



Dear Parents

Following yesterday evening's announcement of the death of Her Majesty The Queen, members of the leadership team used time during our Collective Worship this morning to remember our longest ever reigning monarch and to offer some time to reflect and hold Her Majesty and her family in our thoughts at this very sad time. We understand that this news may affect pupils in a number of ways and staff have been on hand to talk through any questions or worries the children may have in an age appropriate way. Winston's Wish have produced a helpful website which offers support and guidance to parents and school staff on bereavement and grief and can be found by clicking on the following link; www.winstonswish.org As we have entered a period of national mourning, we understand that further guidance will be issued to schools once details of the funeral are confirmed by the Royal Household. I will of course keep families updated as soon as I am able. Revd Gary Grady has informed me that there is a book of condolence in both St. Peter's and St. Christopher's, should parents wish to leave a message.

In this week's bulletin;

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Welcome

As we start our new school year, we extend a very warm welcome to the new children and parents who have joined the family of Leckhampton School. We hope that your association with the school is a long and happy one and we look forward to working in partnership with you.

We also think about our recent Year 6 leavers and hope that they are all settling into their new schools and enjoying the opportunities and challenges that secondary school brings.

I should also like to extend my thanks to the staff of the school for all their hard work over the summer holiday in preparing their classrooms for the new term.

Wishing you all the very best for the term ahead.

Sam Porter

End of Day Arrangements

Thank you for your support in arriving promptly to collect the children at the end of the day. Teachers are acutely aware of the importance of not keeping families waiting and we were pleased with how smoothly things have gone so far. There are one or two things that would help further and I would be most grateful if you could assist us in the following ways:

- Please could families refrain from using the play equipment on the playground at the end of the day.
- The field and trim trail shouldn't be accessed at the end of the day.
- Please could families keep the two paths connecting the upper and lower playgrounds clear for pedestrian access.

Thank you in advance.

Traffic

Please could I remind parents that in the interests of our children's safety, cars should not be driven on the pavement, parked on yellow lines or block neighbours' entrances. Traffic Wardens have recently reported their concerns about illegal parking around Schools and will be making random checks. Please may we remind you that the School Car Park is for staff cars only.

New Equipment

As you may have seen, we have had a new and extensive trim trail installed at the end of the field that has resulted in great excitement from the children – just the reaction I had hoped to see! A timetable has been set up to ensure all of the children have an opportunity to use and explore the new equipment each week and I hope it brings them a great deal of joy at playtimes.

Edmodo

We have been informed that Edmodo will be closing down its platform on 22nd September 2022. Sadly, it is no longer viable for them to offer this free platform to schools, which has been running for almost 15 years. We know how many families have really enjoyed the benefits that Edmodo can bring and Miss Merrett, Our IT technician is busy sourcing a similar product, which we hope will be up and running soon. In the meantime, teachers will not post on the platform and I should like to reassure you that all previous posts and information would be permanently deleted on 22nd September.

SEND and Pastoral Newsletter

Within the second week of term, all families will receive the first of our SEND and Pastoral Newsletters. We hope that you enjoy reading about the work of the school and how we will be looking to strengthen our partnerships and the support we offer to parents whose child has a Special Education Need and/or disability and those who are receiving pastoral support here at Leckhampton.

Lone Walking Guidance

All families will receive an electronic copy of the school's Lone Walking Guidance, which we hope you find useful. It outlines our position and thoughts on children walking to and from school independently. We are also asking parents of children in Key Stage 2 who would like their child to walk home independently, to complete a slip to indicate their permission if applicable. This will be circulated in hard copy via pupil post. Please return any slips to the class teacher, as they will need to maintain a record of this information. We would be grateful if slips could be returned by Tuesday 13th September – thank you.

A reminder to families to please remember to send notes regarding end of day pick up if your child is going home with someone other than their parents/guardians. This includes grandparents and other family members. If your child routinely goes home with someone else e.g Grandma every Tuesday then please send a signed letter stating this to be kept in the class register, thank you.

After School Club Places

I have recently contacted Childs Play UK in relation to the number of After School places currently available to families. A representative from the company explained that in the week prior to school returning, there was significant capacity for the 90 places available, however in the final days of the summer break, there was a surge in last minute request for places, which has made planning incredibly difficult.

We are working closely with Childs Play UK so that they are able to expand and meet the growing demand. I have been assured that we do not need to commence looking at alternative providers at this stage and I am confident that the company will do all they can to assist us in providing the very best care for our children. I will keep parents updated as soon as I receive an update from the company.

Extra-Curricular Clubs

Mr Simpson and Mr Robinson are busy compiling the list of extra clubs on offer here at Leckhampton. We are hoping to issue the Autumn club list to families next week.