# LEIGH NEWS

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## OFF BY HEART COMPETITION

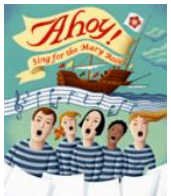
**We are delighted to be able to launch the fourth annual Leigh Primary School Off By Heart Poetry Competition 2017!**

**Following on from the success of last year's competition we are launching our fourth 'Off By Heart' competition. We are again asking that all the children learn one poem from the list on the school website under: 'Learning; Curriculum; Off By Heart'. The children will be asked to recite their poems in class and the two winning entries from each class will go through to the Grand Final to be held on Friday 1st December in Jessica's Hall at 2pm. We are hoping this is going to be great fun for the children and prizes will be on offer for all those who have a go! The best way of learning a poem is not to try and do it all at once. Little and often, line by line, is often the best approach. We want the children to challenge themselves and not simply pick the shortest or easiest poems. Extra marks will be given to those children who really push themselves and try something difficult. Although some children will find this a challenge we are asking that they all try and learn at least one of the poems or part of it from the list. We appreciate that there will be some children who do not wish to stand up in front of the class. For some children this can often be a very stressful experience and we would obviously not wish to embarrass or worry them. Those children will be allowed to write their poems from memory as a handwriting exercise. We look forward to learning these poems with you and to our final Poetry Recital where there will be extra prizes on offer and three independent judges to make the tough decisions. Get learning and good luck.....!**

## Clubs

The final sign up session for this year's clubs progamme will be tonight from 3.15pm in Jessica's Hall. Please do come along and sign up for the clubs your child would like to attend this year. Please note that clubs do not begin until Monday 25th September. Thank you.

### Ahoy! Sing for the Mary Rose




Last term I wrote to all parents regarding an exciting charity concert involving the children in Years 4,5 & 6. These year groups will represent Leigh Primary School and will join with the choirs of Walthamstow Hall Senior School, The New Beacon School and the choirs of The Hospice in the Weald. This massed choir will perform a cantata 'Ahoy! Sing for the Mary Rose' by Alexander L'Estrange. The concert is in aid of Hospice in the Weald and will take place on **Friday 13th October, 7pm at The New Beacon School**. All the music will be taught by myself during class music lessons at school. We are very excited to be taking part in this wonderful project and it's crucial that all the children are able to attend the evening performance on 13th October. Further information will be sent out next week but tickets can now be purchased by clicking on the following link:
https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/combined-choirs-sing-ahoy-sing-for-mary-rose-for-the-hospice-in-the-weald-tickets-36776870610

**Next Week's Theme – 'Respecting Different Opinions'**

### March for Mandy

**The Scribbles Preschool team and members of their PTFA are walking a marathon around London on 23rd September. They are raising money for cancer charities. They would very much appreciate any sponsorship which can be made via http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/team/MarchForMandy or by making a cash donation through the school office. Many thanks from Mandy Austen, Jess Green, Ellie Armstrong, Tish Trowell, Julie Baggot, Karen Korvin, Katie Bone, Chloe Bates, Anel Andrews, Nicola Drew, Emma Wood and Samantha Comfort**

### AUTUMN SPRING CLEAN!

We are having our next 'Spring' Clean Day on Saturday 21st October from 10am-2pm. During the day we are hoping to tackle some of the bigger projects around the school such as gardening, tidying the loft in Jessica's Hall and clearing the space behind Jessica's Hall. If you are able to attend then please just turn up on the day. Thank you.

### Parent Consultations

We have now fixed the dates for this term's Parent Consultations. These will take place on Wednesday 8th November (1.30pm-3pm) and Thursday 9th November (5pm-8pm). Further information will be sent out nearer the time.

## Peace Button

On Wednesday we had a visit from our friends from Peace Button. Remi and Rebecca took assembly in the morning and then took a number of workshops throughout the day. Peace Button seeks to inspire peace by imparting mindfulness methods and practices and they enable children aged 3-11 to connect with this principle in a fun and memorable way. The children experienced mindfulness through breath, movement, storytelling and song, using their Peace Button (aka belly button) which serves as a distinctive physical anchor. They work on the principle that if we instil lasting peaceful and mindful practices in our children, we can witness a global shift in how humans respond and interact with each other. Peace Button will also be conducting a Parent Workshop on their return visit on 19th October at 2.15pm so please do keep this date free to learn more about how the Peace Button works!

## PUPIL ACHIEVEMENTS

### Thomas and Renata Howe-Marquez

**Congratulations to Thomas and Renata who have both been awarded Trinity College of London Music certificates. Renata has been awarded Entry Level Awards in Rock and Pop Vocals and Rock and Pop Keyboards (with Distinction) and Thomas has been awarded Grade 1 Rock and Pop Drums. Congratulations to both on these wonderful achievements.**

## Parent Workshops

**We have now set the dates for the autumn term parent workshops. This is now the fifth year we will have been running these and they have proved extremely popular with parents. These are a completely new set of workshops and all the slides for last year's sessions can be found on the school website. All workshops will be held in Jessica's Hall and will last between 40minutes and an hour. If you have a specific question regarding online safety that you would like covered in the session then please do email this to me (headteacher@leigh.kent.sch.uk) by half term.**

**ACT RIGHT Passports – 11th October at 9am**
**Peace Button for Parents – 19th October at 2.15pm**
**Assessment and the Curriculum – 1st November at 9am**
**Online Safety – 10th November at 2pm**
**Phonics and Maths in Reception/Year 1 – 20th November at 9am**

### Head Lice

This ongoing problem is with us again! Could I ask that you check your child's hair on a regular basis, and if nits are present treat the entire family. The advice we are being given is that wet hair with plenty of conditioner should be thoroughly combed with a nit comb. In order to break the egg laying cycle of the lice, combing should be done on days 1, 5, 9 and 13. We would ask that you comb out all the lice to start with on day 1, then 4 days later you comb again to get rid of any lice that have hatched since that first combing and before they can lay eggs. You then need to comb again 4 days later (day 9) and so on. Further information can be found on http://www.nhs.uk/Conditions/Head-lice Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

### PTA NEWS

**Everyone is invited to the PTA AGM at 8pm on Wednesday 27th September. Come and find out about all the wonderful things planned for this year.**

### Panto News

**For any friends wanting to see Bella, Ella and Georgie May at the Tunbridge Wells Pantomime, the dates they are performing are: Friday 8th December 7pm, Tuesday 12th December 10am and 1.15pm, Friday 15th December 1.15 and 6.00pm, Tuesday 19th December 10am and 1.15pm, Friday 22nd December 1pm and 6pm, Tuesday 26th December 1pm and 6pm, Friday 29th December 1pm and 6pm, Tuesday 2nd January 1pm and 6pm. Tickets are now available!**

### Events

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| 18.9.17 | Squirrel Class Staying for Lunch |
| 20.9.17 | Robins Class Forest School |
| 25.9.17 | Clubs Start<br>Squirrel Class Staying all Day |
| 27.9.17 | Trip to The Royal Opera House<br>Hawks Forest School |
| 3.10.17 | M&M Theatre Production Visit |
| 4.10.17 | Robins Forest School |

**Further dates will be published on the website under School Calendar**