

# Leadgate Primary School – Friday Newsletter

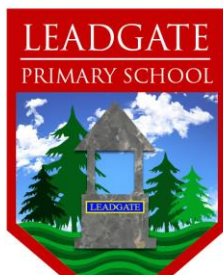
*Caring, Sharing, Learning Together*

## Important School Holiday Dates

School will be closed on **Monday 19<sup>th</sup> September** for the Bank Holiday

Half Term school closes **Friday 21st October** and reopens **Monday 31st October** School Closes for Christmas on **16th December**

Please check Class Dojo and the school website for newsletters detailing all termly dates and training date closures



## Whole School Attendance Weekly Attendance figures

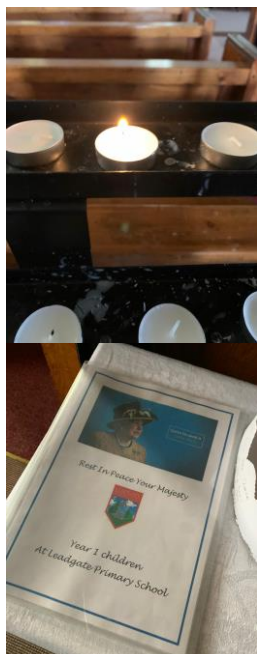
Year 1 = 79.8 %  
 ★ Year 2 = 94.3 % ★  
 Year 3 = 88.1 %  
 ★ Year 4 = 100 % ★  
 ★ Year 5 = 100 % ★  
 Year 6 = 98.1 %

### Congratulations

Well Done Year 2 for the best attendance in Lower School and Year 4 & 5 for the best attendance in Upper School across the whole year.



This week Year 1 opened a book of condolence in memory of Queen Elizabeth II. Other classes took part in age appropriate assemblies on loss, bereavement and death.



## Class PE and Sports timetable

Nursery	Monday – <b>Dance</b> <b>others TBC</b>
Reception	Monday – <b>Dance</b> Wednesday – <b>Games / Skills</b>
Year 1	Monday – <b>Dance</b> Tuesday – <b>Forest Schools</b> Thursday – <b>Taekwondo</b>
Year 2	Tuesday – <b>PE Games</b> Wednesday – <b>Forest Schools</b> Thursday – <b>Taekwondo</b>
Year 3	Monday – <b>Forest Schools</b> Tuesday – <b>Dance</b> Friday – <b>Fitness</b>
Year 4	Wednesday – <b>Fitness</b> Thursday – <b>Swimming</b>
Year 5	Tuesday – <b>Dance</b> Friday – <b>Games</b>
Year 6	Monday – <b>Games</b> Thursday – <b>Games</b>

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## Reception Class closure Update

Dear Parent Carers – as you will be aware we arrived at school on Wednesday morning to find that the Reception class ceiling had fallen in and crashed through the suspend ceiling and lighting make that class unsafe for use until a complete survey and assessment of the site was conducted.

In the interim our small Nursery class were also removed from their own classroom for the morning and spent time working between outdoors, the hall and the library as a temporary fix. We have been unable to open their classroom either as the two rooms share one original ceiling.

Over the last 2 days we have been working with County and trades people to rectify and plan a way forward.

The current position is that the remaining suspended ceiling will need to be completely removed along with the projector, lighting, cabling etc before removing all the plaster and lath ceiling that covers the whole classroom. This work commenced on Thursday. However, the extent of this works will therefore mean that this room, its access and outdoor provision will remain off limits as works continue.

We have therefore planned to reopen to reception children on Tuesday by rearranging the school, moving classes and all their resources around.

On Tuesday morning, Reception Children should attend school and access through the Nursery class door and will remain in the Nursery room until further notice. They should also be collected from there at the end of the day.

Nursery Children attending next week should access the building using the same door at the start and end of the day. Children in Nursery will be moved around once they are inside so they have a work space within the school Library.

Many thanks for your patience and understanding as we get to grips with this issue

### Date for the Diary

School photographs this year will take place on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> November

### We eat Elephants

This Week our Year 5 and 6 Children started a programme of lessons working with the Mental Health Support Team called -

'We eat elephants !!'  
Ask them all about it!

### School Council and Groups

This week keystage 2 children have participated in elections for this year's School Council, Eco Group, School Nutrition Action Group (SNAG), E safety Group. And, after some wonderful presentations and questioning I can announce the final children awarded their new positions are:

	School Council	Eco Group	SNAG Group	E safety Group
Year 3	Joshua Amy	Neave Kieron	Bobby Lily	Coby Ella
Year 4	Shay Isla	Jake Alexis	Charlie W Lexi	Frankie Finley
Year 5	Amelia Alfie G	Olly Kacey	Tyler Eboni	Mason Annabel
Year 6	Brooke Alfie	Ben R Annie	Arna John	Leyland Mia

Elections will be completed in Keystage 1 next week and we look forward to welcoming all our new Class councillors to their first meeting.

It's important that trusted adults feel able to help children and young people cope with grief – particularly at the moment, when we are mourning the loss of a public figure who was cherished by so many. Children are seeing bereavement and sadness being featured heavily in the national news and in their favourite online spaces, and hearing it being talked about extensively among families and in the community. How can we help them in processing grief healthily at this potentially upsetting time? In the guide, you'll find tips such as understanding what grief is, encouraging coping strategies and reaching out for support.

At The National College, we provide everything educators and trusted adults need to strengthen, manage and evidence their professional, and personal development, in one place, on one platform. This guide focuses on one of many issues which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit [www.thenationalcollege.co.uk](http://www.thenationalcollege.co.uk) for further information and resources.

## Tips for Supporting Children in DEALING WITH GRIEF

It's important that trusted adults feel able to help children and young people cope with grief – particularly at the moment, when we are a nation mourning the loss of a public figure who was treasured by so many. Children are seeing bereavement and sadness being featured heavily in the national news and in their favourite online spaces, and hearing it being talked about extensively among families and in the community. How can we help them in processing this healthily?

### 1 UNDERSTAND WHAT GRIEF IS

Grief is emotional distress which is a normal response to the death of someone close, well known or admired. It may feel overwhelming – especially for young people – and is often accompanied by feelings of shock, disbelief, anger or fear. These emotions may also mean that sleep, eating and our relationships with others could be affected.

### 2 MEET THE CHILD 'WHERE THEY ARE'

This could be a child's first experience of grief and loss – or conversely, they may have already encountered it several times. Make sure that any conversations you have with them, and the support that you give, are led by their experiences and their understanding of death – and in the context of their religious or community beliefs.

### 3 EXPLAIN CLEARLY WHAT DEATH IS

It may often feel uncomfortable, but it's healthier to actually use the words "dead", "death" or "died". Abstract explanations of death can frequently create even more confusion – particularly for younger children, who are still trying to grasp this complex (and possibly unfamiliar) concept.

### 4 BE PREPARED FOR QUESTIONS

On subjects such as this – especially when it involves a person who's well known to them – children and young people often have lots of questions, all at once. Sometimes, new queries about the issue will occur to them weeks after the event. Be ready to answer their questions as honestly as you can, using language that's appropriate for their age.

### 5 FIND WAYS TO REMEMBER THEM

It can help to talk to about the person who's died, even if that individual wasn't personally involved in the child's own life – such as a significant public figure, for instance. You and your child can discuss what that person meant to you, celebrate the things they achieved or go to a place where they can be remembered.

### 6 ENCOURAGE COPING STRATEGIES

You can help a child or young person to identify what their usual positive ways of coping are when they have overwhelming feelings. For example, do they find that talking with someone, drawing, going for a walk or listening to music help when they're feeling upset? These same activities could form an important part of the grieving process.

### 7 REACH OUT FOR SUPPORT

If a child or young person is struggling with grief to the extent that it's impacting on their everyday life, there are lots of expert organisations that you could reach out to for further help. Samaritans provides a listening ear for anyone in emotional distress; The Mix offers specialist support to people under 25; and Winston's Wish deals specifically with helping young people who are grieving.

SAMARITANS:  
116 123

[WWW.THEMIX.ORG.UK/GET-SUPPORT](http://WWW.THEMIX.ORG.UK/GET-SUPPORT)  
0808 808 4994

WINSTON'S WISH:  
08088 020 021

### Meet Our Expert

Anna Bateman is passionate about placing prevention at the heart of every school, integrating mental wellbeing within the curriculum, school culture and systems. She is also a member of the advisory group for the Department for Education, advising them on their mental health green paper.



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