



# Leckhampton

C of E Primary School

Hall Road, Leckhampton, Cheltenham  
Gloucestershire GL53 0HP

Tel: 01242 524062

Fax: 01242 524067

Email: [admin@leckhampton.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:admin@leckhampton.gloucs.sch.uk)

Headteacher:

Miss S J Porter B Ed (Hons) NPQH

[www.leckhampton.gloucs.sch.uk](http://www.leckhampton.gloucs.sch.uk)

Dear Parents

In this week's bulletin;

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## Open Classrooms

We are really looking forward to welcoming families into school and providing you with an opportunity to say hello to class teachers and spend a little time in the classroom with your child. As you will appreciate, in the light of our COVID Risk Assessment, we have had to consider how this happens to try to reduce congestion in certain areas of the school and reduce numbers on site at any one time. We are therefore inviting families into school on the following days;

<b>Reception, Year 1, Year 3 and Year 5</b>	Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> October	8.35am – 9.05am
<b>Year 2, Year 4 and Year 6</b>	Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> October	8.35am – 9.05am

Future dates for the academic year will be issued in the next bulletin.

For those who are unfamiliar with open classrooms, parents are welcome to pop into the classroom with their child to see a piece of work which the child has selected to share with you.

## Parents Evening

Following the parental survey where we asked you to identify preferences in terms of the number and style of evenings as well as virtual or in person events, we are able to feedback on the findings.

It is clear that the more traditional events i.e. parents evening in November and March as well as informal open evening in July was preferred by families. The decision as to whether they were in person or virtual is more complex and there are strong views on each side of the debate. It is clear that some families prefer the face to face discussion in school whilst others preferred the flexibility that virtual meetings offered. For the first parents evening this academic year, we will be offering face to face appointments only but will look to incorporate virtual appointment for the Spring Term.

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In order for things to run smoothly, class teachers will be keeping to strict timings on the evenings as we want to avoid long waiting times, which we know inconveniences families. We would therefore request that parents support staff by being available for appointments on time.

The dates and times are as follows;  
 Tuesday 9 November 4.30 – 7.10pm  
 Thursday 11 November 3.30 – 6.10pm

Information on how to book appointments will be issued by Mrs East in due course.

### **Heads and Deputy Heads of Houses**

We are delighted to announce that our new house captains and vice house captains from Year 6 have been selected – congratulations on your achievement children. Well done to all who took part in the elections.

As part of supporting and encouraging the children in these important roles, as well as all other children in the house, we have developed some new staff roles in school. Each house will be represented by the following members of staff;

<b>House</b>	<b>Head of House</b>	<b>Deputy Head of House</b>
Peregrine	Mrs Head	Miss Simcock
Sparrowhawk	Mrs Connolley	Mrs Chapman
Merlin	Mr Robinson	Mrs Oakey
Goshawk	Miss Flook	Miss Robson
Osprey	Miss Wilding	Mrs Bennett
Kestrel	Mrs Kelly	Mr Knight

### **Use of Lateral Flow Tests**

We should like to remind parents that if a child is displaying COVID 19 symptoms, a PCR test is required. Lateral flow tests should not be used if a child is presenting with symptoms – thank you.

### **School Improvement Priorities**

This year we will be focussing on developing our curriculum even further. Teachers who are in their second year and above usually lead a particular subject area in school and have responsibility for ensuring the Quality of Education in their subject. This is an additional responsibility on top of their teaching commitment. In order to evaluate the quality of provision across the school, subject leaders are required to spend time away from the classroom in order to fulfil these duties.

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We are incredibly fortunate to have a number of well-known colleagues who offer additional supply teaching so that we are able to release subject leaders during the school day. In this instance, where a teacher requires cover, planning, preparation and a thorough handover takes place to ensure that the children's learning is not disrupted and teachers check in with the supply teacher during the day.

We look forward to sharing our curriculum developments with you.

### **Playground Development**

There is much excitement in the playground at the moment as the children are wondering what is happening in-between the playgrounds! FoLPS have very kindly agreed to match fund the erection of two new pieces of play equipment which we hope the children will enjoy using. The works are due to be completed early next week.

### **Communication with the School**

Please use the main reception number (01242 524062) to leave a message should you need to speak with a member of staff. A member of our office team will relay messages to teachers as soon as possible. **Please note that the school office operates between 8.30am and 4.00pm Monday to Friday.**

When wishing to communicate with the class teacher, a note is by far the best way to get a message to them promptly and should be used for the majority of everyday communication.

Teachers want to respond to parent/carers queries at the earliest opportunity and will do their best to do so, however, the majority of teachers' time is taken up teaching and preparing for lessons. Teachers' responsibilities extend beyond the classroom, and they may be unable to respond to you on the day a query is made. We have also agreed with staff that there is no expectation to respond to queries during their personal/family time which includes evenings, weekends and holidays. Teachers will always aim to respond to parents within 48 hours (2 working days) of receiving a message. This may be an acknowledgement in the first instance, should the matter require a more detailed discussion at a mutually agreed, later date.

Best wishes  
Sam Porter

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