

Leechpool Link

Academic Year 2023 -2024

Contact us at:
reception@leechpool.w-sussex.sch.uk

General updates/news



Dear Parents, Carers and Families

Happy New Year to everyone. Let's hope that 2024 is a happy and prosperous New Year for everyone connected with Leechpool Primary School.

The term is getting off to a great start, with all the children and staff really interested and involved in our **International Fortnight**. International Day will be celebrated on Friday 12 January when we will "jet off" around the world and share our learning about all the countries we have been studying.

The children are particularly enjoying the dancing and food sampling aspect of the projects!

Staffing updates

We currently have two members of staff off on long term illness. Ms Tartaglia, a Learning Support Assistant in Year 1 and Miss Hollis a Learning Support Assistant in Year 6. We wish both of them all the best and hope that they make a full and speedy recovery.

We also have a member of staff currently carrying out long term jury service. Mrs Lowson, the Learning Support Assistant for Year 6 and librarian will hopefully be returning to school by the end of January 2024.

To cover the posts we are using existing staff which does add pressures for all staff involved. Please be mindful of this when contacting the school. As always we will aim to respond to all families with 24-48 hours of the working week.

Can you help?

Horsham Children's Parade 2024 urgently needs sponsors to ensure that the project can go ahead in 2024.

Companies can 'Sponsor A Parade Star' displaying the company name which a team member can carry in a special sponsors section of the parade on Sunday July 7th 2024.

Get in touch at horshamchildrensparade@gmail.com for a Sponsors Pack.

Last year Leechpool took part in the parade and 70 children had a fantastic time with other children using their art skills to create a number of really colourful parade pieces



Trips

This term the children will be going on a number of educational trips. Details of these to follow. For all trips to take place we do have to ask families for voluntary contributions. If families have any difficulties with payments could we please ask them to speak to Mrs Asprey in the School Office. All discussions will be held in the strictest confidence.



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General Updates

Staff updates

Lost Property

Teacher Led Clubs

Trips

Reminders

Special Dates of Interest:

2 — 12 Jan
International Fortnight

19 Feb INSET Day

27 and 29 Feb Parent
Consultations Evenings

27 March School
Easter Assembly —
classes only

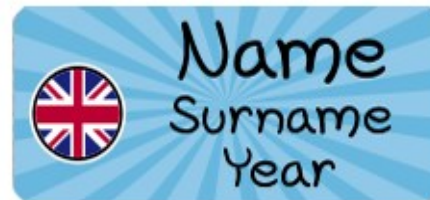
Thursday 28 March
End of term

Lost Property

Please could you check that **ALL** of your child's belongings are named and labelled so that they can be returned if they do get lost. At the end of last term we had a huge amount of unclaimed uniform, coats and PE kits that were sent to recycling.

We also had a large number of snack pots and water bottles that again had to be disposed of. We know these items are not cheap and to help you locate lost items we have **wooden lost property boxes in the infant and junior playgrounds** which are regularly added to. These boxes are checked by Year 6 monitors and all named items are returned to the children concerned. If items are not named then they are left in the box waiting to be claimed.

To help you, it might now be a good time to get organised! Consider "My Nametags". The clothes labels and stickers are extremely hardwearing and save a great deal of effort and helps avoid potential lost property. For every order of personalised labels "My Nametags" will contribute to the school. Order online at www.MyNametags.com and use our unique School ID number 28918.



Teacher Led After School Clubs

These will begin week commencing 22 January with the exception of Kicks Dance, Karate, Clubbercise and Chelsea Football who have individual starting dates. The dates and times for all these clubs/activities are on the school website. The sign-up for clubs will be available on the school website from Monday 8 January – Friday 12 January 2024.

Illnesses

The winter months are well and truly upon us, and the usual winter germs are here. We ask for parents to be considerate to all our families when managing illnesses. If your child needs regular doses of Calpol to manage their symptoms, please keep your child at home to rest. This helps reduce the length of the illness and prevents passing the germs onto other children and staff. We also ask that children are kept at home if they have spots or a rash that have not been seen by a doctor. Stomach bugs are common this time of year. Please continue to follow the rules around vomiting and diarrhoea by keeping your child at home for 48-hours after their last episode.

REMINDERS

Reporting illness to the School Office

Could we please ask that **all families** report to the School Office what is actually wrong with their children e.g. fever, headaches etc. as we do have to keep a record of the different illnesses of our children and report these externally. Thank you.

School Uniform

During the cold and wet weather, it is very important that all children have a coat, preferably water-proof. Please can **all children wear black school shoes** and **not trainers**. A full school uniform list can be found on the school website for information.



Riding Bikes and Scooters to school

We would like to remind families that **no children should ride their bicycles or scooters on the school site**. We would also ask all families to be considerate to all pedestrians on the way to and from school, as a number of near misses have been reported already this term.

Up-to-date information/Contact Details

Could we please ask for all families to ensure that the School Office has up-to-date contact information for all children, especially any changes of phone numbers and medical information.

Going home arrangements

Could you please ensure that your child knows who is collecting them from school. If arrangements are different to normal, could you please ensure a note is written to the Class Teacher or that a member of the teaching staff is told in the infant playground. **Children of Year 2 classes should now be encouraged to make their own way to their classroom doors in the mornings.** A happy wave to them at the end of the Year 2 pathway as they enter the class should encourage their independence. This will help them to prepare for the move to the juniors next year.

Juniors children are expected to tell their teachers independently at the start of the school day of any changes in pick up arrangements.



Cars should not be parked on the yellow lines outside the school at any time and at no time should cars reverse into the school entrance. Could we please ask that once you have picked up your children that you leave the front of the school as quickly as possible to avoid creating over crowding and congestion.

If you have any questions regarding any information in this newsletter, please do not hesitate to contact the School Office.

With best wishes for 2024.

Nicola Davenport

Disclaimer

The Governing Body and WSCC do not support or recommend the advice, products or services offered within this newsletter nor the organisations offering them. Individuals should satisfy themselves on the suitability of any of the advice, products or services and on the nature and standing of these organisations.