

LEECHPOOL LINK**November 2017****Headteacher: Mrs Nicola Davenport**

Dear Everyone

Welcome back to the second part of the Autumn term and all the many events we have planned.

The dark nights have begun and the cold and wet weather is starting, so coats for everyone please! Please also ensure that children are visible during the dark nights with appropriate reflectors etc.

Staff Update

Miss Currington and Mrs Gray have informed the school that they will be returning to work following maternity leave in January 2018. We are delighted to hear this good news and look forward to welcoming them back to Leechpool. They will be working as a job share in Giraffe Class - Year 5. Miss Currington on Mondays – Wednesdays and Mrs Gray Thursdays and Fridays. Mr Chapman will continue to work with all the children of Years 5 and 6 ensuring that attainment and achievement of the year groups is maintained and that a smooth handover to teaching staff is achieved.

Miss Robson will continue her role as the leading mathematics teacher for Key Stage 2.

At the end of half term Miss Riley resigned from her post in our Reception Classes. We are currently interviewing for a Learning Support Assistant for our Early Years Department and hope to make an appointment soon.

This post is currently being covered by Mr Barden our sports coach in the mornings and Mrs Lawson and Mrs Glover in the afternoons.

Mr Barden is also joining our Breakfast Club team in the mornings.

Music Box Update

The half term week was a busy time for our contractors and we have seen a big advance on the building programme. Electrics have been installed, the outside of the building has been clad and they are currently working on plaster boarding the inside of the building. Hoping to be finished in the next 4 weeks!

Poppy Appeal

The school will be collecting for the Poppy Appeal. Children are invited to donate small change if they wish during break time until 11 November. We will be holding a 2-minute silence at 11.00am.

Reception Admissions for September 2018

We are currently arranging visits for families with children who are due to start school in September 2018. If you would like to visit the School, please make an appointment with the School Office.

Whole School English Morning**Wednesday 22 November 9.00 – 10.00 am.**

We are organising an English morning for all parents to visit the school and see the children working on their writing skills. Writing is still a big focus of the on-going school development and we would like to give you the opportunity to see how we are developing this with different age groups.

Key Stage 2 Workshop will start at 8.45 a.m. – 9.00 a.m. in the school hall. Followed by a visit to see your child's class in action.

EYFS/Key Stage 1 Workshop will start at 9.05 a.m. in the school hall until 9.20 a.m. Followed by a visit to see your child's class in action.

Parent Consultations

Parent Consultations have been arranged for next week.

Tuesday 7 November 3.30 – 7.00 pm.**Thursday 9 November 3.30 -7.00 pm.**

Children are invited to attend the parent consultation if families wish. Sign up for the Parent consultations is by Eschools as explained by the school office. If you have any problems signing up for an appointment, please contact the school office.

Teacher Led After School Clubs will not be running during Parent Consultation week and will resume the following week. Mr Barden's clubs will continue as usual.

LEAF Donation Day 2 – Mufti – Day for Children

Friday 10 November is a LEAF donation day. Children are asked to donate the following in return for wearing their own clothes:

FS/Key Stage 1 – Jolly Jars or small toiletries/candles for our secret wrapping room

Key Stage 2 – Chocolate - Christmas themed chocolates for the popular Chocolate Tombola. Or toiletries/candles for our secret wrapping room.

Thank you



We also need donations of unwanted wicker baskets or decorative boxes for our hamper stall! Please bring any baskets or boxes to the School Office by Monday 20 November 2017 – Thank you.

Children in Need Friday 17 November

This year the Children in Need Appeal - will be wear your pyjamas (or onesies) to school or a bad hair day with school uniform!!! So we would like to invite all the children to dress in their pyjamas or to wear their school uniforms and have a bad hair day!

Donations to the appeal will not be collected on Friday but 50% of the donations made at the Christmas Productions will go to Children in Need. The rest of the donations from the Christmas collections will go to other children's charities as agreed by the School Council.

LEAF Christmas Fayre

Friday 1 December, 3.00pm-5.00pm. Everyone is welcome. We have a range of fun activities and many interesting Christmas stalls.

We would just like to clarify that families and friends are invited to come to the school at 3.00 pm when the Fayre will officially start.

Children in Years R, 1, 2, 3 and 4 will need to be collected as usual. Years R, 1 and 2 should be collected from their class fire exit doors (the green doors leading on to the infant playground as usual). Years 3 and 4 will be taken to the junior playground. Children from Years 5 and 6 will be allowed to leave their classrooms as usual at 3.00pm. and go straight to the Fayre

Christmas Performances

To help with your planning, the dates and times for Christmas performances throughout the school are:

INFANTS
Tuesday 5 December (Penguin Cast) 2-00 pm Parents and adult relatives of Years 1 & 2
Wednesday 6 December (Seal Cast) 2-00 pm Parents & adult relatives of Years 1 & 2
Due to health & safety guidelines, we cannot accommodate younger children in these performances, but crèche facilities will be available, in the staff room.
FOUNDATION STAGE
Wednesday 6 December 10.00am All family members are welcome
JUNIORS
Thursday 7 December 2.00pm and 6.00pm Years 3 & 4 at All Saints Church
Thursday 14 December 2.00pm and 6.30pm Years 5 and 6 in the School Hall All children are expected to participate in both performances. If your child is unable to attend, a letter requesting permission to be absent will be needed. Please ensure you cooperate with this request.

Due to health & safety guidelines, all junior performances will be ticket only. Tickets will be limited to 2 tickets per family. We cannot accommodate younger children in these performances. Crèche facilities will be available in the staff room, for the Years 5 & 6 performance at 2.00pm on the 14 December.

At each performance we will be organising a collection for a number of charities including Children in Need, so please come prepared with change. Thank you.

Christmas Lunch

Our Christmas Lunch will take place on **Tuesday 19 December** – more information to follow.

Health Information - Head Lice

Could all families please remember to regularly check their children's hair. We have had a few cases reported to the school and it is the responsibility of everyone to check and treat hair on a regular basis. Thank you for your support with this.

Reminders

Registration Times

Please be reminded that registration times for pupils are as follows:

KS2 (Years 3-6) – 8.45am

EYFS/KS1 (Years R-2) – 8.55am

We are finding an increasing number of children are arriving late to school. Late arrivals are disruptive, not only to your own child's education, but also to the education of other students, as the teacher has to spend additional time recapping on what your child has missed.

Could we also please ask that if there is a change to your child's picking up arrangements the school is notified before 2.30 pm and no later, except for emergencies. The office is very busy between 2.30 – 3.00 p.m. and it is difficult to get all messages to relevant staff and pupils during the last half hour of the school day. It also puts pressure on staff, especially if they have to deal with a real emergency. Thank you.

Eschools

We encourage all families to register with Eschools in order to receive school communications. If you are not registered, please contact the School Office who will be happy to help.

Nicola Davenport
Headteacher



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@LeechpoolSchool**