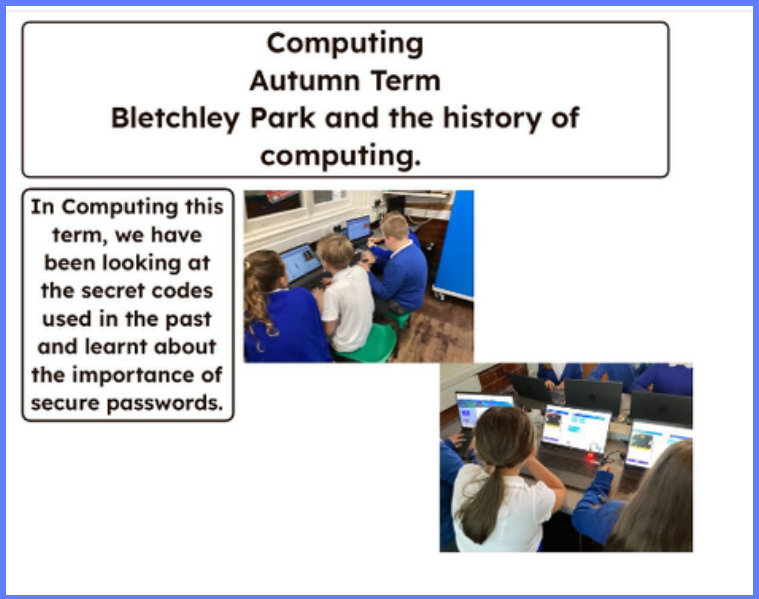
Our Value this term is
Truthfulness



Year 2

Year 5





Year 6

TRUTHFULNESS

HOME SCHOOL VALUES

This term we will be focussing in school on the value TRUTHFULNESS. We hope your family will find these ideas helpful as you explore the value and have fun together.

TALK ABOUT
TRUTHFULNESS TOGETHER...

'I promise to tell the **truth**, the whole **truth** and nothing but the **truth**, so help me God'

In a court of law a witness swears an oath on the Bible or another sacred text, but sometimes in everyday life people find it more difficult to be **truthful.**

Talk together about occasions when complete honesty could cause trouble or be hurtful. For example:

- When a member of your family asks you if you like their new shoes
- When telling the **truth** will get your friend into trouble
- When someone asks what you are thinking but the answer would hurt their feelings

THINK TOGETHER ABOUT WORDS OF WISDOM

"To be **truthful** with others, you must first be **truthful** with yourself"

Anon

READ TOGETHER...
A Day That Changed Everything

It began just as any other day.

Peter the fisherman was mending his nets as he always did.

But then Peter met Jesus. On that ordinary day his life was changed for ever.

Peter was to actually *see* Jesus heal people who were ill, make blind people see again, and turn 5 loaves and 2 fish into a feast for 5000!

Peter became Jesus' follower and friend. "I will do anything for you" he said to Jesus. "Just say the word!"

"One day you will tell people you never knew me" said Jesus, "and then a cock will crow."

"No" shouted Peter "Never, Never, Never!"

Sure enough, life for Jesus did become difficult - difficult and dangerous.

The day came when Jesus was on trial for his very life. He needed his friend to stand by him. But Peter said "I don't know him, I never knew him, I never saw him before."

And at the end of the day a cock crowed.....just as Jesus had said it would.

Jesus was sentenced to death and crucified, even though he had done nothing wrong.



But death could not defeat God's Son! Three days later Jesus was alive again and went to find his friend, not to blame him but to forgive him.

It was a new day and Peter had another chance.

Everything was different!

Bible story based on Luke 5:1-11; Luke 22:54-62; John 21:15-19

QUIZ
Words in the Fishing Net

Pair letters from the net together to make words from the story.
You could colour matching halves...

For answers, see reverse.



HALL OF FAME



Aung San Suu Kyi

For many years the nation of Burma was ruled by their ruthless army which refused to allow the ordinary citizens to have free elections to choose their leaders. If Burmese people spoke openly about politics they were thrown into prison or even killed. But a tiny brave woman called Aung San Suu Kyi refused to be silent about the **truth** of what was happening in her country. She campaigned openly but peacefully in the streets and around the world for Burma to have free elections. For this the army put her under house arrest, keeping her prisoner in her own home for 20 years! Whilst under arrest she was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for being 'an outstanding example of the power of the powerless'

In 2010 Aung San Suu Kyi was finally freed by the army just after free elections were held in Burma for the first time. On her release thousands of people gathered to welcome and thank her for standing for **truth** and democracy and helping to bring about change in Burma.

HOME-SCHOOL CHALLENGE

Truth be Told

If you could ask a famous person (from history or alive today) to answer a question about themselves what would it be?
For example,
David Beckham - How old were you when you knew for sure that you wanted to be a footballer?
Aung San Suu Kyi - Was there ever a time when you felt like giving up your campaign in Burma?

Make a colourful question mark and write your question on it to take into school to display in the Gallery.





FAMILY FOCUS

The human body is probably the most complex machine on earth. But do you know what your body is made of, how it moves and how all the parts work together?

See if you can answer these questions correctly.

a. Your brain is made up of - 20%, 50% or 80% water?

b. Taking a step forward uses - 30, 100 or 200 muscles?

c. A single blood cell takes ½, 1 or 4 minutes to make a complete circuit of the body?

d. An adult has 158, 206 or 278 bones in their body?

e. A finger nail takes 3, 4 or 6 months to grow from base to tip?

FASCINATING FACTS... ...ABOUT US

Humans and giraffes have the same number of bones in their necks.

You can't tickle yourself.

You can't keep your eyes open when you sneeze.

Overnight while you sleep you grow nearly 1 cm, but you shrink again next day.

The length from you wrist to your elbow is the same as the length of your foot.

In 30 minutes an average person gives off enough heat to bring over 2 litres of water to the boil.

KEY DATES AND INFORMATION

PLEASE REMEMBER TO CHECK OUR SCHOOL WEBSITE: WWW.LYDNEYCOFE.CO.UK FOR UPDATES

Policies

Policies are updated regularly. A number of school and trust policies have recently been updated and can be found on the following websites.
https://www.lydneycofe.co.uk/policies/
https://www.sfat.uk/policies/



HOMEWORK



To help your children maximise their learning potential and make the best possible progress, our teachers set homework each week that reinforces what has been taught in class. The expectation is that children complete the following homework each week:

- Read at least 4 times a week to adult which is recorded in their reading record. Reading is absolutely vital!
- Maths pages from the practice journals. This matches exactly what is taught and how it is taught in class.
- Spelling practice for spelling rules that have been taught in class that week ready for a weekly test.

SEESAW

Keep an eye on Seesaw.
This is our online learning platform and an important method of communication with you. You will find lots of pictures about what your child has been learning.

Healthy Eating

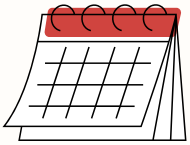


We understand that healthy snacks can be an important part of the diet of young people. In the Early Years and KS1 fruit and vegetables are provided as snacks. We encourage KS2 to bring in a healthy snack for morning break.
Please see the link below for advice on healthy snacks.
https://www.nhs.uk/healthier-families/food-facts/healthier-snacks/

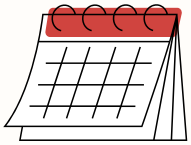
Studybugs

At Lydney C of E, we use Studybugs to help parents easily log absences and ensure good communication between home and school.

While Studybugs sends automated notifications, we understand that every situation is unique. The system doesn't replace the personal touch, so please feel free to call or visit the school if you'd like to discuss anything. We're here to support you in the best way possible.



CALENDAR DATES



October 26
16.10.26 My Plan out to parents
w/b 19.10.26 Outdoor and Adventurous Week
20.10.26 and 21.10.26 Life Tent (SCARF)
19.10.26 Harvest Festival at school (parents not to attend)
22.10.26 Inset (pupils do not attend)
23.10.26 Inset (pupils do not attend)

November 2026
2.11.26 Return to school
4.11.26 Y5 residential Viney Hill
6.11.26 Earth Day 1
30.11.26 NFER Reading Y2,3,4,5 and 6

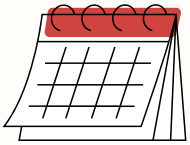
December 2026
1.12.26 NFER Maths Y2,3,4,5 and 6
8.12.26 KS1 Christmas performance Y1/2 1:45pm
9.12.26 Christmas performance Y1/2 6pm
10.12.26 Christmas performance EYFS 1:45pm
17.12.26 Christingle Service at St Mary 2:15pm
Christmas Holidays 21.12.26 – 01.01.27

January 2027
4.01.27 Inset (pupils do not attend)
5.01.27 Pupils return to school
22.01.27 My Plan out to parents

February 2027
12.02.27 Mid-year reports to parents
Half Term 15.02.27 – 19.02.27

March 2027
4.03.27 World Book Day
19.03.27 My Plan out to parents
17.03.27 1:45pm and 18.03.27 6pm Year 3/4 performance
24.03.27 Easter Service St Mary's 2:15
Inset 25.03.27 (pupils do not attend)
Easter Holidays 26.03.27 – 9.04.27

April 2027
12.04.27 Pupils return to school
20.04.27 and 22.04.27 Parents' evening
22.4.27 Earth Day 2



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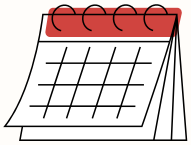

May 2027

10.05.27 SATs
w/b 17.05.27 Aspiration Week
24.05.27 – 28.05.27 Y6 France
Half Term 31.05.27 – 04.06.27

June 2027

7.06.27 Return to School
Multiplication Tables Check w/b 7.06.27 and 14.06.27
11.6.26 Earth Day 3
Phonics Screening Check 14.06.27
Leavers' Service date TBC
Sports Day 18.06.27
Reserve date 25.06.27
28.6.27 NFER Reading Y1,3,4,5
29.6.27 NFER Maths Y1,3,4,5

July 2027

09.07.27 My Plan out to parents
7.07.27 1:45pm and 8.07.27 Y5 & 6 evening performances 6pm
16.07.27 reports out to parents
Move Up Morning 14.07.26
21.07.27 Leavers' Service in school
21.7.27 Summer Holidays