



Leechpool Link

Academic Year
2024-2025
Issue 6

General updates

Contact us at:

reception@leechpool.w-sussex.sch.uk

Dear Everyone

January was very busy with lots of learning and excitement during the International Fortnight and now we are all excitedly working hard on our new topics and ensuring that reading and spelling are a key focus. In mathematics the fluency of mathematics has improved and all the staff are ensuring that reasoning and problem solving is a key element of lessons.

Sporting events have started again and this has involved football, netball and dodgeball. Some of our meetings are competitive and these are carried out with real determination by the competitors. Other events that we get involved in are to build up confidence and self esteem and give the children a chance to represent the school.

We would also like to say a big well done to Seal class (Year 2) for their successful swimming sessions at the Pavilions. We are looking forward to hearing about everyone's achievements in the coming week. A big thank you to all the families who support the events—it is much appreciated by everyone.

This Issue:
Feb 2025

General Updates

Staff Information

Attendance and Lateness

Parent Consultations

Attendance and lateness

Curriculum Updates

Reminders

Staffing Update

We are pleased to announce that the governors have appointed Mrs Smith as the new Assistant Headteacher for Inclusion and Achievement. Following a rigorous interview processes Mrs Smith was selected from a strong field of candidates. She will be joining the school at the beginning of the summer term.

The governors have also appointed Mx Kerr as the new temporary teacher for Penguin class, when Mrs Hampton begins her maternity leave. Mx Kerr will be working with the Mrs Hampton and the class this term to enable a smooth transition.

We look forward to welcoming Mrs Smith and Mx Kerr to the Leechpool Team.



Attendance and Lateness

Attendance Ladder

How close is your child to 100%?

0 days off school	100%	Perfection
Equates to 2 days off school each year	99%	Excellent
Equates to 5 days off school each year	97%	Good
Equates to 10 days off school each year	95%	Slight Concern
Equates to 20 days off school each year	90%	Concerned
Equates to 30 days off school each year	85%	Very Concerned

Attendance at school is very important and children should attend school when well enough to do so. Non attendance can create bad habits for children, and families need to ensure that the reason a child is not in school is fully justified.

Appointments such as the dentist should be made out of school time and family trips should be avoided whenever possible. The children attend school for 190 days and have 175 days/holidays to carry out family events.

Attendance of children in schools is a national issue and last week **15% of Leechpool children did not attend a full week**. Being on time for school is also very important. Last week **11.5 % of children were recorded as late** at Leechpool.

Junior children (Years 3–6) need to be in school, sat in the classroom and ready to learn by 8.45 a.m. Infant children (Years R–2) by 8.55 a.m.



Being on time for school is key for successful academic progress. Late arrivals disrupts and slows down the learning for the class, as teachers are having to repeat instructions multiple times.

Special Dates of Interest:

See the Diary Page Updates for dates for this term and 2024-2025.

Parent Consultations

The next parent consultations will be:

Tuesday 4 March 3.30pm - 7.00p.m.

Thursday 6 March 3.30pm- 7.00p.m.

All children are invited to attend the consultations with their families. Families will be able to make an appointment for all year groups on MyChildAtSchool (MCAS) using your personal login. Sign up for the consultations will go live on Monday 24 February 2025. Any questions regarding this please email MCAS@leechpoolprimaryschool.co.uk

Miss Payne (SENCO/Inclusion Manager) will be sending out invites to families to attend separate consultations with her.



Safer Internet Day—Tuesday 11 February 2025

Safer
Internet
Day 2025 | Tuesday
11 February

Coordinated by the UK Safer Internet Centre

saferinternetday.org.uk

The internet is a fantastic resource and support throughout the world and is used daily by everyone. However, the internet does provide us all with challenges and areas of concern. At all times, Leechpool works to educate and secure the children's access to the positive aspects of the digital world.

There are a number of useful websites for families to use and we have listed these on our [school website](#). Please ensure that you keep updated on the different trends so that you are best informed to support your children.

A request to Families

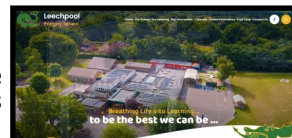
We are aware that many children in Key Stage 2 enjoy playing on—line games at home with their friends which we understand is a fun activity but could we ask that families ensure these activities are carefully monitored so that all children are using appropriate language and are considerate to each other. Leechpool staff should not be having to sort out on-line incidents and falling outs amongst children that have occurred during out of school hours. Thank you.

Curriculum Information

We are constantly updating our curriculum information for families on the school website and would encourage everyone to regularly check the website for updates.

We also have a useful [Parent/Family Home School Booklet](#) which provides families with all the information they need for children in the different year groups at Leechpool School. It provides families with a great deal of information on how the children can be helped at home.

We also produce half termly Curriculum and Inclusion Newsletters to focus on key areas of the curriculum and inclusion/mental well-being. For information on your child/children's progress we provide termly updates through a face to face meeting. We also encourage all families to contact their child's class teacher if they have any questions or areas of concern. This can be done by contacting the School Office or speaking to a class teacher at the end of the school day.



School Uniform

Thank you to everyone for ensuring that the school uniform policy is followed. The children all look very smart and they wear their uniform with pride.

Please **remember school jumpers and shoes should be worn every day – body warmers/thermal long sleeve tops under polo shirts are not considered school uniform. Children need to wear a school sweatshirt.**

Trainers should only be worn for sporting activities. Black school shoes should be worn during the school day.

Could we also ask that PE kits are brought to school on a Monday and taken home on a Friday for washing and checking, by all year groups. This will ensure that PE kits are regularly monitored and it should help to keep our lost property collection down.



Hair

- 1) For safety reasons, all long hair needs to be drawn back from the face and tightly secured (e.g. by hair bands).
- 2) No extreme fashion hairstyles are acceptable i.e. Mohicans, sculpted patterns, tramlines or shaved heads etc. If you are unsure – please seek advice before cutting or styling your child's hair.
- 3) Ribbons, clips, headscarves etc. should be kept simple and to school or hair colours. Braiding and coloured beads are best kept for school holidays. We monitor this at all times.

Head lice

Whenever we have a case of head lice reported to the school, we do inform all families of the class and we ask that all families check the hair of their children and treat as necessary.

Remember to combat head lice **all families** have to take responsibility.

Parking Outside the school

Could we please ask you to ensure that at all times whilst parking near the school you are considerate of local residents and that you are vigilant regarding the safety of all our children.



All car users should ensure that they do not park on yellow lines or near the drop down pavements used for crossing the road by the children. Thank you.

School Office Opening times

The School Office opening times are from 8.00 a.m. to 4.30 p.m. Monday to Friday. All families visiting the school should do so between these times only. Changes to pick up arrangements for children should **not** be emailed to the school. Parents need to speak to a member of staff by telephone before 2.00 p.m. Thank you.

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

Nicola Davenport
Headteacher

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.