



Lancing Prep Hove

A Lancing College Preparatory School

Newsletter

Summer Term | 28 April 2023

Notices are on Page 13

Message from Mrs Keep

Dear Parents

The start of a new school term always comes with a certain energy and optimism which I'd love to bottle, but there's no doubt the start of the summer term is particularly special. The days are thankfully long and, though the seasonal sunshine has yet to emerge, in the occasional moments when the school is quiet, the sound of birdsong carrying across the fields does wonders for the soul.

While I usually start the term by thinking about what lies ahead, this time my first assembly with the children was more retrospective. At the start of the Easter break, I had the privilege of being one of the teachers to accompany 50 pupils to Bormio for the school ski trip. Delivering no less than I would expect, the children were outstanding representatives of our school and we received multiple comments while we were away about their conduct and behaviour. Most notably, the hotel owner sought me out to give his feedback. "The children from your school," he said, "have restored my faith in humanity." He went on to talk about the pleasure he and his staff took in seeing children who socialised with each other without technology at their fingertips. He talked about the way in which they tried different foods on the menu and always thanked the waiters who served their tables. He talked about the way in which they left their rooms so that the chambermaids were compelled one day to take him around the rooms with them. He talked about the fact that each child said 'grazie' as often as they could find reason to. My reassurance in assembly was that the future of humanity lies with us all, but my challenge was to remember that each small act of kindness and courtesy often goes further than we realise – and when added up, can make a very big difference.

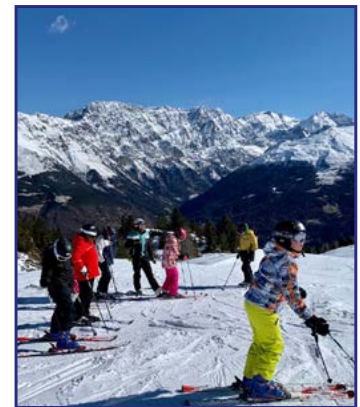
Having looked back, it is now definitely time to look forward. The summer term is always gloriously busy, so please do take a good look through the paper calendar (which should have come home in your child's school bag on the first day of term) but also keep an eye on the online calendar which is 'live' and regularly updated: <https://www.lancingprephovecalendar.org.uk/>

Some highlights which are worth adding to the family diary if you haven't done so already include the PTA fete, sports days and the end of term Prize Giving (prep) or Celebration (pre-prep). I look forward to seeing you at these events, and many more besides.

Of course, the final term of the school year means that many of our pupils are starting to think about what will follow, none more than our Year 8s who know this is their final term at LPH. I've no doubt they will make the most of every moment. However, we must also remember that we have some families who have just joined us. On behalf of the whole community, I'd like to welcome each of them warmly, and congratulate the children on making an excellent start.



Our chef, Stevie, has selected a winner from Pre-Prep and from Prep, who will be helping to recreate the puddings they have designed for lunch on Friday 5 May!



Please see page 12 for more photographs from our Easter ski trip.



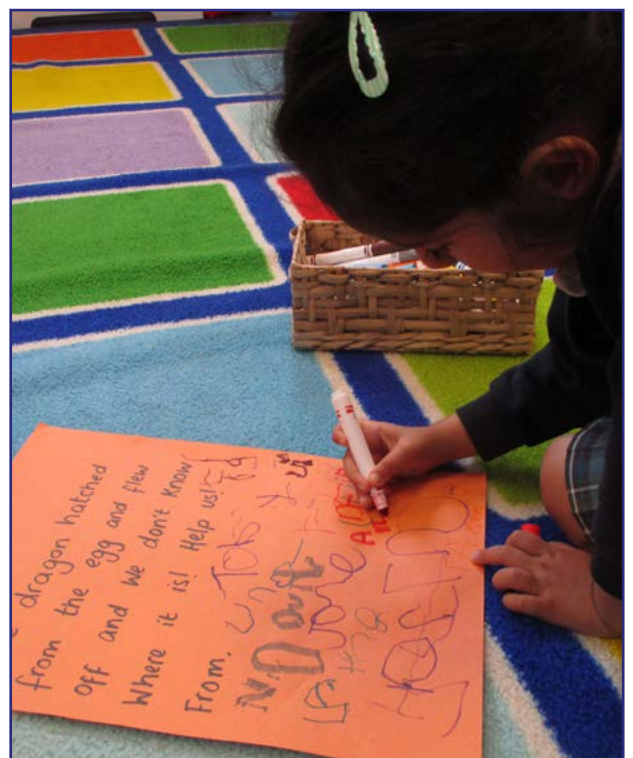
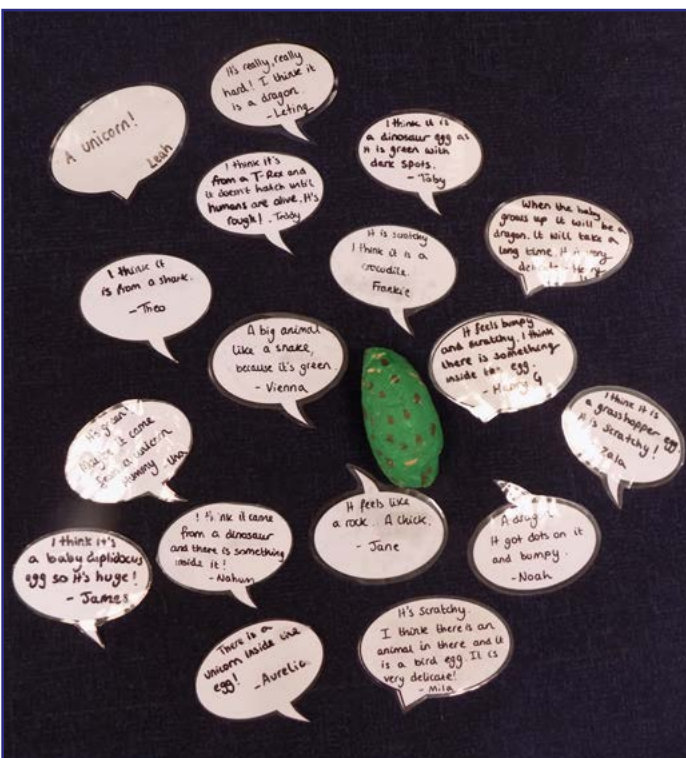
Please see page 13 to find out why Shaun the Sheep was in school this week.

Pre-School

The children discovered an oval like shape in the classroom that's green and speckled. After much discussion and discovering some melted and burned items in the classroom, they deduced it was from a dragon!

Their assumptions turned out to be correct, as not long after, they received a letter from the dragon Zog who asked the children to look after the egg. They have done so with great care; so much care, it has hatched! There was a baby tiger dragon inside but it is now nowhere to be seen.

The children have helped to write a letter back to Zog asking for his help.



Pre-Prep News

Reception

The children have delved straight into the Jurassic world. They have shared their current knowledge as well as thinking of some excellent questions that they would like to find out: 'What is inside a dinosaur's body?', 'Do dinosaurs have different sized brains?' and 'Will dinosaurs come back to live on this earth when humans are gone?'

The children found out how we know about the existence of dinosaurs and loved getting into the role of palaeontologists, digging for bones, using them to create dinosaur skeletons and investigating fossils. They are busy using non-fiction books and the internet (with the help of adults) to answer their questions and further their dinosaur knowledge.



Pre-Prep News

Year 1

The children have been making pirate ships. Before making, they tested different materials to check their suitability: does it float? Is it waterproof?

With summer approaching, they have been off to our neighbours, Pavilion & Avenue Tennis Club, for some fun tennis lessons. We will be on the look-out for potential Wimbledon champions!



Pre-Prep News

Year 2

We are so proud of our pupils, both inside and outside school. Elise has been busy learning to ski and she spoke in the Pre-Prep Assembly about how much she enjoyed skiing down her first black run and learning how to do parallel turns. Well done, Elise! We love hearing about achievements outside school.

In school, the children enjoyed their Dance Workshop with West End in Schools to celebrate Earth Day. There is more about the workshop later on in the newsletter.



Prep News

Year 3

To start our Ancient Egyptian topic in the best and most exciting way, the children had a visit from the *Hands on History* company who came to school and took the children through a whole host of interesting activities.

They looked at a timeline, dressed up the teachers, did some warrior training, took part in some archaeology field work and 'embalmed' a body amongst many other things.

The children all came away full of information and excitement about the lessons ahead.

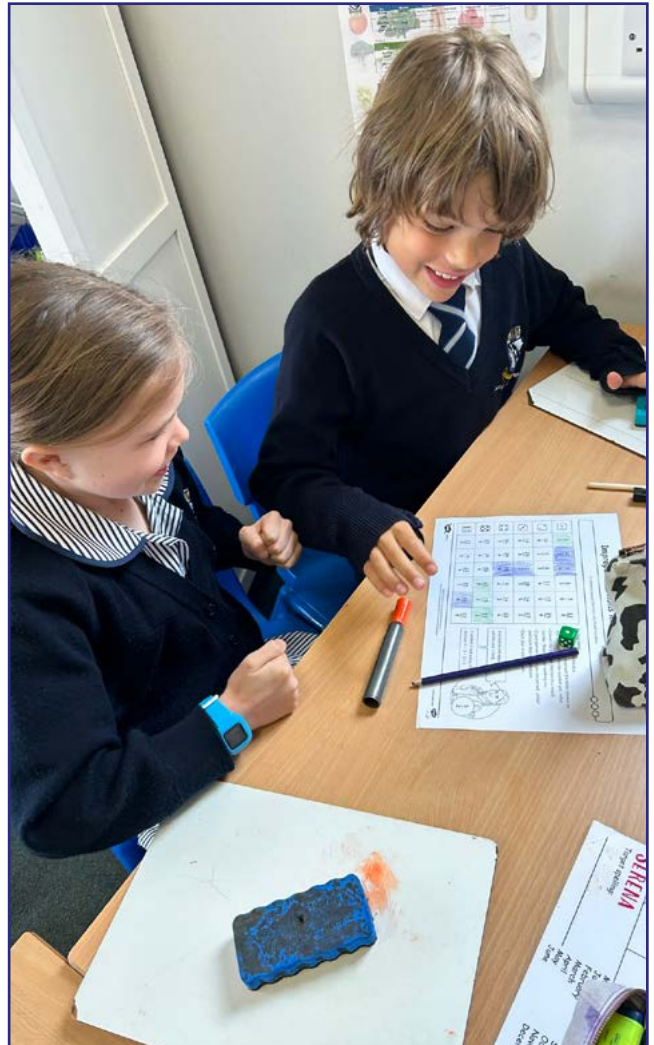


Prep News

Year 4

The children have been working extremely hard on mastering converting improper fractions to mixed number fractions.

They enjoyed playing 'Connect 4' to put their knowledge to the test!

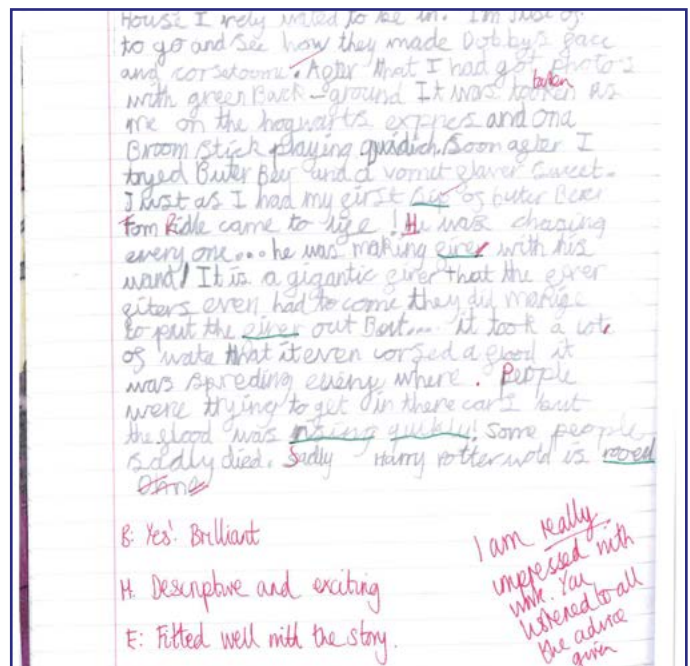


Prep News

Author Workshop

At the very end of last term, the children in Years 3, 4 and 5 were lucky enough to take part in a fantastic hour-long writing workshop, organised by the library team, with bestselling author Jack Meggitt-Phillips. Jack is the author of *The Beast and the Bethany*, *Revenge of the Beast* and *Battle of the Beast* – a children's series about a young 500-year-old, a carnivorous beast, and a rebellious prankster who's about to be eaten. The series has been translated into over 30 languages, and has had a major film deal announced with Harry Potter producer, Heyday Films. So, needless to say, we were very excited to meet him!

The children got an insight into how Jack develops his ideas and characters with a chance to create their own wickedly disastrous scenarios. Using humour, fantastic writing techniques - and even a puppet - Jack got the children to dig deep and set their imaginations flying. The children relished the opportunity and came up with plenty of great story ideas, setting them everywhere - from tropical beaches to favourite sushi restaurants! See below for an example from Year 3. And it wasn't just the children that enjoyed it, the teachers that attended also gave it high praise,



Prep News

Music and Drama Examination/Competition Results

Congratulations to everyone who worked so hard in their recent examinations and competitions.

ABRSM results

| Pupil | Year Group | Instrument | Grade | Result |
|------------|------------|------------|-----------|--------|
| Maeve H | 7 | Guitar | 2 | Merit |
| Henry B | 6 | Piano | 1 | Merit* |
| Isabelle B | 6 | Flute | Prep test | |
| Isabelle B | 6 | Piano | 1 | Merit |
| Aiden B | 5 | Piano | Initial | Pass |
| Isaac A-E | 5 | Singing | 1 | Pass |
| Oscar S | 5 | Piano | 1 | Merit |
| Scarlet P | 5 | Violin | 2 | Merit |
| Joshua O-S | 4 | Piano | Prep test | |
| Xanthe M | 1 | Singing | Prep test | |

*incorrect grade reported in last newsletter

NEA

| | | | | |
|-------------|---|-----------------|---|-------------|
| Aggie M | 8 | Acting | 3 | Distinction |
| Jack W | 8 | Acting | 3 | Distinction |
| Maia B | 7 | Acting Duologue | 3 | Merit |
| Willow F-W | 7 | Acting Duologue | 3 | Merit |
| Leina M | 7 | Acting Duologue | 2 | Merit |
| Xiner Zeng | 7 | Acting Duologue | 2 | Merit |
| Noah P | 7 | Acting Duologue | 2 | Distinction |
| Hughie McG | 7 | Acting Duologue | 2 | Distinction |
| Maia R | 7 | Acting Group | 3 | Merit |
| Maeve H | 7 | Acting Group | 3 | Merit |
| Elsie B | 7 | Acting Group | 3 | Merit |
| Henry B | 6 | Choral Speaking | 3 | Merit |
| Vikram G | 6 | Choral Speaking | 3 | Merit |
| Sebastian H | 6 | Choral Speaking | 3 | Merit |
| Theo G | 6 | Choral Speaking | 3 | Merit |
| Harvey R | 6 | Choral Speaking | 3 | Merit |
| Beau H-H | 6 | Choral Speaking | 3 | Merit |
| George H | 6 | Choral Speaking | 3 | Merit |
| Rupert S | 6 | Devised Drama | | Distinction |
| Heja E | 6 | Devised Drama | | Distinction |
| Dixie M | 6 | Devised Drama | | Distinction |
| Bella H | 6 | Devised Drama | | Distinction |
| Charlie H | 6 | Devised Drama | | Distinction |
| Raphi B | 6 | Devised Drama | | Distinction |

Prep News

NEA (cont)

| | | | | |
|-----------|---|--------------|-------------|-------------|
| Tabitha K | 6 | Acting | Preparatory | Merit |
| Tilly R | 3 | Acting Group | 1 | Distinction |
| Lilly H | 3 | Acting Group | 1 | Distinction |
| Artiom Y | 3 | Acting Group | 1 | Distinction |
| Maya R | 3 | Acting Group | 1 | Distinction |
| Harry H | 3 | Acting Group | 1 | Distinction |
| Caspar B | 3 | Acting Group | 1 | Distinction |
| Emma S | 3 | Acting Group | 1 | Distinction |

Earth Day

Earth Day was on Saturday 22 April. During the week pupils learned about what Earth Day was and created posters which are on display all around the school about the importance of Earth Day. In assembly they learned about the impact of 'foodprints' the environmental impact of their food choices.

The Lorax dance workshop got the children thinking about the environmental issues raised in the story which was published in 1971... just after the very first Earth day. Children across the year groups took part in the workshops which were run by West End in Schools and created and performed a tree-themed dance to 'Let it Grow', the song from Dr Seuss' *The Lorax*



Sports News

We will be reporting on our fixtures as the season gets more underway. Unfortunately the Mowden Cup Netball tournament had to be cancelled but we are looking forward to this term's Cricket tournament.

In the meantime, the children have been resplendent in their new cricket kit for this term and it is lovely to see how much they like the new look. The School Council represented the views of the pupils as the designs were being developed which is a fine example of the 'pupil voice' in action!



Annual Ski Trip



Notice Board

Introducing Shaun the Sheep!

This year we will be supporting the Martlets Hospice with a specially decorated LPH Shaun the Sheep which will form part of a fun trail around the Brighton area in the autumn.

Miss Roberts has written to parents to explain the process and we will be setting up a Just Giving page next week. In the meantime, the children were introduced to Shaun this week in their assemblies. The Prep children featured were also in the photographs we have from the 2018 snailspace project. They've all grown a bit since then!



Kirsty Keep warmly invites you to the

Lancing Prep Hove Prize-Giving Ceremony

on

Thursday 6 July

in

Lancing College Chapel

followed by

Fizz and Strawberries on the Chapel Lawns

09.30 Refreshments in the Megarry Room

09.45 Chapel Doors open

10.00 Prize-Giving Ceremony begins

Parking will be available on site

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about FORTNITE

CHAPTER
4

AGE RESTRICTION
PEGI
12

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

ALWAYS ONLINE

There's no single-player offline mode in Fortnite: it can only be played online. Internet access can sometimes be an issue when you're out and about (both in terms of connectivity and using up data), so you may find that dedicated young Fortnite players are often less enthusiastic about trips away of a certain length – such as days out and holidays – than you might have expected.

IN-GAME COSTS

Fortnite is free to download and play, but it does offer various additional purchases – cosmetic skins, rare weapons and so on – which don't really impact on gameplay, but can cost quite a significant amount. These items are bought with game's currency, V-Bucks – which can be earned through playing, but are also often purchased from the game's store for real-world money.

POP CULTURE REFERENCES

Part of Fortnite's appeal is its ongoing crossovers with other popular franchises, ranging from movies and TV shows like The Walking Dead to comic book characters including Batman to other games such as Street Fighter. This means you could find your child asking questions about the creature from Alien or who Geralt from The Witcher is a little sooner than you'd possibly anticipated.

Fortnite may be something of a veteran in gaming terms (having launched back in 2017), but it remains massively popular – with more than 250 million people playing online every month. That's partially due to the competitive nature of its player-vs-player combat, its pop culture crossovers and its constantly shifting map. Significant updates are rolled out with each new version of the game – known as 'chapters' – and within these sit shorter 'seasons', which bring more subtle changes. The latest iteration, Chapter 4 Season 2, adds a cyberpunk-themed city and anime-style areas, for example, along with new weapons and characters.

CROSSPLAY AND PARTY CHAT

Fortnite is popular with vast numbers of gamers ... of various ages. Crossplay lets friends play with and against each other, regardless of whether they're on an Xbox, PlayStation or PC – while party chat allows them to communicate during the game. This chat feature can also, therefore, put youngsters at risk of hearing inappropriate language from older players in the heat of virtual combat.

VIRTUAL VIOLENCE

At its core, there's no avoiding that Fortnite is about shooting other players to eliminate them. That said, there's no blood or gore: the violence is generally rendered in a cartoonish style, and there are frequent comical touches to lighten the mood (fishing mini-games, for example). The machine guns, shotguns and other weapons often look and behave realistically, however, so discretion is advised.

FREQUENT UPDATES

The game's developers release content in 'seasons' that usually run for around ten weeks. Each fresh update sees items added to the in-game store, changes to the environment's map and a different over-arching theme (such as 'medieval', 'pirates' or 'party'). These regular renewals help to hold players' interest – but also give young gamers plenty of reasons to keep returning to their screens.

Advice for Parents & Carers

MATCH GAMING TIMES

Younger players tend to want to play Fortnite alongside their friends. With this in mind, it could be worth speaking to the parents and carers of your child's social group and trying to coordinate their gaming around certain hours of the day. Safety in numbers is obviously a factor here, but it will also help your child feel that they're getting adequate opportunity to socialise with their friends online.

SET SPENDING LIMITS

Fortnite's rotating store is a not-so-subtle mechanism for coaxing players into splashing out on those sought-after items before they disappear again for weeks. This could potentially lead to surprise outlays on your card if your child is tempted into an impulse purchase. You could consider setting up a prepaid card for them to use – or ensuring that any online purchases require adult authorisation.

USE UPDATES AS REWARDS

Fortnite's seasonal updates are free – but each also brings the option of a 'battle pass', unlocking exclusive rewards for playing the game and completing set challenges. The passes cost around £8 (and are available as part of larger bundles) and can be an effective reward to young Fortnite fans for good behaviour or academic performance, or as an incentive for chores like tidying their room.

BE WARY OF SCAMS

The immense popularity of Fortnite with more trusting younger audiences means that there's no shortage of scammers looking to fraudulently obtain passwords and other personal data through techniques like phishing. As the developers point out on many of Fortnite's loading screens, they never ask for a player's account password outside of the game: make sure your child knows this.

ENJOY FORTNITE TOGETHER

Fortnite also offers split-screen gameplay, meaning that two people can play simultaneously via the same TV or computer. That's ideal for siblings or when your child's friends visit – but it also offers you an opportunity to spend time doing something fun with your child, while also being able to make sure they're playing the game safely. Who knows, you might even teach them a thing or two!

Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is Editor in Chief of gaming and esports site GGRecon and has worked in the gaming media for around four years. A long-time gamer, he is also a parent and therefore a keen advocate of online safety. Writing mainly about tech and fitness, his articles have been published on influential sites including IGN and TechRadar.



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#WakeUpWednesday