LEIGH NEWS

News No 134 www.leighprimaryschool.com 01732 832660 Friday 16th September 2016

OFF BY HEART COMPETITION

We are delighted to be able to launch the third annual Leigh Primary School Off By Heart Poetry Competition 2016!

Following on from the success of last year's competition we are launching our third '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 18th November 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. The poems are different from last year so please do visit the page on the school website 'Curriculum; Learning; Off By Heart Poetry Competition' to see what poems we've selected this year. 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.....!

Harvest Festival

We are holding our annual Harvest Festival service at St Mary's Church on 11th October at 10.10am. We are asking the children to put some small change in an envelope and all the money raised will be donated to David Bennie's project work in The Gambia. All are very welcome to attend this service which will last about 30 minutes.

Next Week's Theme – 'Respecting Different Opinions'

Clubs

The clubs programme will begin again on Monday. The children should now know which clubs they will be attending but if there is any confusion please contact the school office as soon as possible. It is extremely important the children attend the clubs they have signed up for and if a child cannot make a club on any given week please ensure that the person running that club knows. A huge thank you to all the staff, parents and friends who have committed so much of their time to run clubs for the children this year and we feel so fortunate to be able to offer around 20 clubs every week. We are also now offering Yoga Club again on Thursday after school for children in Key Stage 2 so please do contact the school office if your child is interested in joining this terrific club. We do strongly recommend that the children in Squirrel Class do not start any clubs until January at the earliest but do speak with myself or Miss Casper if you wish to discuss this further.

Secondary Schools Open Days

A number of you with children in upper Key Stage 2 will be looking at attending Secondary School Open Days over the coming weeks. These give you a good opportunity to see the schools at first-hand and to ask questions about curriculum, ethos and facilities. There is no substitute for going to see the school in person and I advise you strongly to do so rather than rely on reputation or hearsay. Attached to this Newsletter is a list of the different Open Events that the Secondary Schools are hosting this term and I hope it is of use to those of you trying to navigate your way around them. Please note that although I have done my best to ensure that the information contained in this letter is accurate, it is also prudent to check before turning up and to ascertain whether you need to book a place with the school concerned. Thank you.

The Green

Work has now started on the Village Green. This work is most probably going to take about 5 months to complete so, for the time being, we will not be able to use it. We are still hoping that it will be possible to use the far side for Football Club but if this proves impossible then we will relocate this club to the school field.

Pupil Achievements

Jacob Frost

Congratulations to Jacob Frost who has received this wonderful green Blue Peter Badge. The green Blue Peter Badges are given to those children who have shown that they care about the environment and nature. Jacob is a keen gardener who has recently grown pumpkins, carrots, beans and courgettes. Really well done Jacob!

Renata and Thomas Howe-Marquez

Congratulations to Renata and Thomas Howe-Marquez who have both recently completed the 'Walk The Thames Bridges' sponsored walk. This 25K walk was held to raise money for Georgia Howe's Brain Tumour Treatment and involved walking over 16 London bridges. Well done to both children on such a terrific achievement.

Bella Padden and Ella Dorward

Congratulations to Bella Padden and Ella Dorward who will both be performing in local Pantomimes over the Christmas Period. Bella has got a place in 'The Wizard of Oz' at the E M Forster Theatre whilst Ella has a place in 'Snow White' at the Assembly Halls in Tunbridge Wells. Congratulations to both talented girls on this achievement.

PTA NEWS

With the new creative arts facility now being built it's time to think about how we are going to kit it out! "The Layabouts" will be playing at The Fleur de Lis on Saturday 8th October to raise money for this, so come along for a night of live music, great food and good company! Tickets are £15 and include a Hog roast (or vegetarian alternative). Tickets available from the Fleur or School Office.
Our AGM is on Tuesday 20th Sept, 8pm in Jessica's hall. Do come along to plan the years events and enjoy a glass of prosecco on us! All warmly welcome!

Dyslexia Help

We have posted a document on the SEN page of the school website entitled 'How to help your child with dyslexia'. It's full of really useful strategies to support children at home who suffer from dyslexia. To access it please visit 'Learning; Curriculum; SEN' or click on the link below. Thank you.
http://www.leighprimaryschool.com/Learning/Special-Educational-Needs/

Events

19.9.16	Squirrel Class staying for lunch Young Filmmakers Club Assembly Clubs Start
20.9.16	Hawks Class Forest School PTA AGM in Jessica's Hall (8pm)
21.9.16	Parent Workshop 1 – Key Stage 2 Maths (9am) Hedgehog Class Forest School
22.9.16	Residential Meeting for Parents of Children in Yr 6 (3.30pm)
26.9.16	Squirrel Class in full time
27.9.16	Parent Workshop 2 – Key Stage 1 Maths (9am) Robins Class Forest School
28.9.16	Hawks Class Forest School
4.10.16	M&M Theatre Production of The Railway Children Fox Class Forest School
5.10.16	Hawks Class to Royal Observatory, Greenwich Wolves Class Forest School
6.10.16	Kent Messenger to take Squirrel Class Photo

Further dates will be published on the website under School Calendar