



# Leechpool Link 2024

Academic Year 2023-2024

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Issue 1 March 2024

### Special Dates of Interest:

- Friday 8 March—Big Run
- Friday 15 March—Red Nose Day—Children invited to wear red.
- Wednesday 27th March — Easter Garden/scene plate Competition
- Thursday 28 March - End of term
- Summer Term starts Monday 15 April 2024

### General Updates and information

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are pleased to share a number of successes over the last few weeks:

Leechpool swimmers won the Horsham Swimming Gala for non-club swimmers. This was the first time the school has had such great success. Congratulations to the swimming team.

The school has been awarded the Schools Music Mark in recognition of a commitment to providing high-quality music education for all children and young people 2023-24. Well done to the Music team and our talented musicians.

Giraffe class have won a free farm trip as part of a UK competition to Highden Farm. The children shared a great video about food growing and farming sustainability.



### Staff Updates

This Friday Miss Lloyd-Jones will be starting her maternity leave. We wish her and her family all the best for the coming weeks and look forward to hearing her exciting news of the baby's arrival. Miss Henley is currently working with Miss Lloyd-Jones to ensure the smooth transition of the class and Phase Leader duties.

On Monday 18 March we will be saying a sad good-bye to Mrs Newman who works part-time in Year 3. She is leaving to take up greater career challenges in a school in Crawley. We all wish her every success in her new role. Ms Davis has been appointed to replace her and we are looking forward to her joining the Year 3 team. She has previously worked with the staff of the school whilst doing her training.

At the end of last term Mrs Best in Year 2 informed us she was leaving to take up a new job opportunity and she has been replaced by Mrs Short who is enjoying getting to know all the children in Key Stage 1.

Mrs Johnson has also joined the Business Team she is working part-time 9.30—1.30 p.m. to support with the financial and personnel aspects of school management.

We are currently advertising for a new post to support the Learning Support team. Interested candidates should look at the job advertised on the school website.

We currently have a number of staff off on long term sickness leave; Mrs Child in Year 2, Ms Tartaglia in Year 1, Miss Hollis in Year 6 and Miss Cullern our Enrichment Lead teacher. All posts are being covered by staff internally and I would like to thank the staff for their support and hard work at this time.

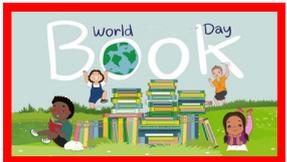


### World Book Day—Thursday 7 March 2024



**No dressing up!!!**—but lots of book fun with Book Cafés, Book Flashes and taking photos of reading in unusual places.

The children will all spend the day/week sharing their favourite books in a Book Café environment and having a snack or two! They will also be able to share their favourite books during Book Flash sessions in the classroom. The home challenge for all the children is to think of an unusual place to read a book and take a photograph for our Book



**book in an unusual place!!** Photographs to be brought into school ready to go up on our reading wall display

### Safer Internet Updates

Following our Safer Internet Weeks we would like to remind parents that it is very important to keep vigilant about the different social media platforms that children are accessing on different devices at home.

We will be reinforcing this at school. Your help to support this will be much appreciated.



For up to date information, take a look at the National Online Safety website by clicking [here](#).

### Age Restrictions On Social Media

|   |                       |                       |                             |                   |   |
|---|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------|---|
| <b>13</b><br>Twitter<br>Facebook<br>Instagram<br>Pinterest<br>Google+<br>Tumblr<br>Reddit<br>Snapchat | <b>14</b><br>LinkedIn | <b>16</b><br>WhatsApp | <b>17</b><br>Vine<br>Tinder | <b>18</b><br>Path | <b>18</b><br>(13 with parents consent)<br>YouTube<br>Kik<br>Foursquare<br>WeChat<br>Kik<br>Flickr |
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## Parent Consultations

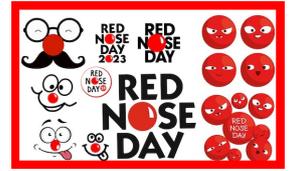
Thank you for attending the Parent Consultations this week. Reports from the evening have been sent out today. If you have had any trouble receiving your child's profile report for this term please contact the school office.



## Red Nose Day 2024—Comic Relief

The Red Nose Day fundraiser is on **Friday 15 March**. The Pupil Voice members will organise this event and will send a letter to tell you about their fun activities.

It might help for all the children to work on their joke telling abilities!! And to check out their wardrobes for red items of clothing!!!



## Holidays during term time – West Sussex County Council Policy



Please can we remind families to refrain from taking holidays during term time. There are **175** other days during the year for holidays and other activities. Holidays during term time are disruptive for the child and the teachers, who have to plan additional work to allow the child to catch up on what they have missed.

**As a school we are not permitted to authorise holidays during term time and therefore West Sussex County Council will issue fixed penalty notices to families.**

Your support of the above would be much appreciated.

## GENERAL UPDATES/Reminders



### Easter Competition for the end of term

This year's Easter Competition is for children to decorate a plate as an Easter scene (no adult help!!). Please try to be as creative as possible. Prizes will be given to 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> in each year group. Entries need to be brought into school on Tuesday 26 March in time for our Easter Assemblies on Wednesday 27 March 2024. We are looking forward to seeing a range of creative ideas!

### Post Box - Reminder

To avoid a queue at the School Office, if you are dropping off letters etc., please use the post box by the Clubs noticeboard. This is checked daily. Telephone calls and emails are the preferred method of communication.



### Parking and Road Safety

Please remember that the area immediately outside the school is designated a no drive area and with the double yellow lines there are few parking spaces available so it is best to park away from the school. **By following the rules for parking, we will keep our children safe and our neighbours happy.**



### School Uniform

Could you please continue to ensure that all children wear the correct school uniform, school shoes and PE kits. All hair accessories should be in school colours or the same colour as the child's hair. School shoes should be worn to school—trainers should be brought to school in a bag for changing in to.



### Lost Property – Please check in the boxes for lost items

Lost property is located in the lost property boxes in the Infant and Junior playgrounds. Please check these boxes for any missing items. On Monday 25 March until Thursday 28 March all lost property for the term will be put in the outside classroom in the infant playground. Please ensure that you check the items on display for any of your missing items.

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

Nicola Davenport  
Headteacher

#### Disclaimer

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