

LEYBOURNE SS PETER & PAUL C E PRIMARY SCHOOL



Headteacher: Tina Holditch

Rectory Lane North
Leybourne
West Malling
Kent
ME19 5HD

Tel: 01732 842008

Fax: 01732 842009

Email: headteacher@leybourne.kent.sch.uk

www.leybourne.kent.sch.uk

24th November 2017

Dear Parents,

Developing our Outside Areas and Improving Playtimes

As you know, we are keen to develop our use of our wonderful outside areas and to maximise the opportunities we give the children at all times during the school day. To this end, we have already asked for donations of wild flower seeds to create our Wild Flower meadow (thank you so much to all of you who kindly donated seeds!) and have also changed how the KS1 and KS2 children use the playgrounds throughout the day, to encourage greater interaction between the Key Stages.

In the past, we have not allowed the children to play football on the school field at lunchtime during the autumn/winter. This year, however, we would like to trial letting the children play football on the field at lunchtime *providing that they have suitable footwear and tracksuits to change into*. Should your child wish to play football at lunchtime please send them in with a change of footwear and clothing and we shall trial football on the school field from next week. Please note that the children will be required to change into their football clothes before playing, and then back into full school uniform (including shoes) before beginning afternoon lessons.

We are also hoping to introduce a new project at play/lunch time called the Loose Parts Project. This involves making two new kits (one for use in the playground and one for wet play) which will help increase the range of play the children can engage in.

Loose parts is a wonderful term coined by architect Simon Nicholson, who carefully considered landscapes and environments that form connections. Nicholson believed that we are all creative and that "loose parts" in an environment will empower our creativity. Loose parts are materials that can be moved, carried, combined, redesigned, lined up, and taken apart and put back together in multiple ways. Loose parts can be used alone or combined with other materials. There is no set of specific directions for materials that are considered loose parts.

To support this exciting way of creative playing we are looking for "big" materials for outdoor construction. These include cable drums and carpet tubes. We are also looking for donations of materials to add to this; including large sheets of material, bike tyres, plastic tubing, off cuts of wood, logs and natural materials, such as pine cones etc. This will allow the children to change the playground to make their own play environments but with equipment which can easily be put away at the end of each session (any storage boxes would also be welcomed!)

**We promote the learning and development of all children to achieve their full potential
in a caring, happy Christian environment**



Leybourne Ss Peter & Paul CEP School is part of The Tenax School Trust which is an exempt charity and a company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales with company number 07542155. The registered office is at Culverden Down, Tunbridge Wells, TN4 9SH.

We would also like to create a number of mini loose parts kits (surprise boxes) which can be used indoors on wet play days, to aid the children in creating art works, models, small world imaginative play and help them create their own games. We are therefore looking for materials including take away/shoe boxes and ice cream tubs for storage, ribbons, buttons, lolly sticks, bottle caps, rubber bands, straws, wool, small sticks, blue tack, old coins, small characters and any small natural materials such as pebbles, pine cones and shells. We are welcoming donations of ready-made up boxes or the individual items.

We are looking for donations of herb and scented low maintenance plants to help us replant outdoor areas in the school.

Finally, we are looking for some help with the construction of play houses/cubbies. We have been lucky enough to secure some pallets and are looking for a talented volunteer or set of volunteers who can help us build playhouses and cubbies for the playground from them.

If you have any materials which you think may help with these projects, or you can help in any way, please do let us know. We are keen to maximise our use of the school grounds and to give the children the very best possible experiences throughout the school day – including lunchtime and playtime and would really value your help and support.

Kind regards

Tina Holditch