



LLS News

09/05/2025



Dear families

This week we marked the 80th anniversary of VE Day with lots of fun and engaging activities; from learning about the music of the 1940s to bunting making and sampling some wartime cakes, including the delicious orange and ginger cake featured in last week's newsletter.

Our secondary department feature in this week's newsletter and we have also included lots of VE Day 80th Anniversary photos.

Our Phase Transitions event will take place in the Isobel Family Centre on 20th May, from 10am - 12pm, for families with children currently in Years 1, 6, 9 and 11. This event will provide you with information about the next steps for your child and will offer an opportunity for you to meet your child's Head of Department for the next academic year and to ask any questions you may have. If you would like to attend please email jnolan@lindenlodge.org.uk

We are sure that you will join us in saying a huge thank you to our amazing Linden Lodge Nursing Team for everything they do to support our students as we celebrate International Nurses' Day on 12th May.

Have a lovely weekend.



Events and dates to remember

Summer Term Dates

Tuesday 20th May
10am-12pm
Phase transitions event for families
Years 1, 6, 9, 11

Monday 26th May
2025 – Friday 30th
May 2025
Half Term Holiday

Friday 18th July 2025
Last day for pupils

Monday 21st July
2025
Inset Day (no pupils)

Tuesday 22nd July
2025
Planning and Preparation Day for staff (no pupils)

Habilitation Star of the Week

Frankie for demonstrating upper body protection in response to a verbal prompt.

Karan for learning to do up his top button and practicing this in his own time.



Star of the Week

Fara for working hard during her first Innowalk session! Great effort, Fara!

Mattia for engaging in learning with different adults in class, listening to and following instructions



Learning at Linden - Secondary Department

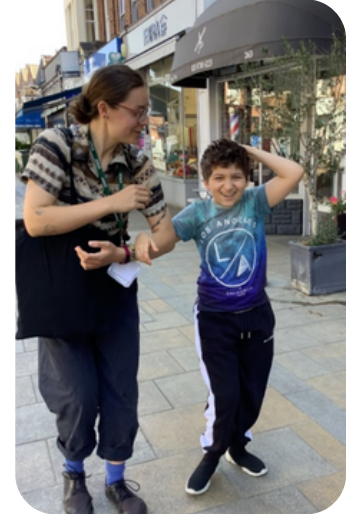
Kalimba has been learning about Earth. The students explored the concept of day and night through the sensory story Night Monkey, Day Monkey. They engaged with the ideas of "dark and light" by observing different lights and interacting with switches. Everyone participated in the story by experiencing the warmth and brightness of the day, as well as the coolness and darkness of the night.



Oboe class enjoyed outdoor learning making use of the woodland walk and playground. We explored our environment and joined as a group to read stories.



Our class have been preparing with the therapy team to go on a trip to the café, we have now completed our first trip trying out the local café. We were able to choose our food and drink while there and even caught the bus back to school.



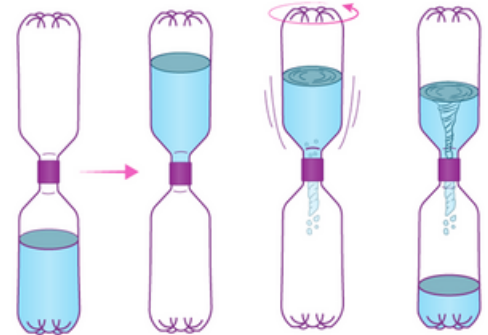
Pupils have been enjoying outside learning activities - taking part in the Panathlon Challenge or engaging in water play, sensory story and intensive interaction in the playground. They have also been working on their PLGs exploring shapes or tactile story books.



Science experiment of the week! 🌟

Bassoon class is currently exploring natural disasters in line with this terms topic of the Environment. This week we explored tornadoes and their powerful effects. This is how you could make your own Tornado in a bottle:

- Fill a plastic bottle with water, add a little dish soap or food colouring, and tape it to another bottle. Swirl it around to make a mini tornado!



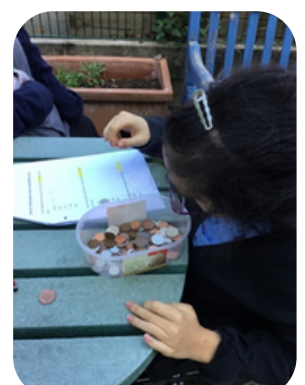
Murtaza's Joke of the Week:

What does a frog say in the library?
Read it, read it, read it



Maths:

We are currently covering money as a part of our measurement unit. This week we explored the value of coins, making up amounts using our 1p, 2p and 5p coins and did a bit of 'grocery shopping'!



VE Day

Creating some VE Day decorations



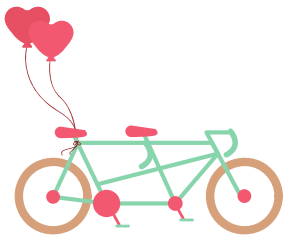
Exploring and enjoying marmalade or cheese sandwiches



Enjoying some VE Day music & celebrations



Guitar class had some sensory fun to celebrate VE day this week. We listened to some music from the 1940s and really enjoyed songs like 'Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy' and 'Bicycle Built for Two.' We then created some bunting using textured paint. Students explored fluffy, gritty and chunky paint to make their bunting.



Piano class celebrated VE day with a cake making garden party. We also joined our friends in Kalimba class.



VE Day Celebration – A Day to Remember

This week, our class marked VE Day (Victory in Europe Day) with a heart-warming celebration filled with creativity and music.

We started by decorating our classroom with colourful bunting and shiny paper flags, bringing a festive atmosphere to the space. The students also decorated cupcakes topped with edible poppies, combining a bit of history with a lot of fun!

The highlight of the day was our outdoor picnic, where we gathered together to enjoy our treats and sing along to iconic wartime songs. From the hopeful melody of *We'll Meet Again* to the uplifting chorus of *Que Será, Será*.

It was a wonderful opportunity for the class to learn about the significance of VE Day while celebrating the values of peace, resilience, and togetherness.



The Minerva students participated in different activities to celebrate VE Day this week.

They listened to music that was played during that time, discussed the instruments used and learnt why we celebrate VE Day. They also made some jam sandwiches and for dessert they decorated some cupcakes.

During maths they identified the shapes used to make the British flag and we spoke about the characteristics of the shapes. In Humanities they listened to BBC Newsround and had a discussion on how WW2 impacted children and how they were needed to be evacuated to the countryside.



In Early Years, Maracas and Tambourine classes made jam sandwiches, listened to stories and did some tea bag painting which everyone really enjoyed. It was a lovely experience celebrating a such a special memory in history.



Residential News

Celebrating VE day at Richley House



Children and young people took part in community visits to the local shop. Staff supported road safety and long cane skills.



Rights respecting schools



UNCRC Article 2

All children have these rights no matter what their differences are

Our article of the week that we have been learning about is Article 2.

Article 28 is Non-Discrimination.

The UNCRC applies to all under 18s, with no exceptions.

Governments should make sure that every child has equal access to their rights.
Governments should make sure that children are protected against discrimination.

Some activities this week:



Bassoon class read two books on their rights based on Article 2 this week:

- The same but different - Molly Potter
- We are all born free the Universal Declaration of Rights in Pictures'

Epilepsy Awareness

Out of every 100 people with a learning disability, around 22 also have epilepsy. This means epilepsy affects about one in five people with a learning disability.

The more severe the learning disability, the higher the possibility that the person will also have epilepsy.

There are many different things to help a person with epilepsy with a learning disability stay safe.

These include ways to avoid injury inside and outside the home, seizure alarms and helmets.

Doing a safety check

A safety check helps you decide whether something is safe for the person you care for. If there are risks, it helps you work out what could be done to make that activity safe enough for them to do:

1. Think about their seizures – what happens, how often they happen, specific triggers. Keep a seizure diary or download an app to help get any information about patterns or triggers. Knowing about triggers and patterns can offer some useful information about how to make an activity safe.
2. Think about what the risks would be if they had a seizure.
3. Make a plan to do things that reduce those risks.

For further information and other support, please visit:

Epilepsy Action – Epilepsy and Learning Disabilities:

<https://www.epilepsy.org.uk/living/epilepsy-and-learning-disabilities>

Epilepsy Society – Epilepsy and Learning Disabilities:

<https://epilepsysociety.org.uk/about-epilepsy/what-epilepsy/learning-disabilities>

Carol DuCasse

Children's Community Nurse Team Leader

Linden Lodge Nursing Team



Parents/Carers of Deafblind Children Support Group



Wednesday 23rd April
11:00-12:30

Challengers - The Hub
Stoke Park, London Road
Guildford, Surrey
GU1 1TU

Topic: Informal discussion

Wednesday 14th May
11:00-12:30

Chloe and Sophie's Special
Ears Fund (CSSEF) building
Manor Chambers
304 High Street
Aldershot
GU12 4LT

Topic: Informal discussion

Wednesday 28th May
19:00-20:00

Zoom - link to be sent via
email

Guest Speaker - Dr Peter
Simcock - *Lecturer and
social worker in the field of
deafblindness*

Wednesday 11th June 11:00-12:30

Challengers - The Hub
Stoke Park, London Road
Guildford, Surrey
GU1 1TU

Topic: Mechanics of Tactile BSL
with Barry Davey

To register your interest, please contact:
harriet.rice@swlstg.nhs.uk



Flyerz Fest is an adapted and inclusive hockey festival to celebrate our pan-disability hockey initiative, Flyerz! We invite players to come together and take part in a series of fun-filled hockey activities.

We also invite disabled children and young adults who do not yet play hockey to come and try Flyerz for the first time, find your local Flyerz club and meet new friends.

The event is free, fully inclusive and open to all. Register your interest now to hear more about the event, sign up and take part!



When: Sunday 13th July 2025

Where: Emmanuel Sports Ground, Beverly Way,
New Malden KT3 4PU

Time: 2pm-4pm

Scan the QR Code to register!

