

LEYBOURNE SS PETER & PAUL C E PRIMARY ACADEMY



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Dear Parents

October already – and the weather has certainly changed! The summer heat wave seems like a very long time ago!

Admissions 2021

We are delighted to offer tours of the school to prospective parents in Term 2. These tours will involve very limited numbers of adult visitors to the school, all of whom will need to follow our hygiene and COVID-19 prevention procedures. Unfortunately, we are unable to accommodate children on our tours this year.

If you have a child, born between 1st September 2016 and 31st August 2017, please do let us know, so we can add you to our Register of Interest and, if required, arrange a time for you to visit the school. Thank you.

If you would like to book a tour of the school, please call the school office on 01732 842008. Thank you.

Bags2School

Thank you so much to everyone who brought in bags of clothing and textiles for our Bags2School collection last week. I am delighted to say that we have received a cheque for £75.00. Your support is very much appreciated.

Christmas Cards

I do apologise for using the word “Christmas” in October! However, you will find a sample Christmas card in your child’s bag today. As in previous years, we are offering you the opportunity to purchase Christmas cards and wrapping paper, designed by your wonderful children! Details of how to order can be found on the proof that your child has been given, and payment can be made via School Comms. Thank you very much for your support.

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



Computing

I am delighted to share with you photos of the children using our new laptops, in our newly reconfigured Computer Suite! Thanks to the wonderful fundraising efforts of the PTFA and the school community as a whole, we were able to purchase 32 new laptops this summer, and refurbish a number of our existing machines. Over the summer holidays our wifi was upgraded, along with the school servers – all of which has enabled us to use the new laptops all around the school. This improved capability has already had a huge impact on the children’s ability to fully access all aspects of the computing curriculum and we look forward to extending this provision even further as future funds allow.



Thank you so much to everyone who has supported our fundraising efforts - it is wonderful to see the children benefitting from everyone’s hard work and generosity!

Flu Vaccinations

We have been advised that all pupils (from reception to Year 6) will be offered flu vaccinations this year. These vaccinations will take place in school on 3rd December 2020. Parents will receive further information approximately 28 days before the vaccinations are due to take place, and you will be required to complete an online form if you wish your child to be vaccinated at this time.

Holiday Requests

I have received a few requests for term time holidays in the past week or so. Whilst I do appreciate the difficulties of booking family holidays, and the inevitable frustration regarding price increases for school holidays (especially in light of COVID -19), I must do all I can to ensure that the children receive their full educational entitlement. To this end, I am afraid that term time holidays can only ever be authorised in exceptional circumstances.

Increased Independence!

It is wonderful that so many of our Year 5 and 6 pupils are now allowed to walk home on their own. It is fantastic preparation for them as they get ready to transition to secondary school, and I am sure it makes things slightly easier for parents at the end of the day (even if you are understandably apprehensive about allowing your children to walk home without you!).

I am sorry to say, however, that some children have not coped as well with this increased independence as I would have hoped, and I have received upsetting reports of pupils behaving inappropriately, unkindly and dangerously on their way home from school. This reflects badly on the individual pupils involved, and the school community as a whole.

I have no desire to say that children are not permitted to walk home without an adult, and would ask, therefore, that parents speak to their children about appropriate behaviour and just remind them that increased independence brings with it increased responsibility. Thank you.

Parent Consultations

You may recall that I wrote to you at the start of term, outlining our plans to hold Parent Consultations in school, if the situation with COVID-19 allowed it. In light of the current Government guidance, however, I am afraid that it is necessary to change these meetings to Zoom meetings instead, as we endeavour to ensure the health and safety of all members of our school community at this time. Consultations will take place on the days advised previously, and further details of how to book an appointment will follow next week.

Scholastic Book Club

As you may remember, we often host a Scholastic Book Fair in the autumn term. Obviously, we are unable to do this at this time, but I know that many people enjoy sharing books with their children. Therefore, I am very pleased to say that we now have an online Book Club available to parents, which will enable you to purchase a wide range of books from the comfort and safety of your own homes. Please visit <http://schools.scholastic.co.uk/leybourne-ss-peter-paul/digital-book-club> to browse the latest books and order online. As an added bonus, every £1 you spend on this month's Book Club will earn our school 20p in Scholastic Rewards. Please place your order online by October 16th, 2020. Thank you.

SchoolComms

We are aware of an issue regarding the SchoolComms "reply" facility. If you receive an email via SchoolComms, please do not reply directly to it, as these emails are disappearing into the ether! Please use the office@leybourne.kent.sch.uk email address instead – thank you.

Spare Socks!

On days such as today, many children may arrive at school with wet socks. Please do place a spare pair of socks or tights in your child's PE bag for them to change into.

Star of the Week

Congratulations to the following pupils whose effort and achievements have been recognised by their teachers this week. Well done, and keep up the great work – we are all very proud of you!

Year 1	Blake B	Henry G		
Year 2	Evie D	Oscar K	Lola M	Harry S
Year 3	Phoebe L	Isla T		
Year 4	Tristan A	Sophia U		
Year 5	Lewis C	Kaden P	Joe R	
Year 6	Thomas N	Poppy S		

I hope you all have a lovely weekend and that the weather improves - thank you again for your support.

Kind regards

Tina Holditch