



Leechpool Link

June 2025

Academic Year 2024-2025

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

Updates for the Summer Term 2025



Remember to follow us on twitter and Facebook

This Issue: 10

General Update	1
School Places	1
Staffing Updates	1
Class Arrangements 2025-2026	2
Lost Property	2
Reminders	2

Special dates of Interest:

- Thursday 12 June
Tour de Leechpool all day
- Thursday 26 June
Junior Sports morning 9.30 a.m.
- Monday 30 June
Infant Sports afternoon 1.30 p.m.
- Monday 21st July
9.00 a.m. Year 6 Leavers Assembly

See the Diary Page for updates for this term and 2025 - 2026

Dear Everyone

We have had a great start to the final half term of this academic year! The weather is a bit unpredictable but hopefully the sun will be shining again soon! The children are all enjoying the outdoors and playing on the school field at break times.



The children have enjoyed a number of trips out this term and these are great for ensuring that the learning of the children is both meaningful and fun. A big thank you to all the families for supporting these activities.

The cookery room is nearly ready to be used by the children and new equipment has been purchased with LEAF fund raising money. The children and staff are deciding on recipes so hopefully they will all soon be able to tell you all about their cooking experiences! Eagle Class (Year 4) have moved to their new classroom and all the children have settled happily in to the new room. The school is now working on the extension to the nursery and afterschool club areas. The work will ensure that the accommodation doubles in size and enables the nursery intake to increase to 30 per session from September 2025.

Developments to the playground to improve the play experience of all the children are being discussed with the children and we hope to have some firm plans in place soon to share with everyone.

School Places

The new reception classes for 2025 - 2026 are full, which we are all delighted about. Again, this year we were a popular choice for families across Horsham. New Intake parent meetings will be held on Monday 9 June at 6.00 p.m. and Tuesday 10 June at 2.00 p.m.

Due to demand for school places at Leechpool, could families please let the school office know if they will be moving children from the school at the end of this term.

We have waiting lists for classes and we are keen to ensure that families wanting to come to the school are informed as early as possible. Thank you.



Staffing Updates for 2025-2026

Mr King has been appointed to the role of senior teacher and will be working across the school on a Friday as well as having class responsibilities for Year 6 on Mondays to Thursdays. This is to assist with bridging the gap of Mr Law's reduced working week.

Mr Stirling has been appointed as the new Site Manager and has begun to pick up on the many roles and responsibilities around the school.

At the end of the year we will see a number of changes to the staffing team. In July we will be saying a sad goodbye to Mrs McIlwraith who is leaving after 14 years of loyal and first class service to the children of Leechpool. Mrs McIlwraith is leaving to work for Barnardos supporting children in schools with their mental health and well-being.

Miss Thaddeus is leaving to work in special education. Miss Thaddeus has worked for the school for the last 10 years and she has been a fantastic teacher in Key stage 2. Her enthusiasm and support of children has been truly outstanding and we will miss her enormously.

We wish them both the best for the future. The staff, children and families will be given an opportunity to say a proper goodbye to all members of staff at the end of term.

The school is currently in the process of recruiting an experienced teacher to work in Year 4. Once an appointment has been made, all families will be notified of the successful applicant.

At the end of last half term Mrs Lowson and Mrs Joyce stepped down from their role of Librarians and Mrs Emma Stocker has now taken over the role following interviews. We would like to thank both Mrs Lowson and Mrs Joyce for their hard work and great service over the last eight years and for ensuring children could read their favourite books.

Class arrangements for 2025 - 2026

A separate letter regarding teaching arrangements will be sent to families. This letter informs families of the teacher allocations for September 2025–2026.

All children will be told their Class Teacher's name and will have an opportunity to visit their new class on **Wednesday 2 July 2025**. We will be displaying all class lists outside the School Office on this day, with first names only. Please be aware that this information is not to be shared via social media or photographed due to the laws around GDPR. The lists will be removed at 4.30 p.m. on Wednesday 2 July.



Reminders

Reminder to all families

We are not permitted to authorise holidays during term time. Please be aware that the DfE closely monitors attendance and West Sussex County Council will take appropriate action.

Equipment in School

Please ensure your child has all the equipment in school for the start of each day, including lunches, reading books, appropriate clothing etc. We frequently have to take forgotten items up to class which is extremely time consuming for a busy office. We should all be working with the children to become more independent and organised with their belongings.



Water bottles and sun cream protection

Could we please remind all families that children should attend school with a water bottle, hat and sunscreen cream already applied on hot sunny days. We do monitor the time children are exposed to the sun and plan accordingly, providing times out of the sun etc. See the school website for further information on our Sun Protection Policy.

Illness Reminder

Children must be free of any symptoms of sickness and diarrhoea for 48 hours before returning to school. This is for the protection of all children and staff to avoid spreading further illness.

Parking

Could we please remind everyone to park away from the school at the beginning and end of the school day and especially during wet weather. Areas for safe parking are very limited.

At all times we would ask that you give full consideration to all our local residents who do much to support our school. Thank you.

Scooters and Bicycles

Please can we remind you that scooters and bicycles **must not** be ridden on the school site. We would also ask that children are supervised as they ride their scooters along the pathways to the school.



We would also like to remind families that helmets should be worn at all times. We are no longer issuing bike or scooter licences and all children riding to school should be under parental supervision or have parental consent. **We also would like to remind families that scooters should be taken home daily as over the half term holiday we had 4 unclaimed scooters left in the cycle sheds. The school will take no responsibility for loss or damage to bicycles or scooters left on the school site.**

Lost Property

Could all children please be encouraged to look after their equipment and uniform. We currently have a great deal of uniform without names on and this is now in the lost Property Boxes in the junior and infant playgrounds. Please check and reclaim your child's items. **All named items are returned to their rightful owners immediately.**

Playground Equipment

Could we please remind you that the outdoor climbing frames and swing **should not be used** before school or after school as we do not have staff available to supervise or enough space for all the children to go on it at one time! The school will not be held responsible for any accidents should children use the equipment at these times.

Telephone messages about going home arrangements

At the end of the school day, the School Office is very busy and it is very difficult to pass on picking up arrangements after 2.00 p.m. so please make sure any changes to arrangements are shared before this time. We understand that sometimes an emergency may occur and on these occasions we will happily help.

No Smoking / Vaping Zone

Could we please ask all families to not smoke or vape outside the school gates whilst dropping or picking up children. Your attention to this would be much appreciated.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the School Office.



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.