

# Leechpool Link

**Academic Year 2021-2022**

Contact us at:  
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## General updates



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**This Issue:**

**General Update**

**Covid Updates  
DfE Funding**

**Governor Elections**

**School Places 2021**

**Harvest**

**Music Tuition Opportunities**

**Reminders**

## Special Dates of

**Interest:-**

- Six-weeks in Event 14 Oct at 2.00 p.m.
- Book Fortnight 4-16 Oct
- Christmas Card Designs by 18 October
- Dress up day—Fantasy theme 15 October
- Inset Day 22 October School Closed to children

**See the Diary Page Updates and the website calendar for further dates for this term and 2021-2022.**

Dear Everyone

The month of October is a very busy one at Leechpool, as all the children have now settled into their classes and assessments of the children's strengths have been further identified. We have a great deal planned to continue to ensure the children have the right access to the curriculum. Further information will be shared in our half termly curriculum newsletter. As a school, we are working very hard to ensure that we are continuing to raise achievement and outcomes across the school in a relevant and fun way for all children of the school to make up for the disruption of Covid restrictions in the last two academic years.

At the end of Summer term 2021 we were very pleased with the results of Year 6 from our internal assessments but we know we still have work to do to further ensure the progress for all children. Last academic year no national tests were carried out again and no comparisons will be made with national data.

Following on from the lockdowns, all schools continue to be given additional funding to support the children to consolidate their learning to expected levels. How this money is spent is down to the schools with the support of their governing bodies.

At Leechpool we are continuing to put in place a number of approaches to ensure that all children benefit. These include:

- Additional adult support in the classrooms
- A range of clubs to support children with their well-being after school which have begun this week. These clubs are organised for each year group. Reception Class Clubs will be introduced in the Spring term once the children have settled into school life.
- Homework Club for Key Stage 2 Year Groups—invitation only
- Booster classes in Basic Skills as the need is identified before school from Monday—Friday.
- The introduction of a tutoring programme for identified children. Further information will be shared once it is fully in place.
- Counselling sessions with approved professional counsellors as the need is identified.

## Governor Elections

Please remember to send in all your ballot papers by 3.00 p.m. on Monday 11 October. If you require a ballot paper please see a member of staff on duty at drop off or pick up, or visit the school office.



## New Intake for September 2022

The school is currently welcoming interest from new families to the school for September 2022. If you have a child due to start school in September 2022, please visit [www.westsussex.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.westsussex.gov.uk/admissions) for further information and to make your on-line application.

Tours of the school are currently being organised. If you wish to arrange a visit please contact the School Office who will be happy to arrange a time. The visits last about 30 minutes and children are welcome to visit with their families.

## Harvest Assembly

We would like to thank everyone for their generous support at our Harvest celebrations. A wonderful collection of tinned fruit, meat and vegetables were collected for Horsham Matters – part of the Trussell Trust. **A special thank you to the School Council, Miss Cullern and Mrs Letley for organising the event.**



## PE and Games

This term the school has already started to participate in a range of competitive sports. The children all enjoy representing the school and take pride in wearing the school sports kits. Staff are excited about the new competitions and have already shown their support of the children by cheering on our different teams. Our new basketball team have enjoyed some very good success coming third in the recent Horsham competition. Mr Dyball was particularly pleased with the performance of his team.

We have continued to host inter school tournaments with Southwater Juniors and these events are enjoyed by all. The children have all shown that the result is not everything and taking part is the important thing.

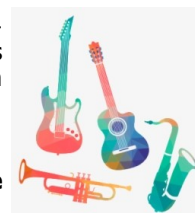


## 'West Sussex Music Service' – Violin and Woodwind Lessons

West Sussex Music Service are currently offering violin, woodwind lessons (flute, clarinet and saxophone) and guitar lessons to children in years 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6. Lessons are taught in small groups and take place during the school day. There is a fee for lessons and you would need to buy or hire an instrument. For further information, please go to:

[www.westsussexmusic.co.uk](http://www.westsussexmusic.co.uk). The link for this is available on the school website.

**Mr Gilmore our music teacher also provides a range of private music lessons and can be contacted through the school office.**



## Inset Day 22 October 2021

The school is closed to all children on Friday 22 October for staff training. This will be used to further develop the Leechpool curriculum in all subjects in preparation for Ofsted deep dives with subject leaders.

## Reminders

### Coats in School

A reminder to everyone that all children need to wear a warm waterproof coat to school so that they can get the most out of break times. Children are encouraged to go out in all weathers. Thank you.

### Sickness

**All children who are sick or have suffered from diarrhoea should not attend school for 48 hours following the final symptoms. This rule is in place to avoid the sickness being passed on to others in school.**

We would also appreciate all families ensuring that we have updated medical and contact details. We have had a number of cases recently where our information on file has not been updated by families and this does cause a delay in contacting families in cases of emergency.

We would like to remind all families that the school is a nut free zone and that children must not bring any snacks to school with traces of nuts. We do have to be very strict about this as we currently have children attending the school who are affected by nut allergies. Your help and support with this is much needed.



### Bikes and Scooters in and around school

Could we please request that all children who ride to school on bikes or scooters do so appropriately, giving consideration to other pavement users. We have had a number of near misses lately and we are keen to avoid a serious accident. We would also like to remind you that children **should not be riding scooters or bikes in the school grounds** at the beginning and end of the school day. The school is very busy and we need to ensure that all families are safe following the new one-way systems. Thank you.

Could we also ask that families waiting for Breakfast Club at 8.00 a.m. avoid standing in the road as the gates to the school are being used by staff to arrive for work.

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

Best wishes

Nicola Davenport  
Headteacher

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