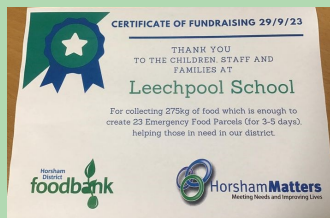


Leechpool Link

Academic Year 2023-2024

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

General updates



Remember to follow us on twitter and Facebook

This Issue:

General Update

After School Teacher led Club Info

Class Representative for LEAF

School Places 2024

Harvest Assembly Thank you

Music Tuition Opportunities

Reminders

Special Dates of Interest:-

- 18 Oct Christmas Card Designs to be returned
- 10 Oct Book Corner Competition
- 9 Oct Six-weeks in Event at 2.00 p.m.
- 20 Oct Inset Day School Closed to children

See the Diary Page Updates and the website calendar for further dates for this term and 2023-2024.

Dear Families

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.

At the end of Summer term 2023 we were very pleased with the results of Year 2 and 6 from external assessments but we know we still have work to do to further ensure the progress for all children. Please see the outcomes on the website [here](#).

To support the learning of the children, Leechpool continues to provide:-

- Additional adult support in the classrooms
- A range of clubs to support children with their well-being after school which began this week. These clubs are organised for each year group. Reception Class Clubs will be introduced in the Spring term 2024 once the children have settled into school life.
- Homework Club for some Key Stage 2 Year Groups— invitation only.
- Booster classes in Basic Skills as the need is identified before school from Monday— Friday for children of Key Stage 2.
- Counselling sessions with approved professional councillors as the need is identified.

After School Clubs led by the teachers started this week and again this year we are able to provide a wide range of clubs for the children to enjoy. A big thank you to all the staff who volunteer their time to run the clubs alongside their many duties and responsibilities. Click [here](#) to see all the After-School Clubs this term.

In August we were very pleased to be granted planning permission for the building of a cooking room, the expansion of Caterpillar Nursery and After-School Club and a new classroom. The Governing Body of the school is currently working to ensure the project can start as soon as possible.

Class Representatives for Leaf

Leechpool is very successful with its fund raising activities and everyone is fantastic at helping on the days of the events. To make the process even smoother, we are asking for volunteers to represent each class across all year groups so that we have a good communication link to all parents to share updates and information. We know that all classes and year groups have a social media page to share information and we would like to utilise this to get all families involved.

We have sent out a separate letter to explain what is involved and would really appreciate it if we could have volunteers. There would be no face to face meetings and we would aim to hold a short Zoom meeting once a half term to share updates. Meetings would be short and used to update and share ideas We do hope you will help us with this request.



New Intake for September 2024

The school is currently welcoming interest from new families to the school for September 2024. If you have a child due to start school in September 2024, please visit 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.

Parent Consultations

A reminder to all families that the Parent Consultations will be held on **Tuesday 7 and Thursday 9 November 2023** from 3.30–7.00 p.m. Children are invited to attend the meetings with parents. All families will have the chance to meet with their child's class teacher to discuss the progress of their child and to identify areas for development. We do hope all families will attend with their children. Information on how to sign up will be shared nearer the time.

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 total of 27 boxes were collected. **A special thank you to the Pupil Voice Committee, Miss Cullern and Mrs Hampton for organising the event.**



PE and Games

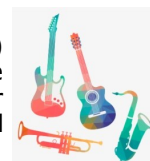
This term the school has already started to participate in a range of competitive sports. The children all enjoy representing the school and take pride in wearing the school sports kits. Staff are excited about the new competitions and have already shown their support of the children by cheering on our different teams.

We have continued to host inter school tournaments with Southwater Juniors and these events have been 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' – Recorder, 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. 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

Inset Day Friday 20 October 2023

The school is **closed to all children on Friday 20 October** for staff training. This will be used to update the first-aid certificates of all staff to ensure all staff have the correct knowledge to help children if an injury or illness occurs.

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 and lunchtimes. 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, wearing helmets and 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 one-way systems. Thank you.

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

We would also ask that all families are considerate to our neighbours when parking and that vehicles are parked correctly and not obstructing access by dangerous parking on corners and on the pavement. Turning vehicles outside the school is very restricted and should be avoided if at all possible.



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

Best wishes

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 organisation 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.