

Leechpool Link



Academic Year 2021 -2022

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

General updates/news

Dear Parents, Carers and Families

Happy New Year to everyone. Let's hope that 2022 is a happy and prosperous New Year for everyone connected with Leechpool Primary School.

The term is getting off to a great start, with all the children and staff really interested and involved in our International Fortnight. International Day will be celebrated on Friday 14 January when we will "jet off" around the world and share our learning about all the countries we have been studying.



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Building Improvements—Library and Staffroom Development—Spring 2022



As the end of 2021 came, we prepared for the development of the new school library in celebration of Leechpool Primary reaching 50 years of serving the local community. Currently we are seeing a great deal of changes to the internal building by our building contractor IDM Building at Leechpool. Our school library has been moved temporarily to part of the entrance hall of the school and the staffroom is now in the old library. Everyone is excited as the foundations have been dug and prepared for the steel frame work installation. This is to support our new glass roof which is being built to enclose the courtyard area of the middle of the school previously used by Year 1 as an outside learning area.

The plan is for the old courtyard area to become the new Library with a glass lantern roof. This will provide a large modern knowledge and media centre/library for the children to research, study and further their learning. This ensures we are putting the development of reading clearly at the centre of the school. Please see some of the architectural images [here](#).

Special Dates of Interest:

4—14 Jan
International Fortnight

28 Feb Inset Day

8 and 9 March Parent Consultations Evenings

7 April School Easter Assembly

8 April End of term

Covid Update

Despite a great deal of media speculation over the holidays all schools are open and here at Leechpool we are continuing to provide a rich and relevant curriculum to all.

At Leechpool all our normal Covid safety measures are in place

- Continued regular washing of hands / disinfecting of classrooms / fogging
- Catch it, bin it, and kill it for all colds/sneezes and sniffles
- Routine lateral flow testing to help detect asymptomatic cases
- Lateral flow tests for families and children if Covid symptoms are suspected.
- The introduction of the new 7 day isolation period rather than ten days once negative lateral flow tests have been confirmed on days 6 and 7
- The removal of the need for PCR tests if lateral flow tests are positive due to current excessive demand for PCR tests
- Children isolating from school to complete work on Google Classrooms or See-saw. Teachers will update this daily.

The length of the 7 day isolation for all children and staff will be starting from the day after the day of testing positive. This will provide clarity for all concerned at Leechpool and will avoid confusion and unnecessary discussion between families and the school staff. This decision will be final and will be adhered to by the school at all times.

Let's hope that we all stay healthy and the children can have an education that is as uninterrupted as possible.

Lost Property

Please could you check that **ALL** of your child's belongings are named and labelled so that they can be returned if they do get lost. At the end of last term we had a huge amount of unclaimed uniform, coats and PE kits that were sent to recycling.

We also had a large number of snack pots and water bottles that again had to be disposed of. We know these items are not cheap and to help you locate lost items we have wooden lost property boxes in the infant and junior playgrounds which are regularly added to. These boxes are checked by Year 6 monitors and all named items are returned to the children concerned. If items are not named then they are left in the box waiting to be claimed.

To help you, it might now be a good time to get organised! Consider "My Nametags". The clothes labels and stickers are extremely hardwearing and save a great deal of effort and helps avoid potential lost property. For every order of personalised labels "My Nametags" will contribute to the school. Order online at www.MyNametags.com and use our unique School ID number 28918.



Teacher Led After School Clubs

These will begin week commencing 31 January with the exception of Kicks Dance, Karate, Clubbercise and Chelsea Football who have individual starting dates. The dates and times for all these clubs/activities are on the school website. The sign-up for clubs will be available on the school website from Monday 24 January – Friday 28 January 2022.

Can you help?

We are looking for a carpenter to help with a building project at the school? If anyone is interested in finding out more information could they contact the School Office.

We also need the donation/loan of guitars for our year 6 term to learn music project. If you could loan or donate an unwanted acoustic guitar, please contact the School Office



REMINDERS

Reporting illness to the School Office

Could we please ask that all families report to the School Office what is actually wrong with their children e.g. fever, headaches etc. as we do have to keep a record of the different illnesses of our children and report these externally. Thank you.

School Uniform – During the cold and wet weather, it is very important that all children have a coat, preferably waterproof. A reminder, can all children wear black school shoes and **not trainers**. A full school uniform list can be found on the school website for information.



Riding Bikes and Scooters to school

We would like to remind families that no children should ride their bicycles or scooters on the school site. We would also ask all families to be considerate to all pedestrians on the way to and from school, as a number of near misses have been reported already this term.

Up-to-date information/Contact Details

Could we please ask for all families to ensure that the School Office has up-to-date contact information for all children, especially any changes of phone numbers and medical information.

Going home arrangements

Could you please ensure that your child knows who is collecting them from school. If arrangements are different to normal, could you please ensure a note is written to the Class Teacher or that a member of the teaching staff is told in the infant playground. **Children of Year 2 classes should now be encouraged to make their own way to their classroom doors in the mornings.** A happy wave to them at the doorway as they enter the class should encourage their independence. This will help them to prepare for the move to the juniors next year.

Juniors children are expected to tell their teachers independently at the start of the school day of any changes in pick up arrangements.



Cars should not be parked on the yellow lines outside the school at any time and at no time should cars reverse into the school entrance. Could we please ask that once you have picked up your children that you leave the front of the school as quickly as possible to avoid creating over crowding and congestion.

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

With best wishes for 2022

Nicola Davenport

Headteacher

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