



Academic Year 2024-2025

Contact us at:

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Updates for the Summer Term 2024

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This Issue:

Dear Everyone

What a great start to the final half term of this academic year! The weather is warm and sunny and the children are all enjoying the outdoors and playing on the school field at break times.

The children are currently enjoying a number of trips out and these are great for ensuring that the learning of the children is both meaningful and fun. A big thank you to all the families for supporting these activities.

We have a number of events planned this half term so please make sure that you keep up to date with all the events by checking both our newsletter diary page and the diary on the school website. Remember the Summer Fayre this year is on Friday 28 June 2024. We would love to see you all there!



General Update	1
School Places	1
Staffing Updates	1
Class Arrangements 2024-2025	2
Lost Property	2
Reminders	2

School Places

The new reception classes for 2024 - 2025 are full and we have a waiting list, which we are all delighted about. Again, this year we were a popular choice for new families across Horsham. New In-take parent meetings will be held on Monday June 10 at 6.00 p.m. and Tuesday 11 June at 2.00 p.m.

Due to demand for school places at Leechpool, could families please let the school office know if they will be moving children from the school at the end of this term.

We have long waiting lists for some classes and we are keen to ensure that families wanting to come to the school are informed as early as possible. Thank you.

Staffing Updates for 2023-2024

This year we will see a number of changes to the staffing structure. In July we will be saying a sad goodbye to Miss Cullern who is to retire after 22 years of loyal and first class service to the children of Leechpool. She has had a total teaching career of 32 years and is keen to take on a quieter and slower pace of life. We will miss her enormously.

Miss Morgan is leaving to continue further study and change career direction to become an art therapist. Miss Morgan has worked for the school of the last 6 years and she has been a fantastic teacher in the Early Years and Year 1 and more recently working with children across the school as she moved to a part-term position.

Miss Brown has decided to take a break from education and is pursuing other career opportunities, following a move away from the Horsham area.

Mrs Weeks, a member of the learning support team is moving to take a teaching position in a local school.

We wish them all the best for the future.

The staff, children and families will be given an opportunity to say a proper goodbye to all members of staff at the end of term.

We have appointed the following teaching staff for the next academic year Mr King as Phase Leader to Upper Key Stage 2 and Miss Dwyer to the teaching team. Class allocations will be sent in a separate letter to all families.

Our new staff will be bringing a range of experiences and new interests to the school. We are all looking forward to welcoming them to the team.

Special dates of Interest:

- **Friday 12 June Junior Sports morning 9.30 a.m.**
- **Wednesday 26 June Tour de Leechpool all day**
- **Monday 3 July Infant Sports afternoon 1.30 p.m.**
- **Thursday 22 July 9.00 a.m. Year 6 Leavers Assembly**

See the Diary Page for updates for this term and 2024-2025

Class arrangements for 2024 - 2025

A separate letter regarding teaching arrangements will be sent to families. This letter informs families of the teacher allocations for September 2024–2025.

All children will be told their Class Teacher's name and will have an opportunity to visit their new class on **Wednesday 3 July 2024**. We will be displaying all class lists outside the School Office on this day, with first names only. Please be aware that this information is not to be shared via social media or photographed due to the laws around GDPR. The lists will be removed on Wednesday 10 July.



Reminders

Equipment in School

Please ensure your child has all the equipment in school for the start of each day, including lunches, reading books, appropriate clothing etc. We frequently have to take forgotten items up to class which is extremely time consuming for a busy office. We should all be working with the children to become more independent and organised with their belongings.

Water bottles and sun cream protection

Could we please remind all families that children should attend school with a water bottle, hat and sunscreen cream already applied on hot sunny days. We do monitor the time children are exposed to the sun and plan accordingly, providing times out of the sun etc. See the school website for further information on our Sun Protection Policy.



Illness

Children must be free of any symptoms of sickness and diarrhoea for 48 hours before returning to school. This is for the protection of all children and staff to avoid spreading further illness.

Parking

Could we please remind everyone to park away from the school at the beginning and end of the school day and especially during wet weather. Areas for safe parking are very limited.

At all times we would ask that you give full consideration to all our local residents who do much to support our school. Thank you.

Scooters and Bicycles

Please can we remind you that scooters and bicycles **must not** be ridden on the school site. We would also ask that children are supervised as they ride their scooters along the pathways to the school.

We would also like to remind families that helmets should be worn at all times. We are no longer issuing bike or scooter licences and all children riding to school should be under parental supervision or have parental consent. **We also would like to remind families that scooters should be taken home daily as over the half term holiday we had 5 unclaimed scooters left in the cycle sheds. The school will take no responsibility for loss or damage to bicycles or scooters left on the school site over night.**



Lost Property

Could all children please be encouraged to look after their equipment and uniform. We currently have a great deal of children without names on and this is now in the lost Property Boxes in the junior and infant playgrounds. Please check and reclaim your child's items. **All named items are returned to their rightful owners immediately.**

Playground Equipment

Could we please remind you that the outdoor climbing frames and swing **should not be used** before school or after school as we do not have staff available to supervise or enough space for all the children to go on it at one time! The school will not be held responsible for any accidents should children use the equipment at these times.

Telephone messages about going home arrangements

At the end of the school day, the School Office is very busy and it is very difficult to pass on picking up arrangements after 2.00 p.m. so please make sure any changes to arrangements are shared before this time. We understand that sometimes an emergency may occur and on these occasions we will happily help.

No Smoking / Vaping Zone

Could we please ask all families to not smoke or vape outside the school gates whilst dropping or picking up children. Your attention to this would be much appreciated.



If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the School Office.

Nicola Davenport
Headteacher

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