LEIGH NEWS

News No 188 www.leighprimaryschool.com 01732 832660 Friday 19th January 2018

Canterbury Cathedral

Yesterday 30 children and a group of adults went to Canterbury Cathedral. The children joined together with the choirs from Simon Langton Grammar School for Boys, The New Beacon School and Hollingbourne Primary School for the annual Schools' Choir Festival. The children performed a number of choral items with the other three choirs as well as Sh'ma Yisrael by Barbara Wolfman on their own. The choir performed brilliantly and their behaviour throughout the day was outstanding. As well as this, Sophie May Anderson performed two solo pieces on her harp and can be unbelievably proud of producing such a wonderful performance in front of so many people. I would like to thank all the parents who accompanied us on the day and to Tamsin Anderson for preparing the choir so magnificently. There was an official photographer on hand throughout the day and when I have received these photographs we will post them on the school website for all to see. Thank you.

Envelopes and Money

This week we have started a new system in the school office. We are asking that trip money and permission slips, lunch money, correspondence for the PTA, Fruity Friday money and football and netball permission slips are placed in the blue basket outside the school office. This will ensure parents and carers are not kept waiting in the morning and the office staff can deal with these later in the morning. Thank you for your co-operation with this.

Parent Survey

Attached with this Newsletter is the summary from the Parent Survey taken last year. We are extremely grateful to all of you who contributed to this and we're very pleased to have received so much positive feedback. However a good school is one that always reflects and tries to improve and we will be using this information to feed into the current School Development Plan. I would like to thank Fiona Lake for organising this and for spending so much of her time presenting the information in such an informative and useful way.

Next Week's Theme 'Valuing Others Whoever They Are'

Love 2 Dance

This week a letter came home regarding this year's Love 2 Dance event at The Stag Theatre. If you have a child in Years 4, 5 or 6 who would like to take part in this event then please complete the slip by the end of today. Copies of the letter can be found on the school website or by clicking on the following link:

http://www.leighprimaryschool.com/docs/Love_2_Dance_2018.pdf

Garden Area – A Message from Nicci Snuggs

Hello Everyone,

I am looking to transform the garden area at the front of the school into a sensory garden for the children. I will be writing to local garden companies and larger stores like B&Q to see if they are able to help with donations, but my first port of call is with you, our lovely parents.

I was wondering if any of you had any contacts in the horticulture field that may want to donate? Also if any of you would like to be involved and help me to plan and execute the idea? If anyone thinks they could help with contacts or would like to be involved (I really do need some help!) please catch me in the playground or email me at, niccihobbs@hotmail.com and we could arrange a meeting to brainstorm ideas. Let's make this area beautiful! Nicci Snuggs

KEY STAGE 2 TRIP TO THE BATTLEFIELDS OF WWI

If you have a child in Key Stage 2 who does not have a passport then THERE IS NO NEED TO GET A PASSPORT SPECIFICALLY FOR THIS TRIP. We can apply for a Collective Passport for any child who does not have a passport. If you would like to add your child's name to the Collective Passport then please see Mrs Burbridge in the School Office before 9th March.

SUMMER PRODUCTION

This year we will be performing our Summer Production at the Pamoja Hall at Sevenoaks School. This will involve the WHOLE SCHOOL and will take place on Tuesday 17th July.

WE ARE CHANGING THE TIME OF THE SECOND PERFORMANCE SO THATA LARGE GROUP OF CHILDREN CAN ATTEND A DANCE SHOW AT THE E M FORSTER THEATRE LATER THAT EVENING THEREFORE THE TWO PERFORMANCES WILL NOW TAKE PLACE AT 1.30pm AND 4pm AND THERE WILL NOT BE ANY NEED TO COLLECT CHILDREN FROM THE HALL BETWEEN SHOWS

DO KEEP THIS DATE FREE

Many more details will be sent out nearer the time. Thank you.

Attendance

This week letters have been sent home to families with children whose attendance is causing concern. Attached with this Newsletter is a new attendance leaflet we have produced and I would urge everyone to read this carefully. Our attendance rates are currently below national averages and this is cause for concern. Please note that following an initial letter, a pre-referral letter may be sent out if a child's attendance rate does not improve and, if necessary, Penalty Notices will be issued. It is far better to ensure the problem is resolved before it gets to this stage and I would like to thank all of you for ensuring that your children attend school regularly and are here on time. Thank you.

PTA NEWS

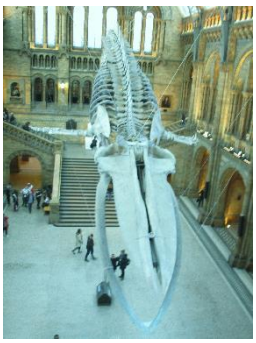
Tickets to go on sale for Carradine's Cockney Singalong

Early next week we will start selling tickets for the Cockney singalong we are holding on 23 February. It is set to be a brilliant event, hosted by Tom Carradine, a wonderful singer and musician whose cockney singalong sessions have sold out in many of London's music halls. Tom will be joining us for an evening of vintage fun, drinks and great food in the village hall. Watch this space! Get a flavour of Tom's music here:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC1FTgkfTf13AMWJUv4MTi4Q

Hawks Class at the Natural History Museum

On Tuesday, Hawks Class visited the Natural History Museum to find out about 'Whales Beneath the Surface' for their whole class topic on 'The Blue Abyss.' The exhibition was very informative and the children learnt lots of amazing facts about whales for their forthcoming learning. We would highly recommend a visit for KS2 children. Many thanks to all the parents who accompanied the children on this trip and to Mrs Phillips and Mrs Halfhide for organizing it.



Hedgehog Class News

Mrs Harper's last day before her maternity leave will on Friday 26th January. Mr Hancock will then be taking the class from Monday 29th January. Today Mr Hancock will be visiting Leigh to complete a thorough handover with Mrs Harper and will be taking the children this afternoon so that they can meet him before he starts.

Persistent Lateness

Please could we ask again that children arrive to school by 8.45am each morning. We have a very small number of children who are **persistently late** and this causes problems in the classroom as well as for the children themselves. Please remember that if a child is late it is recorded in the registers and this information is monitored by the Local Authority. Thank you for your co-operation in this matter.

Events

19.1.18	Squirrel Class Forest School
22.1.18	Netball Match v. Penshurst (away)
26.1.18	Robins Class Forest School

Further dates will be published on the website under School Calendar