



Leechpool Link

Academic Year 2020 -2021

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Special Dates of Interest:

15 Dec Dragon Team Winners wear own clothes—to be advised.

16 Dec Christmas Lunch

17 Dec Christmas Parties

18 Dec Christmas Jumper Day optional

18 Dec End of Term

Mon 4 Jan Start of the Spring Term

See the Diary Page Updates for further dates for this term

General Updates

Dear Everyone

Christmas has certainly started to arrive at Leechpool and what a busy time we are all enjoying despite the many restrictions. Our Christmas decorations are out and the children are busy decorating their classrooms.

Just a reminder that children all need to be in school by 9.00 a.m. every morning. Children arriving after this time will be marked as late. It also is very important that all families keep to the staggered arrival and departure times allocated on the School Covid webpage.

Could we also ask that children try to bring all snacks, lunch boxes, and essential foot wear at the start of the day. Some families have said that children are finding it difficult carrying all items. We would suggest that they use their school PE Sports bags only if this is a problem.

All children riding to school on their own are required to wear a helmet at all times.

Staffing Update

Mrs Kingsford is currently taking some time off work due to a family bereavement. We wish her and her family well at this very sad time. Due to this, the School Office is working at reduced capacity so we would appreciate it if families could keep contact to essential enquiries only.

We would also like to remind families that we can not accept forgotten items for children throughout the school day.

Christmas Sponsored Events 27 November 2020

Last Friday the Christmas sponsored events were a huge success with all the children enjoying and actively taking part in the different activities. We are now busy collecting sponsor money for all our worthy causes, please could all money be in school by Friday 11 December.

All monies raised will be shared with Children in Need, Horsham Food Bank, Dame Vera Lynn Children's Charity and for playtime equipment for the children of Leechpool School. Thank you everyone for your support.

Christmas Chocolate Raffle for Year R— Year 6

Tickets will start being sold from Friday 11 December and will be drawn on Friday 18 December. The cost of a ticket is £1 a ticket or 6 tickets for £5. If pupils want to buy a raffle ticket, they must bring in a sealed envelope (which the school will provide) with their name and the amount on the front of the envelope, so no one has to open the envelope and touch the money.

All year groups will be given a book of raffle tickets to share between both classes. When a pupil buys a raffle ticket, they write their name on the ticket and put it in the box. The School Council members will be helping the teachers to organize this raffle. Good luck everyone, the Chocolate Hampers look amazing!!!!

Christmas Cards

Christmas cards written by the children can be brought into school where they will go straight in the class Christmas Post Boxes. If children are writing cards they will need to be in school by Friday 11 December at the latest with children's full names and classes on the envelope – for quarantine purposes. All cards will be distributed and sent home on Wednesday 16 December unopened following strict quarantine. No late deliveries will be accepted.



Christmas Video Messages from all Classes

This year, sadly we are not organising our annual Christmas Concerts and performances. However the children are working in their classes to produce a short Christmas video clip to share with you and your families over the Christmas Holiday.

The videos promise to be a real delight with:

- The Mini Nativity written and performed by Koala and Kangaroo Classes
- Strictly Come Christmas by Hedgehog, Squirrel, Penguin and Seal Classes
- The Night before Christmas by Llama and Jaguar Classes
- The 12 Days of Covid Christmas by Giraffe, Lion, Panda and Tiger Classes



The video links will be sent out to all families in the last week of term, after 16 December 2020.

Dragon Team Winners for the Autumn Term

On Monday 14 December we will announce the winning Dragon Team for this term. The children in this Dragon Team will be allowed to wear their own clothes to school on Tuesday 15 December 2020.

Christmas Lunch – Wednesday 16 December



Christmas lunch will be by year groups this year. Staff and children will enjoy lunch as classes in their year groups along to our tradition of Christmas music.

This year children will not need to bring in Christmas crackers but can bring in a festive accessory to wear for lunch e.g. a Santa/elf hat, a bow tie, Christmas hair. accessory or something of their own creation. etc

Last Day of Term

On Friday 18 December we will be holding a Christmas/Sparkle Jumper Day. All children are invited to wear a Christmas/Sparkled themed jumper instead of their school sweatshirt with either their school trousers or skirt.



End of Term Games/Activities on the last day

Sadly this year, no small games can be brought into school by the children on the last day of term. However the teachers will be planning lots of exciting Christmas games and activities for the children to enjoy.

A number of families have asked if children can bring in small gifts for their teachers and this will be allowed for those children and families who wish to do so.

General Reminders

Information about Curriculum and Inclusion can be found in the half termly newsletters.

After School Clubs in the Spring Term

Our Spring term teacher led clubs start the week beginning 25 January 2021 – please see the school website for the activities on offer at the beginning of next term.

From 11-15 January the sign up sheets will be available on the school website. Please remember only 1 club per child and if a club is over subscribed we will pull names out of a hat. Once clubs have been allocated, additional extra spaces will be given out to ensure all clubs are full.

Reminders

48 hour recovery period for sickness and diarrhoea

Children can only return to school 48 hours after the last period of sickness or diarrhoea. This rule is strictly upheld to ensure the good health of all children and staff. Recently a local school had to close for three days and we would hate this to happen at Leechpool School.

Parking Reminder

Thank you everyone for working hard to improve the parking outside the school. Could we please ask everyone to continue to make a special effort to be considerate to each other and to our neighbours especially during bad weather.

Illegal and thoughtless parking does put our children at risk. Please make every effort to park away from the school.

We would also ask that families do not reverse their cars in the road outside the school during drop-off and pick up times. This will help to keep everyone safer.

We wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

With best wishes

Nicola Davenport and the Staff of Leechpool Primary School



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