

Leadgate Primary School – Friday Newsletter

Caring, Sharing, Learning Together

Friday, 21st May 2021

This day in history

1980 Star Wars Episode V - Empire Strikes Back", produced by George Lucas opens in cinemas in UK and North America

2013 Microsoft announces the release of Xbox One



Whole School Attendance

Year 1 = 97.7%

Year 2 = 97.2%

Year 3 = 89.5%

Year 4 = 97.3%

Year 5 = 98.5%

Year 6 = 96.1%

Congratulations

Well Done Year 1 for the best attendance in Lower School and Year 5 for the best attendance in Upper School.

Our school target is 97%.

Summer Holiday Breakfast

We are delighted to let you know that, thanks to the huge generosity of Amazon and Magic Breakfast, we are able to offer future Magic Breakfast 'Summer Holiday Breakfast' food deliveries direct to your doorstep.

Who can apply?

Any one with a free school meal child can apply however they do have a limit as to how many children they can deliver to across the summer. If demand is greater than the number of deliveries they have available, they may need to cap the number of parcels they can offer to our school.

What will the children receive?

Each family will receive three fortnightly deliveries of breakfast food in a box for their child, delivered by Amazon directly to their home doorstep.

The box will contain a selection of popular healthy breakfast food items such as cereal, bagels, and porridge sachets.

This summer breakfast support is delivered like a normal Amazon parcel, direct to the family home.

What will I have to do next?

You will need to contact the school in order to opt in as we will need permission to share your name and home address with Magic Breakfast for this purpose.

If you wish to participate in Magic Breakfast Summer Breakfast deliveries please respond via a private message on Class Dojo to me directly by no later than 5pm this Friday. I will update you as final arrangements are put in place. Remember that by opting in you give permission for the school to share your details with Magic Breakfast.

Happy Smiles

Happy Smiles are running a holiday club over the summer break. They are open Monday to Friday, 8am-5:30pm.

Available for children aged 2 upwards. Holiday care includes hot and cold breakfast options, 2 course Lunch and Tea and snacks.

For more information, email happysmiles@live.co.uk or call 01207 583583

Interfaith Workshop

Year 6 took part in a virtual interfaith discussion about the impact of lockdown. They worked with local faith leaders from the Christian, Hindu, Islam and Jewish faiths and had the opportunity to reflect on how people of all faiths and none have been forced to become more resilient and mindful of the needs of others in our society during lockdown

Half Term Holiday

School closes on Friday 28th of May for 1 week for Half Term. School reopens on Monday 7th of June.

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Staffing Changes September 2020

COVID 19 has had an obvious impact on the year for all children. Not least the absence from school, their lessons and their friends and relationships across the school. Therefore, we intend to make changes to our staffing structure next year to help continue to support the children as they move up the school. First, we have planned for some form of transition to happen in the summer term (COVID restrictions taken into account) rather than leave such a big step for many of our children until the September they start. Additionally where possible we have planned to move staffing with the children so that they can start the year already knowing who they are working with and build upon the strong relationships they already have. This will also mean that teachers and support staff know and understand the needs of the children as sound as they arrive back in September

The table below shows new staffing arrangements from September:

YEAR GROUP	Nursery	Reception	Year 1	Year 2
CLASS TEACHER	Mrs Nesom	Mrs Pedro	Mrs Bowe	Miss Weaver
SUPPORT STAFF	Miss Mclean Miss Hamilton	Miss Lamb Mrs McGregor Miss Watson Miss Boyle	Mrs Wilson Miss Morgan	Miss Keeler Miss Morgan
	Mrs Greener			

YEAR GROUP	Year 3	Year 4*	Year 5	Year 6
CLASS TEACHER	Mrs Reed and Mrs Handy	Mrs Hannon	Miss Scarr	Miss Edwards and Mrs Handy
SUPPORT STAFF	Mrs Pattison	Mrs Piggford Mrs Walls	Mrs Seccombe	Mr Baker

New Staffing

I am pleased to announce that after half term we will have 2 new members of staff join the school. Mrs McGregor, who has been working with us already this term, will be taking up a permanent 1 year contract and will be based within our Early Years classes. Mrs Pattison, who has yet to start with us, will be joining year 2 after the half term and transferring with them to Upper school site in September. I hope you will join me in welcoming them to the school and look forward to the work they will be doing with our children, especially supporting the transition for our Year 2 children.



TRANSITIONS

As we approach the final half term of this academic year we now look ahead to planning transition arrangements to support children prior to moving into their new class in September. We know change can be daunting for all children and have carefully planned opportunities to ensure a successful smooth transition into the next year group. We know that some transitions are bigger than others which is reflected in how we manage changes particularly for our younger children and our Year 2's moving to a new building- where has the time gone! This means that arrangements will look slightly different for the different Key Stages but all children will have ample opportunities to familiarise themselves with new staff, different environments and routines before we break up for Summer to help alleviate any worries before the holidays.

This year has been challenging maintaining COVID guidelines whilst ensuring school is as normal as possible. Under the circumstances we have had to carefully plan our transitions in line with current bubbles so it is slightly different than past years but is still as important as it has ever been that children have those opportunities. As we are unable to cross bubbles, we have planned for a full day transition so tables, resources and the classroom can be fully cleaned and ventilated before any other groups return to use the space.

Nursery

Starting school is an exciting time but also can be somewhat of a worry for our youngest children (and parents) so Mrs Pedro moving up to Reception will help aid transition enormously. Our Nursery and Reception work closely with each other so children will already have had ample opportunities to get to know the classroom and all Early Years staff. We are welcoming new children who have not attended our Nursery so a staggered transition building up to staying for lunch will mean children have a good opportunity to get to know their new class. Letters have been sent to all families explaining arrangements.

Reception

The transition from Early Years to Key Stage 1 is a big step for our younger children but this year with the continuity of Mrs Bowe and Miss Debbie moving up into Year 1 it will make the transition so much easier. In order for Mrs Bowe and the children to develop their familiarity with the new classroom and Key Stage 1 routines they will spend three full days on the final week of term Monday 12th, Tuesday 13th and Wednesday 14th in their new classroom before returning for the last day of term to the Reception classroom. Mrs Bowe having taught most of the children in Nursery and Reception has an excellent relationship with pupils but also knows their personal and academic achievements very well.

Year 1

Year 1 children share a bubble with Year 2 so they do already know Miss Weaver and Miss Kirsty through playtimes, lunchtimes and often share their news or achievements. As part of transition Miss Weaver will meet with Mr Suddick to discuss individual pupils achievements both pastorally and academically. Miss Weaver and Miss Kirsty will visit children in their own class getting to know pupils better prior to the transition days. Children will then spend three full days on the final week of term Monday 12th, Tuesday 13th and Wednesday 14th in their new classroom before returning for the last day of term to the Year 1 classroom.

TRANSITIONS

Year 2

It is time for our Year 2's to move to upper site in the next chapter of their learning journey joining Key Stage 2. They are more than ready for the next challenge in Year 3! Mrs Reed will spend the morning on Thursday 8th July in our Year 2 classroom getting to know children but also see them working in their own Classroom. Miss Weaver will discuss every child's progress, achievements and needs with Mrs Reed ensuring a comprehensive transition.

On Friday 9th July the children will spend the day at upper site in the Year 3 classroom getting to know the new environment but also the routines. Miss Weaver will meet children at Upper Site at the beginning of the day spending some time with them in their new class before leaving them to enjoy the day with Mrs. Reed. Please drop off and pick up from upper site more details to follow.

Year 3

Our Year 3 children will be moving up into Year 4 with Mrs Hannon and Miss Mandy who have already established excellent relationships with all pupils this year. The children have a very good understanding of the routines in year 3 which will continue through to Year4. They will spend Friday 9th July in their new classroom.

Year 4

Mrs Scarr and Miss Kay are excited to be taking our Year 4 children into Year 5 next year and are both already familiar to some families having taught many siblings. Mrs Scarr will meet with Mrs Reed to discuss pupils before spending the day with them on Friday 9th July in their new classroom.

September 2021 – Music Tuition

As we continue to make plans for the new academic year and in the hope that things return even closer to normal. I am pleased to announce that we have invested in placing Music teaching and the experience of instrument tuition firmly back into the curriculum from September. Every class from Year 1 to Year 6 will receive 1 hour a week for 3 half terms of music tuition with a specialist teacher. Years 1 and 2 will start with the 'Little Fingers' music programme. Years 3 and 4 will learn to play the Ukulele and Years 5 and 6 will learn to play the Clarinet. Nursery and reception Class will share an hour of music teacher time every week for the *full year* and undertake the 'Tiny Fingers' programme. Hopefully this investment in the arts will inspire, motivate and engage the children and bring something back that was lost due to COVID.

