



Leckhamptonbulletin

C of E Primary School

Week
ending 5th
October
2018

Dear Parents

I would like to take this opportunity to update parents on a few changes which have taken place regarding our buildings over the summer months and to address some misconceptions about the loss of facilities relating to the Music Room, iQuad and Library.

Recently a new hygiene suite and meeting room have been handed over to the school, following works during the summer. These rooms are located in the Key Stage 1 entrance and were funded by the Local Authority. The hygiene suite will enable us to meet the specific, additional needs of some of our children and we are delighted that this room provides the necessary equipment to be able to do so. The meeting room is a light and bright space which can be used by school staff and agencies when meeting with children or families and has already been put to good use.

In September 2017, the school had plans to condense our two libraries into one library and to make it a very special place for children to be able to visit both as a class and independently. As you will recall, the libraries were out of action for some time and redecoration began to both of these spaces. The school library, which was the Key Stage 1 library, is now a hive of activity at different times of the day, especially at lunchtimes.

Work then began on the Key Stage 2 library to turn it into the Tech Room which would house the same facilities as the iQuad. This decision was taken as a result of staff preferring the flexibility of being able to use devices in the classroom rather than visiting a separate space. We did however want to retain the option of a computing room so that teachers could plan to use the facility with children for specific Computing Projects. Some of our older children also require access to devices when participating in specific activities such as Collective Worship planning and writing sports reports. It was our intention that the much larger iQuad would then become a studio space, allowing for class teachers to book the room out as and when they wished. When planning the iQuad in 2010/2011, it was always part of the design to ensure that the room could be adapted to meet the changing needs of the school. These changes were due to take place over the academic year 2017 – 2018.

At Easter, following the agreement to take on an additional reception class for September 2018, the Key Stage 2 library was identified for conversion into a classroom and several surveys were undertaken by the Local Authority to ensure that the room met statutory requirements. However, following the completion of the room and taking on board feedback from the children and parents, a decision was made to use an alternative space. I therefore attach a section of the letter which was recently sent to the parents of children in Poplar Class.

"Over the past two weeks, the leadership team have been reviewing feedback we have received from children and parents about the new classroom Poplar are using.

We know that many who have seen the classroom really like the bright and simplistic décor and fully support the movement towards including more flexible ways of working in the classroom. The children have fed back that they like the modern feel of the classroom and really enjoy the standing station. They also like the wedges, the stools and time to work on the carpet using the clipboards when they choose.

I do know however that there are still concerns from parents regarding the size of the room and the number of seats available in the classroom. Whilst we know that the room does meet statutory requirements in terms of size, like you, we have had some growing concerns about the room's ability to meet the needs of the children over the year. The leadership team remain committed to providing the very best for all of our children and we also believe that a larger space is needed to truly embrace the concept of a flexible learning environment.

Through discussions with the Local Authority, I have been able to secure funding to convert an alternative room in school which will enable us to not only provide seating for every child at a desk but also include the pieces of furniture which the children have really enjoyed using.

During October Half term, the iQuad will be converted into the new Poplar Class. Some adaptations are required which is why the room cannot be used immediately. The room is large and will enable us to incorporate both desks and more flexible ways of working. This will be a temporary measure for the academic year. The Local Authority will provide a permanent solution for the school, regardless of the outcome of the proposal for expansion. The school already had plans to reallocate some of the IT equipment from the iQuad to the classrooms and to develop an IT hub which could be used by break out groups at different times of the day. Some parents had suggested the use of the Music Room as a class; however this room cannot be used due to a number of factors."

In conclusion, we are not losing our much loved music room and this will be back in use following half term. Although the iQuad will be used as a classroom, we will not be losing the facilities provided by this room. In response to staff feedback we will be ensuring that devices are primarily available in the classroom, however we will be retaining an IT room which will allow for use in the same way as the iQuad. We have also invested in further devices to support the Computing curriculum. The studio will remain as a space throughout the day which can be booked by class teachers. Whilst this room is not routinely used throughout the day, it does serve as an additional space for the school to use as and when required.

Curriculum Evening

Wednesday 10th October 2018 at 6.30pm in the School Hall

Leckhampton is launching its new curriculum from Years 1 to 6! We are delighted to be able to share with parents, the results of a yearlong project into redesigning our curriculum. During this meeting we hope to share with you the rationale behind the changes, the vision for each of the subject areas and the way in which the Leckhampton Teaching, Learning and Assessment model will guide the school over the coming years. Please do come along to hear more!

School Website

You might have noticed that there have been a few changes to the school website recently. The area called class journal has been replaced with "**In the classroom**". You can find this under the section "school news". We hope that this will give you a flavour of what is happening across the school in all year groups over the academic year. FOLPs have very kindly agreed to replace the faulty cameras in the classrooms, which will we know will make a huge difference to being able to capture those special moments in school.

Best Wishes
Sam Porter

Pumpkin Recycling

This year families are encouraged to use our pumpkin recycling bins which will be delivered to school after half term. Please see the attached flyer for more details.

A huge thank you from Evelyn, Georgia and Bonnie parents and children of the school who supported their cake sale. They raised £138.15 for Macmillan Cancer Support, and had some fun practising their maths skills at the same time!

MANDER HALL ACADEMY

MASTERCLASS WORKSHOPS

LED BY TOM GOODALL

Fun workshops for *all abilities*. Learn songs and dances from 'The Greatest Showman', 'High School Musical' and more!

OCTOBER

22nd - 25th Oct 2018

- ★ 10.00am - 4.00pm
- ★ Ages 6-16 Years
- ★ Balcarras School, Cheltenham

TOM HAS WORKED WITH

Take That, Rihanna, One Direction, X Factor, Brit Awards, Mamma Mia + West End Shows

Children up to and including Year 6 are once again invited to enter Alex Chalk's Christmas Card Competition. If children would like to enter a design into the competition they should send it directly to:

Alex Chalk MP
2 Henrietta Street
Cheltenham GL50 4AA

Closing date 31st October 2018

A list of open classroom dates can be found on our website. The events will run from 08.35 until 09.00. Class teachers will begin to bring the children together from around 08.55 and we should be grateful if parents would begin to clear the school site at this time. Many thanks
S Porter

Class Worship dates can also be found on our school's website. Parents are invited to attend from 9.15 until 9.30 to join in worship with the whole school. Please note that Poplar's class worship will take place on Friday 12th October 2018.

Reception Welcome Service 11th October 2018 at St Peter's Church



CAMP
4-2-11

Ofsted
Outstanding

OCTOBER HALF TERM

22nd - 26th October 2018

Swimming, halloween art, cookery, arts and crafts,
zumba, drama, music, games, quests + more!

Ages 3-14



BOOKING NOW OPEN!

Reception Admission 2019 Open Mornings

Visits will be held on the following dates with 2 sessions (9.30-10.30 and 10.45-11.45)

If you would like to join one of the groups please contact the school office on 01242 524062 or by email to

admissions@leckhampton.gloucs.sch.uk

Thank you.

Tuesday 30th October 2018
Thursday 1st November 2018
Monday 5th November 2018
Wednesday 7th November 2018

We look forward to welcoming you.

Monday 1st - Saturday 6th October 2018

Open Week

for award winning music service

Gloucestershire Music (Local Authority Music Service) is reaching out to musicians (new and old) from across the county. With no less than 14 weekly music centres, groups, orchestras and adult ensembles there are opportunities for musicians of all ages and levels to play, progress and perform.

- Free F.A.M.E (First Access Music Ensembles) sessions for beginner instrumentalists
- Learn As You Play (LAYP) Adult programme for those yearning to play a musical instrument
- Music Centres in Stroud, Gloucestershire, Cheltenham (Jazz), and the Forest of Dean
- Award winning County Music Groups.

Members of GM continue to fly the flag for our county with national success at major music festivals as well as perform regularly at impressive venues such as Tewkesbury Abbey, Birmingham Symphony Hall and the iconic Royal Albert Hall. Please visit www.gloucestershiremusic.co.uk

The new academic year will see another packed musical diary with visits from professional musicians and bands, regional events and festivals and great concert opportunities.



gloucestershire
MUSIC

Love music? Play an instrument? Sing? Our open week is nearly here - Mon 1st to Sat 6th Oct Join over 400 musicians

Gloucestershire Music (Local Authority Music Service) is opening its doors to musicians from around the county. There are groups for people at all stages of learning music, from beginners to more advanced players, and adult groups too.

Just starting to play - your chance at F.A.M.E.

If you are an absolute beginner or just been playing for a few weeks then you can benefit from free sessions via our First Access Music Ensembles (F.A.M.E.). These are held at Brookfield Music Centre, Five Valleys Music Centre and the Forest Dean Area Wind Band. Adults can learn via our Learn As You Play scheme. All sessions are held on Saturday mornings.

A music centre near you

Young musicians of all ages and abilities can attend a music centre near them in Cheltenham (our jazz centre which meets on Wednesday night), or our Saturday music centers in Gloucester, Stroud and the Forest of Dean.

Wednesday is Jazz Live Night

Young jazz players (grade 4 to advanced) will find a thriving bunch of dedicated young jazz stars at Jazz Live in Cheltenham on Wednesday 3rd October from 6 - 9pm at Bournside School, Cheltenham. There are groups for adults too including: Jazz2Go and the Colwell Arts Jazz Ensemble both of whom meet at the same venue from 7 - 9pm.

Adult Bands and Orchestras, all week long

GM offers many bands and orchestras for adult musicians. There are four wind bands, an orchestra and two jazz bands to choose from. There are groups for all levels of performers from the novice to the advanced.

Sing, Sing, Sing for Gloucestershire

Both Brookfield and Five Valleys Music Centre offer choirs and vocal opportunities. Our very own Gloucestershire Youth Choir is also taking applications from singers currently in years 7 - 13 ready for their first course in October half term. Join now and you will get the opportunity to perform a world premiere in the Cheltenham Town hall on Thursday 24th October. Don't miss this!

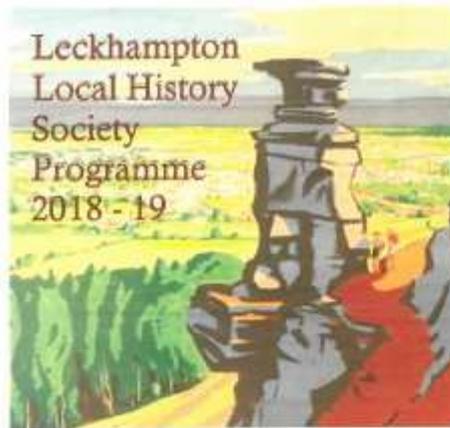
Over 100 young musicians converge on Thursday Night

On Thursday 4th October, advanced young players (grade 5+) can also visit one of our three award-winning County Youth Music Groups that converge on St. Peter's High School each Thursday. These include the Gloucestershire Youth Orchestra (6.30 - 9pm), Gloucestershire Youth Wind Orchestra (6.45 - 9pm) and the Gloucestershire Intermediate String Ensemble (7 - 9pm).

Membership for groups works out at around £5 per week via our music card scheme. For more details of all groups and their regular rehearsal schedules (including youth brass band and youth choir that meet during school holidays) visit www.gloucestershiremusic.co.uk or call 01452 330300.

**WHO ARE YOU?
Register your interest online**

Visit
www.gloucestershiremusic.co.uk
then click on NEWS/EVENTS and then on our open week article. There is a survey monkey for you to complete so we know a little bit about you. We will then recommend groups that will best fit your needs.



Talks take place at the
Glebe Cottages, St.Peter's
from 7.30pm,
every 3rd Wednesday

Visitors welcome, admission free
To members and £2 for visitors

Wednesday 19 th September 2018 'Footpaths through hedges: with gates, stiles, etc.'- Amy Woolacott	Wednesday 20 th February 2019 Members Evening
Wednesday 17 th October 2018 St. Mary's Church, Charlton Kings Don Sherwell	Wednesday 20 th March 2019 'Cheltenham Slave Owners' - Eric Miller
Wednesday 21 st November 2018 'Bomber Harris' - Peter Donovan	Wednesday 17 th April 2019 'Gloucestershire Warwickshire Steam Railway' - Richard Summer
Wednesday 19 th December 2018 'Edward Jenner - David Smith'	Wednesday 15 th May 2019 AGM TBC- Neela Mann
Wednesday 16 th January 2019 Film Night with popcorn	

A 6 Week Course For Parents

A course that
covers essential topics
for parents of children
in the primary years

Mondays, 1st October 12th November
7.30pm—9.30pm
Oasis Centre, Cheltenham

For booking or more information
Email: StayandPlay@FamilySpace.org.uk

Parentalk