LEIGH NEWS

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OFF BY HEART COMPETITION

We are delighted to be able to launch the Leigh Primary School Off By Heart Poetry Competition 2014!

We are asking all the children to learn one poem from the list on the school website under: 'Learning; Curriculum; Off By Heart'. The children will be asked to recite their poems in class and the two winning entries from each class will go through to the Grand Final to be held on Friday 7th November in Jessica's Hall. We are hoping this is going to be great fun for the children and prizes will be on offer for all those who have a go! The best way of learning a poem is not to try and do it all at once. Little and often, line by line, is often the best approach. We want the children to challenge themselves and not simply pick the shortest or easiest poems. Extra marks will be given to those children who really push themselves and try something difficult. Although some children will find this a challenge we are asking that they all try and learn at least one of the poems or part of it from the list. We appreciate that there will be some children who do not wish to stand up in front of the class. For some children this can often be a very stressful experience and we would obviously not wish to embarrass or worry them. Those children will be allowed to write their poems from memory as a handwriting exercise. We look forward to learning these poems with you and to our final Poetry Recital on Friday 7th November 2014 at 2pm where there will be extra prizes on offer and three independent judges to make the decisions. Get learning and good luck.....!

THANK YOU

A big 'Thank You' to Jim Talent and Heather Hadley for their help in cleaning the Forest School area ready for our sessions this week. We'd also like to thank Lisa Peacock and Faydra Mitchell for their shed building skills! Thanks to all these people our Forest School area is looking fantastic and the children have already enjoyed using it this term.

Year 6 Parent Meeting

Please note that unfortunately we have had to move the date of the Year 6 parent meeting from this Monday to Thursday 25th September. This will take place at 3.30pm in Wolves Class. We sincerely apologise for the late change in date of this meeting but hope as many of you as possible will be able to join us for this.

SUPERSTARS

So many thanks to all of you who sponsored me for this year's Superstars event. In all I raised about £200 which will go into our new Library project. Thanks again!

BREAKFAST CLUB

Our new Breakfast Club is starting on Monday and will be run every morning except Tuesday. The sessions are £4 each, will start at 7.50am and will be run in Jessica's Hall. If you would like any further information then please do come into the school office or visit their website on: www.rainbowsschoolclubs.com Thank you.

Class Pages

All the class pages are now up-to-date and provide information about what the children will be studying this term. If you have any queries about the curriculum or homework then please do see the class teachers. Please do keep Wednesday 12th November (1.30pm-3.30pm) or Thursday 13th November (3.30pm-8pm) free for Parent Consultations.

Term Dates

Please note that all the term dates for the next two years are on the school website under 'News and Event; Term Dates'. We will publish the 2016-2017 school dates towards the end of this academic year.

HEALTHY SNACKS

Please note that we encourage all children to eat a healthy snack at breaktimes. Fruit is available from the school for all children but if children are bringing a snack in from home then we would encourage this to be fruit or a healthy alternative. Thank you for your co-operation in this matter.

FRUITY FRIDAY

The next Fruity Friday will be on the 26th September.

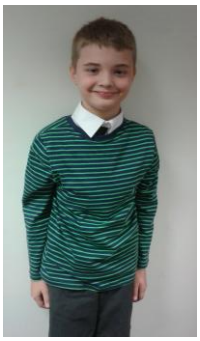
Free School Lunches

All children in the Infants (Reception, Year 1 and Year 2) are now eligible for free school meals. If you wish to take up this offer then please contact the school office if you haven't already done so. The meals are served by GSPlus and are of good quality. I eat lunch with the children on most days and the food is always tasty with some good variety. If you wish to find out more about GSPlus and the food they serve then please click on the link below or visit the school website (under 'Parents, School Meals'). http://www.gsplus.org/kent/

SECONDARY SCHOOL APPLICATIONS

If your child is in Wolves Class (Year 6) then you can apply now for a place at Secondary School. Although many of you will be waiting for the results of the 11+ others may wish to get this process started. You can apply online using the Secondary Common Application Form. You can apply for up to 4 schools, putting them in order of preference. It's in your best interests to list 4 schools. Naming only one school does not guarantee your child a place at that school or give your child priority for a place over another child, neither does naming a school more than once. Please click on the link below for further information and a copy of the SCAF and I am very happy to discuss this process with any parents at anytime. Thank you.

http://www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-children/schools/school-places/secondary-school-places



NATIONAL CEREBAL PALSY DAY

Freddie Bradstock in Badger Class was diagnosed with Cerebral Palsy last year. Freddie would like to bring awareness to this condition by raising money for Cerebral Palsy through Celebrity National Cerebral Palsy Day on Friday 3rd October. Everyone is invited to come to school dressed in green and donate £1 for such a great cause. Freddie would also like to educate his peers and will be speaking to the whole school about this condition in assembly on this day. Thank you for your support.

Clubs

The clubs programme will begin on Monday and you should know which clubs your child has signed up for. If you are unsure about clubs then please do speak with the school office as soon as possible. Please ensure that children do attend the clubs and if they are unable to be there for any reason that they let the adult running the club know. PLEASE NOTE THAT BADMINTON CLUB WILL NOT START UNTIL WEDNESDAY 1ST OCTOBER. Thank you.

JUNGLE BOOK PRIZES

There are still three unclaimed raffle prizes from 'The Jungle Book' theatre programmes! Please check your copies and if you have an animal sticker on the raffle prize page, inform your class rep or a member of the PTA: there's a night in a hotel and a meal out still up for grabs!

Parent Workshops

A letter was sent home this week advertising this year's Parent Workshops. These proved to be very popular last year and Miss Birchenall has reworked them so that they take account of the new National Curriculum. It is helpful if we have some idea of numbers so please do return the slip to the school office as soon as possible. Please feel free to attend as many workshops as you wish although if you are unable to attend then we will post the slides from the presentation on the school website.

Next Week's Theme –'Respecting Different Opinions'

GAMBIA

Kate Mayall has dedicated a lot of her time to teach people in Gambia how to become skilled in making rugs as a means of creating a living for themselves. She has been extremely successful and is now able to sell their creations at various craft fair stalls, boot fairs and on Facebook. Our very own David Bennie has been in touch with Kate as he would like her to teach this skill to some of his people in Gambia. These rugs are very skilfully made and extremely colourful and eye-catching. If you would like to see for yourselves or even make a purchase then please search 'Kate Mayall' on Facebook or ask Sarah Pearson for her contact details. Thank you.

Events

22.9.14	Breakfast Club Starts Clubs Start
25.9.14	Parent Meeting for Year 6 – 4th Dimension Residential trip
26.9.15	Fruity Friday
29.9.14	Squirrel Class in full days
1.10.14	Children's Workshop Assembly
3.10.14	National Cerebral Palsy Day
7.10.14	Harvest Festival Service (10am)

Further dates will be published on the website under School Calendar