LEIGH NEWS

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REMEMBRANCE DAY EVENTS

On Tuesday the school went to the War Memorial to take part in our annual act of remembrance. In the morning the children planted the poppies they have been making at the base of the War Memorial and then during the short service additional wreaths and poppies were laid in memory of all those who have lost their lives serving their country. The Last Post and Reveille were then played by Ellie McKenzie-Jones and prayers were read by Lionel Kevis and Colin Stratton-Brown. If you haven't had an opportunity to see the children's poppies then please do make an effort to look at these before they are removed at the weekend. On Tuesday afternoon we held a 'Remembrance Exhibition' in Jessica's Hall to show some of the work connected with our visit to Ypres, Belgium. In all we welcomed about 70 members of the local community throughout the afternoon and, as well as displaying photographs, artwork and poetry, some of the children read poems they had written about World War I. It was a lovely event and it was particularly pleasing to be able to open the school up to members of the local community in this way. There are plenty of photographs from the day in the 'Galleries' section on the school website.

STONEPITTS CHRISTMAS TREES

If you are looking for a real Christmas Tree this year then do consider buying it from Stonepitts Farm in Seal. For every tree purchased then we receive a £2 donation upon the receipt of this Newsletter. In addition Stonepitts will also donate some money towards Help for Heroes: in total £1,250 was raised last year. For further information please visit www.stonepitts.com

Next Week's Theme – 'It's Good to be Different'

MATHS WEEK

Next week is Maths Week! A letter from Miss Birchenall has already been sent home about this event but there is also a copy on the school website. We would like to invite all parents and carers to come into school on Thursday 27th November to play the maths games that the children will be making, so please do come along and enjoy some maths fun with the children!

BREAKFAST CLUB FEEDBACK

In September we started to run our new Breakfast Club. This was started in response to the Parent Survey where many parents expressed an interest in using such a facility should it be made available. At the moment attendance at the club is very low and it could be that the club will have to stop in the near future. If anyone has any feedback about the club (such as timings, availability, menu choices etc...) then I would be very interested to hear from you. Thank you.

SCAF FORMS

If you have a child in Year 6 then you should have already completed the Secondary Common Application Form. Please could we ask that you send a copy of this form to the school office as soon as possible.

PARENT WORKSHOP

The next Parent Workshop is THIS TUESDAY in Jessica's Hall at 9am and is entitled 'Key Stage 1 Phonics'. This session will be particularly useful if you have a child in Reception or Year 1 but other parents might also find it interesting. The session will last about 1 hour and there will be plenty of opportunities for you to ask questions and see the resources that we use to teach phonics in school.

OFF BY HEART POETRY FINAL

On Friday afternoon we hosted the Grand Final of our poetry competition. In all 16 children made it through to the final which was judged by two independent adjudicators. It was a terrific afternoon and the children performed their poems with real confidence and skill. Huge congratulations to all the children who took time to learn their poems and we hope that these will stay with them for many years to come. The results were as follows:

1st Place	**Andrew Saunders**
2nd Place	**George Ennals**
3rd Place	**John Matthews**

PARKING

On Wednesday morning a very serious accident nearly occurred outside the school due to some very inconsiderate driving. On this occasion we were fortunate that no serious injury occurred, but unfortunately it seems likely that if such behaviour continues a child is going to be severely hurt. This on-going issue only seems to be getting worse and I am now in consultation with the local police to see if more can be done to ensure the safety of our children at the beginning and the end of the school day. May I simply plead with all parents and carers to be extremely careful when driving around the school premises at these key times of the day and to be aware that there is additional parking on the other side of the green. Thank you.

OPEN CLASSROOM AFTERNOON

We have decided to move the date of the Open Classroom Afternoon so that we are not rushing to take Christmas displays down on the very last day of term. This event will now take place on Thursday 11th December (NOT Thursday 18th December) from 3pm-4pm.

PANTOMIME

On Wednesday a letter about our whole school trip to the pantomime was sent home. Please could we ask that these slips are returned by Friday 28th November and that if you require financial assistance in this case that you speak with the school office or myself as soon as possible.

SCHOOL DINNERS

Could we remind parents that school dinners for children in Key Stage 2 are £2.30 per day and that if payment could be received at the beginning of the week then we would be extremely grateful. Thank you.

PTA NEWS

There is a PTA Meeting on Tuesday 18th November at 7.30pm in the Fleur De Lis. During the meeting the Christmas Fayre and other events will be discussed. Please do attend this event if you can. Thank you.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

For a number of years the school has been supporting Operation Christmas Child by wrapping and filling empty shoeboxes and sending them to children in Eastern Europe and Africa. If you are having trouble getting a shoebox then David has left some in my office so please do see me if you would like one. We have also started a campaign to collect old shoes for children in Africa so if you have any that you are throwing out then please do bring them to school and put them in the box in reception. Thank you.

Events

17.11.14	Maths Week Begins
18.11.14	Parent Workshop 3 – 'Key Stage 1 Phonics' PTA Meeting at the Fleur De Lis (7.30pm)
25.11.14	Parent Workshop 4 – 'Key Stage 1 Writing and Reading'
27.11.14	Fox Class Trip to Pizza Express Maths games session with parents Parent Meeting in Jessica's Hall (8pm)
1.12.14	Assessment Week
2.12.14	Parent Workshop 5 – 'Key Stage 1 Maths'
7.12.14	School Christmas Fayre (2pm-4pm)
9.12.14	School Christmas Jumper Day Choir singing at Nizels Christmas Fayre
10.12.14	Choir singing at High Hilden
11.12.14	PTA Present Fayre (pm) Open Classroom Afternoon (3pm-4pm)
12.12.14	Whole school visit to the STAG Theatre – Cinderella
14.12.14	Breakfast with Santa
16..12.14	Dress Rehearsal of Nativity Play (2pm)
17.12.14	Christmas Nativity (2pm) in St. Mary's Church
19.12.14	End of Term Service at St Mary's Church (2pm)
5.1.15	Term 3 begins

Further dates will be published on the website under School Calendar