

Leadgate Primary School – Friday Newsletter

Caring, Sharing, Learning Together

Friday, 1st July 2022

This day in history

1905 Albert Einstein introduces his theory of special relativity

1916 Battle of the Somme begins
At 7:30 a.m., the British launch a massive offensive against German forces in the Somme River region of France.

1979 Sony began selling its Walkman, a portable cassette player; an international sensation, the device changed the way people listened to music.



Whole School Attendance

Reception = 92.5 %

Year 1 = 90.9 %

★ Year 2 = 94.6 % ★

★ Year 3 = 94.6 % ★

Year 4 = 94.1 %

Year 5 = 92.9 %

Year 6 = 91.74 %



Congratulations

Well Done Year 2 for the best attendance in Lower School and Year 3 for the best attendance in Upper School.

Our school target is 97%.

School Dates

Dance and Theatre Club Final session for Year 5 and Year 6 -
Tuesday After School 3.15pm – 4.00pm
LAST SESSION Tuesday 5th July.

Every Thursday afternoon Year 5 Swimming until the end of the term

Every Wednesday until the end of the Year - Year 3 and Year 4 Ukulele Instrument Tuition

Every Wednesday until the end of this term – Taekwondo Instruction for Year 1 and Year 2,

Transition Dates

Tuesday 21st June – New Reception Parents Talk and Tour of School
10- 11am – **now changed to Friday 1st July**

Friday 8th July – Nursery, Reception class, Year 1 transition morning to new classes

Tuesday 12th - Nursery, Reception class, Year 1 Afternoon transition to new classes

Governing Body – Parent Governor required

Dear Parent / Carer,
we currently have a vacancy on our school Governing body for a parent / carer governor.

If this is something you would be interested in finding out more about please contact the school office for more information or visit our school website, About Us,
Our Governing Body :
[Our Governing Body \(leadgate.durham.sch.uk\)](http://leadgate.durham.sch.uk)

Forest Schools Request

Mrs Bowe is looking for old pots, pans and metal ware you may be able to donate to her forest schools lessons. If you can supply any of these items, please contact Mrs Bowe or deliver them straight to the lower school site.

Many thanks

Reading for Pleasure

Children at lower site attended a workshop on Monday delivered by Charlotte from Seven Stories. Thank you to those parents who attended the children had a great time at the story party. Children are enjoying reading for pleasure throughout the school and it is lovely to see so many children enthused by books!

Summer Events

It's that time of the year where the Summer term is coming to an end and we are planning the last few remaining events that will take place over the coming weeks. We are delighted that this year following a turbulent few years, we have a much more 'normal' end to the term as we start to invite parents back into school to share with us in celebrating the success of our children. We would like our children to have the best possible end to the school year and as such have carefully planned events. We are looking forward to welcoming parents back to special events but also must consider that some of our younger children may find this a little daunting. Our children in Early Years have no previous experience of seeing their loved ones in school so we have carefully planned sports events for each key stage to ensure everybody has a fantastic sports event and end to the term.

Summer Sports Stay and Play

Children in the Early Years Foundation Stage will have a summer stay and play session with a focus on outdoor games. There will be an opportunity for parents to join children to take part in various games within the classroom and outdoor environment. Please be mindful that this is quite a big step for some of our children and to help us plan the session we would appreciate confirming with your child's class teacher if you are able to attend. Unfortunately, we do not have the space to accommodate younger siblings. Nursery will hold their session on **Wednesday 13th July at 10.45am-11.45am**. Reception will hold their session on the afternoon of the **13th July from 1.30pm- 2.30pm**.

Key Stage 1 Summer Sports Games

Children in Year 1 and Year 2 will have a more traditional sports day style events which will be held on **Monday 18th July at 9am**. The games should last around an hour and we will celebrate all children who take part in the traditional egg and spoon race, sack race, relay race and of course let's not forget the skipping race. The children love some audience participation so we will welcome back the return of the parent's race! So pop your running shoes on and come join in the fun!

Key Stage 2 Summer Sports Day

Children in Key Stage 2 are excited to see the return of the traditional more competitive sports day. The level of sports achievements children have accomplished this year are staggering we have some sports stars in the making and we are very proud of all the children. Mr Baker has his clipboard ready and children are ready to show off their excellent sports skills and of course impress us with their sportsmanship. Parents are more than welcome to spectate and cheer the children on! This is provisional planned for **Tuesday 12th July at 1.10pm**. Please note that all events may be changed at short notice depending on the weather. We would also like to remind parents that videoing and photography at such events is strictly prohibited. We know that you would like to capture those memories but it is just not possible in today's society with social media being so prevalent. This is solely because of safeguarding as we may have children who do not have parent or guardian permission for photographs. We appreciate your help to keep everyone safe.

Moving Up and Moving On Celebrations Friday 15th July

It is very nearly time to say goodbye and wish our Year 6 pupils all the best for their next adventure as they move into the next phase of their education. We are celebrating their success and personal growth throughout their time in Leadgate Primary School with a celebration day on Friday 15th July. More details to follow. Year 2 children are ready to continue on their educational journey and will soon be leaving lower site to move up to Key Stage 2 at the Upper School building. Their time at Lower site has flown by and all the children are really excited. We have had a brilliant year with lots of fun, laughter and learning. We have been privileged to watch the children grow from toddlers to the kind, responsible and enthusiastic children they are today. We will be celebrating all they have achieved so far and saying goodluck moving up to your new phase in our end of term party. On the morning of Friday 15th July we will have a dome disco bouncy castle. Then on the afternoon we will have a party with a disco in the hall, games and party food. Children can come to school in their party clothes but must be bouncy castle appropriate or if they prefer they can bring their clothes to school in a named bag and change at lunch time.



At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one of many games which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about MINECRAFT



Minecraft is a beloved classic of modern gaming. First released in 2011, this open-ended 'sandbox' game of building and exploration still has over 140 million players who happily return to play it at least once every month. Minecraft has also been utilised for much more than just entertainment: it's sometimes used in schools to teach children coding, and it's also employed as a tool for computer-aided design, which is another valuable skill. Encouraging creativity and problem solving, Minecraft has plenty to offer gamers of all ages, and it's available on almost all video game platforms.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

PUBLIC SERVERS

Joining a public network (called a server) lets your child potentially interact with strangers through text chat. Some servers focus on building, while others are dedicated to role-playing – encouraging direct player interaction. Anyone can join public servers and connecting to one is relatively simple. Public server IP addresses (and therefore someone's location) are easy to find with search engines.

GRIEFING

Some people in Minecraft delight in purposely damaging or destroying another player's creation. This is called 'griefing' and is a form of bullying: it intentionally spoils someone else's experience in the game by deleting hours of their work and forcing them to start from scratch. Many public servers treat griefing as a severe offence and frequently ban offenders.

ADDICTIVENESS

Minecraft's gameplay is relatively simple, and the outcome (when a child has built something new, for instance) can be extremely gratifying. This can make the game highly addictive. It's easy to lose track of time while playing Minecraft, causing committed young players to forget about other activities like homework or enjoying family time.

SCARY ELEMENTS

The visual design and gameplay of Minecraft is purposefully child friendly, so there's nothing too untoward in the game. However, some of the 'baddies' that can be encountered might prove a little too scary for very young players. In the game, certain enemies come out at night and are accompanied by audio – such as zombie moans and skeleton bone rattles – that may unsettle young ones.

ADDITIONAL PURCHASES

After initially buying the game, players can make optional extra purchases for cosmetic items and other bonuses. Minecraft Realms is an optional online subscription (requiring regular payments) that lets users run a multiplayer server to play with their friends. Most games consoles also need an active subscription to enable online play – so online gaming can quickly become an expensive hobby.

Advice for Parents & Carers

RESEARCH CONTENT CREATORS

There are a lot of Minecraft content creators who release helpful videos about the game on YouTube and Twitch. Not all of these, however, are suitable for children. Watching these content creators' channels yourself first is a safe way to find appropriate Minecraft videos to share with your children. This also helps you learn more about the game itself, and how your child plays it.

CHOOSE THE RIGHT MODE

Selecting 'Creative' or 'Peaceful' mode allows children to play Minecraft without having to contend with enemies. It's also a great way for you to get used to playing the game with them, since the difficulty level is lower. This allows you to work together on a long-term project, creating something special without the threat of moaning zombies or creepers damaging your build.

HOST A PRIVATE SERVER

The easiest way to find a safe server for your child to play on is to make one yourself. Hosting a server prevents strangers from finding it, unless they've been given the necessary joining details. A private server also lets you control who's allowed to enter and – if necessary – to ban someone who shouldn't be there. This is the closest equivalent to parental controls in Minecraft.

ENCOURAGE BREAKS

It's easy for the hours to fly by while your child is playing Minecraft, so reminding them to take regular breaks is essential. This is a useful way for them to learn good time management, which they'll benefit from as they get older. It will also teach them to play their favourite games in moderation – limiting addictive behaviour and allowing them to manage their day better.

TALK ABOUT STRANGERS

At some point in their lives, almost everyone needs to have contact with a stranger online. Talking to your child about online safety, therefore, is essential – as is having a plan in place for dealing with any hostile or difficult strangers. Ensure that your child knows never to tell a stranger about themselves online, and that they should come to you straight away if they do encounter a problem.

Meet Our Expert

Clare Godwin (a.k.a. Lunawolf) has worked as an editor and journalist in the gaming industry since 2015, providing websites with event coverage, reviews and gaming guides. She is the owner of Lunawolf Gaming and is currently working on various gaming-related projects including game development and writing non-fiction books.



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School Dates

School closes for Summer Holiday on Tuesday 19th July And Reopens Wednesday 7th September