



Leechpool Link

Academic Year 2019 – 2020
Issue 1 September

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

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Attendance

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Special Dates of Interest:

Interest:

- On-line After School Teacher Led Clubs sign up 16–20 Sept
- Harvest Assembly Food Donations W/B 23 Sept
- Harvest assembly for children 26 Sept
- Book Week 14 -18 Oct
- 14 October -Book themed Head Wear Day

See the Diary Page Updates 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 so wonderful to see all the children today and to listen to their many adventures over the summer holidays. We are all looking forward to the new school year and know that we will have many exciting challenges at Leechpool to keep us all busy.

We hope you all had a very enjoyable summer with time to relax and an opportunity to spend valuable time as families.

We are pleased to welcome back all our existing families and staff, as well as welcoming all our new families both in Foundation Stage and throughout the school.

Our school numbers are increasing and we are now full across the school, with waiting lists for all classes. Over the next few weeks all places will be offered by the local authority.

Staff News

Mr Aston informed the school that he no longer wishes to continue his apprenticeship as an IT technician. We are sad about his decision but wish him well for the future in a new career.

Improvements over the summer holidays

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

- Decoration of Year 3 classrooms and other key areas around the school
- Replacement of the water heater in the Upper Junior area
- Installation of a new PE storage hut on the main school field.
- Electrical work to install outside lights around the After-School Club and Nursery building
- Health and Safety issues were all addressed and a new priority list highlighted.

A very big thank you to Mr Anderson (Maintenance Manager), Mr Smith (Premises Officer) and Mrs Wellcome (School Business Manager), for their co-ordination and completion of all the building works during the summer break.

Attendance Achievements

Every year at the end of the summer term we present book tokens to children in Year 6 who had 100% attendance this year and for consecutive years. This July, these were awarded to 5 Year 6 children.

Children in Years 1-5 will receive their 100% certificates in the whole school assembly on Monday 9 September. 51 children will receive certificates for 100% attendance. We will also be issuing 133 attendance certificates for the summer term. Keep it up!

Contact Details

Please let the School Office know 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 at 3.00pm. Could we please ask parents to wait behind the cones. The class teachers will bring the children out from their classes to you at the end of the day. All families are discouraged from approaching the door to the classrooms or waving through the windows whilst the children are being prepared for home time.

Year 5 and 6 children are encouraged to make their own way out of school at the end of the school day. Years 3 and 4 will be brought to the Junior playground by the class teachers.

It would help if families collecting Year 1 children could stand in front of the Year 1 classes and Year 2 families by the infant entrance behind the cones. This arrangement should save time and avoid confusion for the children and teachers finding families at the end of the day. Your cooperation with this would be much appreciated.

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!!

Meet the Teacher

Meet the Teacher sessions have been arranged for Years R – 6 on Wednesday 11 September at 3.15pm – 3.45pm or 6.00pm – 6.30pm. No appointments are required. 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 mins.

The meeting is designed for you to 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.

School Website

The school website has been updated over the holidays so please take a look. The site is a helpful place to find useful information about policies, the curriculum and forthcoming events.

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 16-20 September, on Google Forms.

Information from other after School Clubs; Tri-golf, Chelsea Football, KICKS Dance will be sent out separately.

Pupils' Mobile Phones

Mobile phones should not be brought to school unless the families have identified this as essential. Parents of children in Years 5 and 6 should send in a note stating that they give permission for their child to bring a phone into school. Phones must be named and handed to their Class Teacher at the start of the day. They are then taken to the School Office for safekeeping and collected at 3.00pm. Pupils are not allowed to keep or use phones during the school day or on the school site. This policy is consistently being reviewed and we will be updating you of any changes as they occur.

PE

We are pleased to announce that over the Summer holiday, the school was awarded the Platinum Award for the Schools Game Mark for PE in Key Stage 1 and Gold for KS2 for the second year running. This is a fantastic achievement from the PE department and a big thank you to Mrs Towey, Mr Barden and staff who supported.

PE is a compulsory part of the National Curriculum and all children should have their PE kit in school every day, taking them home at the end of the week for washing. Our timetables can vary and PE kits may also be needed for other activities. An additional letter will be sent home to remind families what is needed.

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

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