



Ladybarn Primary School

Newsletter – Autumn 2025

Dear Families

A great start has been made this half term. It has been a delight to see all the smiling faces of those children in nursery and reception starting our school for the first time - they have settled in so well!

One of the other highlights has been my annual trip with the year 6 children to Ghyll Head in the Lake District for the weekend. The children represented the school impeccably and faced so many challenges and achieved so much including canoeing, rock climbing and stunning countryside walks.

In visiting many class lessons in recent weeks, I have seen such excellent behaviour and attitude of the children across school - their hard work and motivation is something they should feel really proud of.

Mrs Vyas



NURSERY

We have had so much fun settling into nursery this half term! We are so proud of all of our new children for being so brave coming into school and trying lots of new things. We have made lots of new friendships, explored the classroom and the outdoor areas and begun to enjoy group times together on the carpet. The children have got to grips with the lunch hall and have become much more confident using cutlery. Thank you to all of the grown ups that came to our 'Welcome to Nursery' meeting, we hope that you went away with a good idea of how the nursery year will go.



In Autumn 2 we will have lots more fun together and explore some fantastic class texts. We will bake our own Gingerbread men and have the most fun ever learning about Pete the cat and his shoes. We are so excited to welcome Peoplescape Theatre Company again and this year they will perform The Magic Porridge Pot for nursery and reception children on Monday 24th November. We will sing lots of new songs and are so excited to invite parents and carers into school for our winter event, where we will sing and dance on a real stage – wish us luck!



Ladybarn Primary School

Newsletter – Autumn 2025

RECEPTION

We have had a lot of fun in our first term in Reception! Our topic has been 'Food Around the World' and we have looked at healthy and unhealthy food and tried lots of different fruits. We have been reading 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt' and have done lots of lovely activities like making a bear mask and going on a sensory walk. In Maths, we have been learning how to subitise and compose numbers 1-3. In Understanding the World, we have explored how the seasons change from Summer to Autumn.

Next term, our topic will be 'Monsters and Magic'. Our books will be 'Foggy Foggy Forest' and 'Stick Man'. We will explore lots of different celebrations like Diwali, Hanukkah and Christmas. We will also have a 'Stay and Play' where all the children's families will be welcome!



YEAR 1

We have had so much fun settling into Year 1 this half term! We have enjoyed exploring our new classrooms, playing with our friends and challenging ourselves during lessons. Miss Jenks, Mrs Rehmanwala and Mrs Chudasama are so proud of everyone in Year 1!

In English we first wrote our own stories based on The Gruffalo by Julia Donaldson and then we enjoyed writing a set of instructions to bake yummy Gruffalo biscuits! In maths we've been focusing on Place Value (within 10), including comparing numbers, recognising numbers as words and finding 1 more and 1 less and in science we have been naming materials and discussing their properties.

We have loved experimenting with colour mixing in art and have created some amazing artwork inspired by Wallis Kandinsky's work. We have also created our own Autumn dances based on a poem about 'Falling Leaves'. We thought carefully about creating shapes with our bodies and dancing at different levels.



In Autumn 2, we will have lots more fun together! We are very excited to visit Portland Basin Museum to extend our learning in history lessons where we will learn all about monarchs and what life was like during the Victorian era. We will also explore some fantastic new books including 'I want my hat back' by Jon Klassen. We will be focusing on forming our letters correctly in handwriting lessons



Ladybarn Primary School

Newsletter – Autumn 2025

YEAR 2

Year 2 Highlights So Far!

- Maths Magic: We've been exploring tens and ones, and mastering our 2s, 5s, and 10s times tables—what brilliant number ninjas we are becoming!
- English Adventures: We have been writing our own version of Kate and the Beanstalk! We have also started to write our very own letter.
- Science Explorers: We have been growing our knowledge all about plants just like seeds grow into flowers.
- A Special Trip: Visiting RHS Bridgewater was a real treat. There were so many beautiful plants and gardens to inspire our science learning.
- Team Spirit: Miss Malcolm and Mrs Nanah are so proud. We are becoming kind, curious, and super hardworking and that's something they love to celebrate.

In Autumn 2 we will be focussing on practicing our handwriting, stretching our tall letters up to the line. We will also be visiting a Hindu temple!

YEAR 3

This half term has been full of exciting learning opportunities for our class. In Maths, the children have been developing their understanding of place value and practising addition and subtraction through problem solving and reasoning activities. In English, we explored creative writing using the text *The Ogre*. We also took on the role of campaigners by writing persuasive letters to Tesco, encouraging them to reduce the amount of sugary snacks at the checkouts. In History, our topic has been the Vikings, where the children discovered how they lived, travelled, and invaded, as well as the impact they had on Britain. In Art, we studied Vincent van Gogh, looking closely at his painting techniques and creating our own artwork inspired by his style. Guided Reading has taken us on an adventure with *Fantastic Mr Fox* by Roald Dahl, where the children developed their comprehension skills through retrieval, inference, and prediction activities. In Science, our topic was teeth, and the children loved carrying out an experiment to test how different liquids can affect tooth enamel, using eggshells to model the effects. It has been a busy and creative half term, and the children should be very proud of all they have achieved!



In Autumn 2, in maths, we will be moving on to multiplication and division, developing quick recall of times tables and applying these skills to problem solving. In English and Guided Reading, we will be diving into *Ottoline and the Yellow Cat* by Chris Riddell, which will inspire creative writing, character descriptions and mystery-themed activities. Our new Science topic is *Animals including Humans*, where the children will learn about skeletons, muscles and how the body works. In Geography, we will be exploring India, finding out about its culture, landscapes and traditions. In Music, the children will continue to perfect their ukulele playing, building on the chords and rhythms they have already learned. In DT, the focus will be on construction, giving the children the chance to design and build their own projects, while in Spanish they will be learning about colours through games, songs and conversation. It promises to be another exciting and busy half term of learning!



Ladybarn Primary School

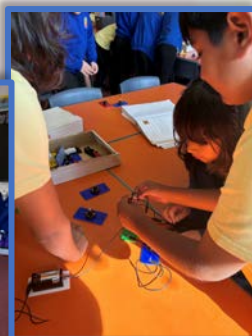
Newsletter – Autumn 2025

YEAR 4

In Autumn 1, we have been learning about place value in Maths and exploring different ways to split (partition) numbers up to 10,000. In PSHE, we have focused on mental wellbeing and have started building a bank of ideas to help us manage our emotions, using the Zones of Regulation. In PE, we have been working hard to improve our mile run times by doing HIIT workouts and running practice. In Science, we have worked together to build circuits using different components and we have learnt how to draw them using simple electrical symbols.



Next half term, we have lots to look forward to! In History, we'll be learning all about the Tudors and going on an exciting trip to Ordsall Hall to see what Tudor homes were like. In English, we'll be writing our own legend stories based on How to Train Your Dragon. In Spanish, we'll be learning numbers from 1 to 50 and in DT we will be baking delicious scones. It's going to be a fun and busy half term with lots of new learning!



YEAR 5

In maths, we have been learning about numbers up to one million! The children have made fantastic progress in their understanding of place value and in adding and subtracting larger numbers. In English, we have been reading *There's a Boy in the Girl's Bathroom* by Louis Sachar — a story the children have absolutely loved! We even rewritten part of the story from another character's point of view, learning how short sentences can be used to create powerful effects in our writing. In science, our topic has been Earth, Sun and Moon. We explored the planets, investigated how day and night occur, and even held a lively debate about whether the Earth is flat! In history, we've been studying the Industrial Revolution and what life was like for children during Victorian times. In art, we have recreated pieces in the style of Mary Cassatt. Take a look at some of our amazing artwork — we're so proud of our budding artists!

Next half term, our English lessons will be based around the exciting adventure story *The Boy Who Met a Whale* by Nizrana Farook.

In geography, we'll be exploring volcanoes — how they form, why they erupt, and where they can be found around the world. In DT, we'll be designing and building toys with cam mechanisms that create moving parts.

Our new science topic will focus on forces, where we'll learn about friction, gravity and air resistance through fun investigations. We'll also be taking a trip to the library to inspire our next wave of readers!





Ladybarn Primary School

Newsletter – Autumn 2025

YEAR 6

What a busy half term this has been. Our year 6 children thoroughly enjoyed their trip into Manchester, where we explored some of the history of our great city. We discovered the site of a Roman fort, the John Rylands library and the Tudor style buildings in the Shambles, as well as locating the corn and cotton exchanges. In addition to this, we went to Ghyll Head in the Lake District, where we explored Lake Windermere by canoe, scrambled up a ghyll, watched the stars, had a bonfire and explored a hidden cavern. We even managed to squeeze in a trip to Total Ninja and our local library.

We have been learning about the artist Gunta Stolz and her work with weaving and pattern seeking. In science, we had a brilliant time as we explored light, how it travels and how shadows are formed. We loved making periscopes and investigating how we could use them to see around corners.

Next term we look forward to our class assemblies and a visit from our local fire fighters, who will be helping us understand fire safety. In maths we will be exploring fractions, decimals and percentages. We are really looking forward to our DT unit, where we make tasty chicken fajitas. In Science, we will be looking at the functions of our heart and in geography lessons, we will be studying urban areas of the UK and considering how we can create sustainable, future-proof cities.



House Points – Autumn 1



Free School Meals And Pupil Premium

Some children are eligible for Pupil Premium funding, extra funding that comes into school based on 'Free school meals' applications. This is funding that is used by the school in various ways to help with the provision of education and support. It is important that you find out if you are eligible and apply, to help with your own costs associated with meals but also to help school.

Even if your child receives free Infant school meals due to their age, we would appreciate you still applying, as if awarded it then means school receives extra funding. If you haven't applied but think you may be entitled, then please apply. Click [here](#) to find out if you are eligible.



Ladybarn Primary School

Newsletter – Autumn 2025

Attendance & Punctuality

Attendance Autumn 1, 2025			
Class	Attendance	Class	Attendance
NL	93.2%	NB	94.3%
RL	90.4%	RB	88.0%
1L	93.2%	1B	96.0%
2L	97.1%	2B	95.2%
3L	92.3%	3B	95.3%
4L	96.9%	4B	92.0%
5L	94.3%	5B	96.1%
6L	97.8%	6B	96.1%
6P	97.4%	As of 17 Oct	

Being late for school disrupts the class.	If your child is 5 minutes late every day, they miss over 16 hours of education. This equates to 3 DAYS LOST.	Being late for school embarrasses your child.	Be prepared. Set the alarm early.
Be prepared. Leave plenty of time to get to school.	Be prepared. Make sure you know what your child needs for school. E.g. P.E Kit.	Being late for school interrupts the class teacher from teaching.	Be prepared. Get your child's things ready the night before.
Being late for school means being late for, or missing assembly.	Being late for school means missing out on the chance to talk to the teacher before lessons.	If your child is 10 minutes late every week, they miss over 6 hours of learning. This equates to 3 Maths lessons and 3 Literacy lessons.	Missing education means your child will not achieve their full potential.
Punctuality is a life skill.	In later life, being late can mean losing a job.	Every minute counts, don't lose learning time.	It's good to be on time.



Attend Today, Achieve Tomorrow

Days off school add up to lost learning

175 NON SCHOOL DAYS A YEAR

175 days to spend on family time, visits, holidays, shopping, household jobs and other appointments

0 DAYS ABSENCE (190 school days)	6 DAYS ABSENCE OR MORE	15 DAYS ABSENCE OR MORE	19 DAYS ABSENCE OR MORE
100%	96%	92%	Below 90%
EXCELLENT ATTENDANCE Best chance of success	SATISFACTORY ATTENDANCE Harder to make good progress	REQUIRES IMPROVEMENT Less chance of progress	CAUSE FOR CONCERN Serious concern, possible court action

Please help us improve our attendance and hit our target of **96%**. We can only achieve this target if we work together.

Attendance this half term is **94.4%**

Attendance for our year to date is **94.4%**



Ladybarn Primary School

Newsletter – Autumn 2025

Please bear in mind that occasionally clubs, trips, visits and events may be arranged or cancelled last minute. Where possible we will give as much notice as we can.

Dates to Remember – Autumn 2

Whole School	School opens for pupils – Autumn 2	Monday 3 November
Year 2	Trip to the Hindu Temple	Wednesday 5 November
Whole School	Individual School Photos	Wednesday 12 November
Class 4B	Trip to Ordsall Hall	Monday 17 November
Class 4L	Trip to Ordsall Hall	Tuesday 18 November
Whole School	Teacher Training Day – School Closed for pupils	Friday 21 November
Whole School	Parents Evening, 3.30pm – 5.00pm	Tuesday 25 November
Whole School	Parents Evening, 3.30pm – 7.30pm	Wednesday 26 November
Whole School	Nasal Flu Vaccinations	Friday 28 November
Whole School	Second Hand Uniform Sale	Monday 1 December
Year 1	Visit St Chad's Church	Wednesday 3 December
Whole School	Christmas Fair	Thursday 4 December
KS1	Nativity, 2pm	Tuesday 16 December
KS1	Nativity, 9.30am	Wednesday 17 December
Whole School	Christmas Lunch	Wednesday 17 December
Key Stage 2	Carol Concert, pm	Thursday 18 December
Whole School	Christmas Parties	Friday 19 December
Whole School	School closes, end Autumn 2	Friday 19 December
Whole School	Teacher Training Day – School closed for pupils	Monday 5 January
Whole School	School opens for pupils – Spring 1	Tuesday 6 January

Out of Hours Learning – Autumn 2

Day	Person	Club	Year groups	Collection
Mon	Mrs Toulson-Burke	Painting	1 and 2	Front door
	Mrs Baron	Board games	3,4,5 and 6	Back door
	Mr Fogel	Competitions	Invitation only	Front door
	Mrs Whelan	Creative mindfulness	1 and 2	Front door
	Mrs Asif	Homework club	Invitation only	Front door
	Mrs Roche	Activity club	Closed	Back door
Music clubs	Mr Ramsay Mr Leishman	Steel pans Guitar	Closed Closed	Front door Front door
Tues	Mr Fogel	Girls football	4, 5 and 6	Back door
Wed	Mr Fogel	Dodgeball	4, 5 and 6	Back door
	Miss Wallis	Choir	All welcome	Front door
	Mrs Lord	Games and Activities	1 and 2	Front door
	Mr Moore	Football	Invitation only	Back door
Thur	Mr Fogel	Basketball	5 and 6	Front door
	Mrs Barker	Lego	1 and 2	Front door
	Miss Farmer	Smart club	Year 4 (closed)	Back door
	Mrs Iwnicki	Archery	3 and 4	Back door
Fri	Mr Fogel	Hockey	4, 5 and 6	Back door
	Mrs Soni	Dance	1 and 2	Front door



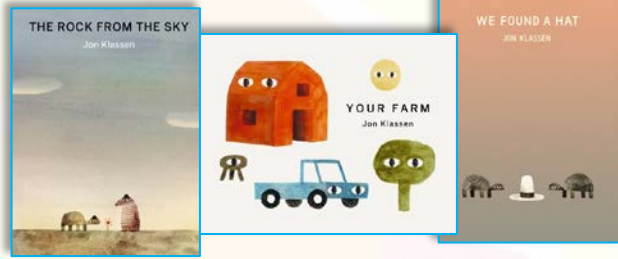
Ladybarn Primary School

Newsletter – Autumn 2025

Recommended Authors

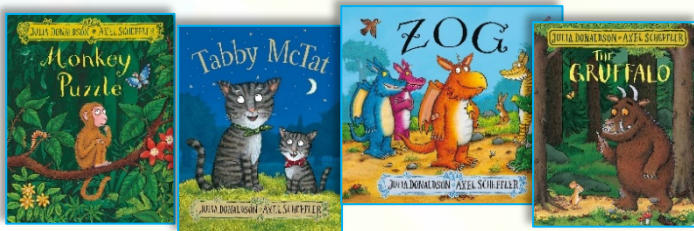
Year 1 – Jon Klassen

Jon Klassen's books blend quiet humour with clever storytelling and expressive illustrations. His characters often find themselves in funny or mysterious situations, and his artwork is simple yet full of emotion, helping young readers connect with the story in a visual way. His books also encourage curiosity and interpretation, making children feel like part of the storytelling process.



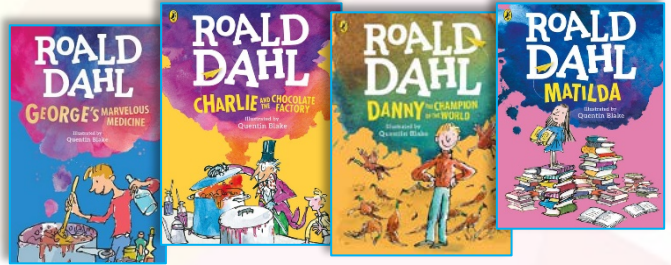
Year 2 – Julia Donaldson

Children love Julia Donaldson's books because they're full of rhythm, rhyme, and memorable characters that make reading fun and engaging. Her playful language and repetition help build confidence in young readers, while the vivid illustrations by artists like Axel Scheffler bring the tales to life. Donaldson's books also spark imagination and are perfect for reading aloud, making them favourites for both children and parents.



Year 3 – Roald Dahl

Children love Roald Dahl books because they're full of imagination, mischief, and unexpected twists. His stories often feature clever children who outsmart mean adults, which makes them fun and empowering to read. His books also mix fantasy with real-life lessons, helping children explore big ideas in a way that feels exciting and magical.



Year 4 – Cressida Cowell

Cressida Cowell's books because they're packed with adventure, humour, and heart. Her stories feature brave, relatable characters who grow through challenges and discover their own strengths. She also explores themes of friendship, courage, and believing in yourself, which really resonate with her readers.



Year 5 – Nizrana Farook

Nizrana Farook's books are fast-paced, adventurous, and set in richly imagined worlds inspired by Sri Lanka. With themes of friendship, bravery, and justice, her books spark meaningful conversations and are perfect for reading together. They encourage empathy and curiosity, while the fast-paced plots keep children engaged from start to finish—making them a wonderful choice for shared reading time.



Year 6 – Louis Sachar

Parents often find that children love Louis Sachar's books because they combine humour, mystery, and meaningful life lessons in a way that's both entertaining and thought-provoking. Sachar's writing is clever and layered, appealing to children's curiosity while also encouraging empathy and critical thinking. Sharing his books with your child can spark great conversations and help build a love of reading through stories that are both fun and insightful.

Who are our Governors and what do they do?

Our Local Governing Committee is made up from people from our community, from our schools and from our parent body. The local governing committee meets 5 times every year to discuss the educational performance, financial performance and the future focus of the schools.

Lisa Vyas, our Executive Headteacher is responsible for the day to day management of the Trust schools. Lisa provides information to the Governors to help them develop a strategic focus, to ensure school money is well spent and to ensure that pupils are achieving their targets.



Chris Wills, a local Councillor, is the Chair of our Local Governing Body. Chris was elected as Chair by the committee members. At each meeting, Chris takes the committee through the meeting agenda and invites discussion around each agenda item.



We have a parent governor from each school on the Local Governing Committee. **Emma Garner** is a Parent Trustee elected to the committee by parents at Ladybarn. **Fraz Majeed** is a Parent Governor, elected by parents from Green End. At meetings, Emma and Fraz can provide a parent's point of view.



Rumana Asif and **Kate Palmer** are our Staff Governors. Rumana was elected by the staff at Ladybarn Primary. Kate was elected by the staff at Green End Primary. During meetings, they will give a view point from a staff perspective.

David Clemmett, Aaron Davies, Fiona Long and Camilla Duncan are Community Governors. Like all our Governors, David, Aaron, Fion and Camilla bring their skills to the LGC and contribute to the effective governance and success of the school.

