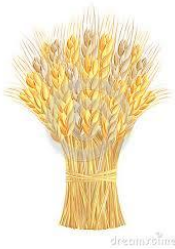
LEIGH NEWS

News No 60 www.leighprimaryschool.com 01732 832660 Friday 10th October 2014

HARVEST FESTIVAL

On Tuesday we celebrated our annual Harvest Festival service in St Mary's Church. During the service we collected in all the envelopes the children have decorated and all that money will go towards David Bennie's school in The Gambia. When we have a final total for this we will let you know. Many thanks to all of you who turned up at the church and we look forward to hearing from David to learn specifically what the money has been spent on.



CONKERS IN THE ROAD

We are having a few problems with children kicking conkers across the road in the way of the traffic. We have asked the children not to do this as it is dangerous and could cause an accident. Please could we ask that parents reinforce this message at home as well. Thank you.

11+ Results

Next week the 11+ results are sent out. If any parents of children who took the test would like to discuss these with me then please do make an appointment.

MARKING AND FEEDBACK LETTER

With this Newsletter is a revised copy of the Marking and Feedback letter I sent out last year. I wanted to resend this as a reminder about the pink and green comments we use and the reasons why we feel this is a particularly effective way of marking work. We are looking at ways of being able to share the green comments with you (these are the targets the children receive so that they know how they can improve their work in the future) so that you can share more in their learning and support them with the areas they find particularly difficult.

PUPIL ZONE ON SCHOOL WEBSITE

As a result of the Pupil Conference held at the beginning of term we are planning to introduce a Pupil Zone section on the school website. Although the website contains a huge amount of information for parents and carers, I am conscious that there isn't a huge amount for the children. This new section of the website is being created over the half term holiday and we look forward to sharing this with them when we return in November.

Golden Time Games/ DVDs

We are in need of additional board games and DVDs (universal certificate only please) for use during wet play and golden time. If you have any spare DVDs or games then please do speak with the class teacher. Thank you.

CLUBS

The Clubs programme is fully underway and we are extremely proud to be able to offer 17 clubs this year. I would like to thank all the parents and staff who give up a huge amount of their time to run these clubs and give the children experiences they wouldn't otherwise have. As you can see the beekeeping club have already been busy looking after the bees in our wildlife area! If there are any children who would like to join a club that has spaces then please do speak with the office as soon as possible.

FUNKY FRIDAY

As National Cerebral Palsy day was such a success in raising money and bringing awareness to this condition we would very much like to continue to educate our pupils to such educational needs. Therefore we will be asking you to join us in raising awareness of Dyspraxia which will take place on Friday 17th October. Please bring in a voluntary donation of £1 and wear any funky items of clothing - "bright, bold or just plain funky'. We will be bringing awareness to Dyspraxia by inviting Lewis Howitt and Aaron Welsh to speak in our Friday assembly.

WALK TO SCHOOL WEEK

We are encouraging all the children to take part in the Leigh 'Walk to School' week. During this week the children are being asked, where possible, to walk to school. If families live outside the village then we would encourage them to park on the far side of the green as this will also count as walking to school! Not only is this obviously good for the children but we are also hoping that it might reduce some of the pressure on car parking around the school at the beginning and end of the day. Walk to school week will start on 20th October and the class with the highest percentage at the end of the week will enjoy a longer than usual golden time on Friday afternoon.

Library Quote Competition

Many thanks to all of the children who entered the 'reading quote' competition for our new library. I am delighted to announce that the winner is Beatrice Wood in Fox Class with her quote: "I love books because they have magic in them." Congratulations Bea and we look forward to seeing your quote on the library walls in the coming weeks!

PTA NEWS

You are all invited to a PTA drinks night in Jessica's Hall on Thursday 16th October at 7.30pm. Everyone is invited to come along and hear more about the fantastic work the PTA do for our children and to hear about how you can get involved. Please do attend this important event if you can.

Greetings from Burkina Faso

We are thrilled to have received a letter from Belko who was in Hedgehog Class last year. Belko and his siter Kollado are both now living in Burkino Faso with their family and the children in Hedgehog class wrote to them last term to pass on their wishes. It's been lovely to hear back from them and I have copied the letter below for you to read.

7th October 2014
Barkoundouba, Burkina Faso
Dear friends in Hedgehog class and Weasel class,
I miss you a lot. I hope you had a good holiday. I like you all a lot. What my favourite thing to do is play football with my friends and go to the playground, play on the swings and tyres and slides. Here it is the rainy season. We play in the rain and people can grow their crops of corn and millet. I made a pirate ship out of Lego. Lenny is ten months old and he can cruise around the furniture. We have electricity in Barkoundouba now. Barkoundouba is the village that I live in. In school we are reading a book about the explosion of Krakatoa. I have read six chapter books. We went to ICO, the American home-school co-op in Ouagadougou and we had a contest with catapults which shot out fire and it burnt cardboard castles, it was fun. We made shields and swords and we were knighted. At home I made a Lego catapult that shoots Lego heads. I hope you all have a good school term. Love from Belko

PARENT WORKSHOP – 14TH OCTOBER

The first of our 5 Parent Workshops will be on Tuesday 14th October at 9am in Jessica's Hall. The first workshop is entitled 'Key Stage 2 Writing' and is for all parents of children in Key Stage 2 although if you are a parent of a child in Key Stage 1 you might also find it interesting. These workshops are being run by Miss Birchenall and have been fully updated to take account of the new National Curriculum. Each workshop will last about an hour and will include plenty of tips to help children develop their writing at home and other ways of supporting their learning. Please do attend this important event if you can. Thank you.

NATIONAL CEREBRAL PALSY DAY

Many thanks to all of you who supported National Cerebral Palsy day last Friday. In all we raised £140 and the children received lots of information about Cerebral Palsy from Freddie Bradstock during assembly. Freddie did absolutely brilliantly and I'm delighted that we have managed to raise awareness of this condition as well as raise some money for it.

Taking place as part of the Remembrance of the outbreak of fighting in 1914, and heavily linked with our visit to Ypres, Belgium, we are holding an afternoon exhibition of some of our writing and artwork. Feel free to visit our exhibition at anytime during the afternoon but there will be poetry readings at 2pm and 2.30pm for you to listen to. Please encourage all family and friends to attend. Thank you.

Events

6.10.14	Book Fayre in KS 2 Playground (3.30pm)
7.10.14	Harvest Festival Service (10am)
13.10.14	NSPCC Workshop
14.10.14	Parent Workshop 1 – KS2 Writing
15.10.14	11+ Results out OPEN MORNING
16.10.14	PTA Drinks in Jessica's Hall
17.10.14	Funky Friday
20.10.14	Start of Maths Week Walk to School Week

Further dates will be published on the website under School Calendar