

Leechpool Link

Academic Year 2023 - 2024

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Special Dates of Interest:

Interest:

- **13 Sept** Meet the Teacher sessions in school
- **18– 22 Sept** On-line After School Teacher Led Clubs sign up
- **Thurs 28 Sept** Harvest Assembly Food Donations

See the Diary Page for further dates for this term on the school website.

General updates

Dear Everyone

Welcome to the first edition for this academic year of Leechpool Link. It was fantastic to see all the children and to listen to their many adventures over the summer holidays.

We are all looking forward to the new school year and working hard to achieve even greater success.



Staff News

This term we welcome seven new members of staff to our school team:

Miss Moir (Year 6) and Miss Royle (Year 5) teachers in Upper Key Stage 2. In Key Stage 1 Miss Graham (Year 2) and Mr Coe (Year 1).

In the Learning Support Team we welcome Miss Docksey (Year 6), Ms Blackwell and Mrs Grover to EYFS. Mrs Grover has currently been re-employed to support in the Administration team due to staff changes.

The school is currently advertising for the position of HR and Finance Administrator. Anyone interested in applying for the post should look at the vacancy details on the school website.



Improvements to the school over the summer holidays

During the summer holidays, a number of upgrades were made to the school building. These were:

- **Decoration of Year 6 classrooms and the Maths Hub and other key areas around the school.**
- **Replacement of flooring in Panda and Tiger Classes.**
- **Electrical Compliance Test throughout the school and PAT testing.**
- **Other Health and Safety checks were also carried out.**

A big thank you to Mr Khan (Maintenance Manager), Mr Smith and Mr Daniel Clement (Apprentice School Business Manager), for their co-ordination and completion of all the building works during the summer break. Sadly we have said goodbye to Mrs Zimmer who left the school at the end of August due to personal reasons.

Attendance Achievements

This will be reviewed by the school office and children with good attendance during the last academic year will be acknowledged. Going forward the position is that **all children should attend school if they are able to**. We will be addressing all non-attendance with families on a case by case basis in line with Government advice.

Contact Details

Please let the School Office know of any changes to contact details, particularly phone numbers and e-mails as this enables us to contact you quickly if your child is ill or has an accident at school.

Over the coming weeks, the school will be sending out a data sheet for all families to update. We would appreciate it if families could do this as soon as they are received. This will be important for the families of Year 6 in preparation for Secondary Transfer.

End of Day Arrangements

All children in Years R, 1 and 2 are collected from the infant playground/ Foundation area at the agreed staggered times. (See communication on 1 September 2023) The class teachers will dismiss the children out from their classes to you at the end of the day. All families are encouraged to carry this out as quickly as possible and to keep to the one way system to ensure that we do not have queues forming.

We would also like to ask that all families follow the school policy of not allowing children on the climbing frames at the end of the day as they are not supervised by school staff and they are not large enough for all children of the school to be on the equipment at one time!! NO CLIMBING ON TREES AT ANY TIME.

Year 3 children will be brought to the KS 2 Playground and parents may collect them from the junior playground.

Families collecting the children from the KS 2 playground need to stand in front of the fir trees. Once your child has been collected families should exit the playground by the middle wooden gate that leads to the school driveway.

Years 4, 5 and 6 children are encouraged to make their own way out of school at the end of the school day at 3.00 p.m. Families can arrange to meet the children outside the school gate.

Your cooperation with this is much appreciated.

Meet the Teacher Sessions in School

Meet the Teacher sessions have been arranged for Years R–6 on Wednesday 14 September at 3.15p.m. – 3.45 p.m. or 6.00 p.m. – 6.30 p.m. Infant presentations will start at 3.15 and 6.00 p.m. and KS 2 presentations at 3.30 and 6.15 p.m. Presentations will last no more than 10 minutes.

The meeting is designed for you to personally meet your child's teacher and to find out about routines, homework and other curriculum related information. If you require an individual meeting with your child's class teacher, could you do this by contacting the School Office. **We hope to see a family member for every child. Please try to attend your child's meeting; it really helps to develop good relationships. Meetings will be held in your child's allocated classroom. Children are welcome to attend but need to be under the supervision of adults at all times.**



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School Website

The school website is currently being updated so please take a look [here](#). The site is a helpful place to find useful information about policies, the curriculum and forthcoming events. Please check out the school promotional film for further information.

Reminders

Sign-up for Teacher Led After School Clubs

Sign-up for the Teacher led After School Clubs will be on the school website between 18 September–22 September. Information from other after school clubs; Chelsea Football, KICKS Dance and Karate will be sent out separately.



Pupils' Mobile Phones

Mobile phones should not be brought to school unless the families of Year 5 and 6 children have identified this as essential to help with travel arrangements to and from school. Phones must be named and handed to their class teacher at the start of the day. Pupils are not allowed to keep or use phones during the school day or on the school site. This policy is constantly being reviewed and we will be updating you of any changes as they occur.

PE

PE is a compulsory part of the National Curriculum and all children will need to bring their PE kit to school **every Monday** for PE days. Information regarding this was shared last term.



Painting Shirts

If possible, please provide your child with an old shirt (named) to wear over their uniform, when taking part in painting and other messy activities. If your child does get paint on their uniform the best way to deal with it is to soak the item of clothing in cold water before washing it. This allows the water-based paint that we use to lift out and not be set by any detergent or agents in washing powders.

Holidays

We would like to remind you that **family holidays will not be authorised**. This is in line with Government legislation. Further information about this is on the school website.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the School Office and we will be more than happy to help. Wishing everyone a great start to the new school year.

Best wishes

Nicola Davenport
Headteacher



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