



Leadgate Primary School

NEWSLETTER

Autumn Term-September 2025

Welcome

Welcome to a brand new academic year at Leadgate Primary School! I hope you all had a restful and enjoyable summer break, filled with special moments and time to recharge.

A very warm welcome to all the new families who have joined our school community this year—we look forward to getting to know you and working in partnership with you. And welcome back to our existing families and children, who have clearly grown over the summer and returned full of stories and enthusiasm. It has been lovely to see the children settling into their new classes, reconnecting with old friends, and making new ones.

As we begin this new chapter, we are filled with excitement for the year ahead. With new challenges and opportunities on the horizon, Leadgate continues to be a place where children are nurtured, challenged, and inspired to be the very best they can be. We remain committed to building strong foundations in learning, developing positive relationships, fostering resilience and creativity, and ensuring every child feels valued and supported.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. We look forward to working with you throughout the year ahead.

Miss Laura Weaver
(Acting Headteacher)

Designated Safeguarding Team

At Leadgate Primary School, safeguarding is everyone's responsibility. We are fully committed to ensuring that all children feel happy, safe, and secure. Creating a safe and supportive environment is at the heart of everything we do.

Our dedicated safeguarding team are:

- Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL): Miss Laura Weaver
- Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads (DDSLs): Mrs Clare Hannon, Miss Katy Nesom and Miss Lucy Scarr



If you have any concerns about a child's safety or wellbeing, or if you require support or advice regarding safeguarding matters, please do not hesitate to contact a member of the safeguarding team. We are here to help. Together, we can ensure that every child thrives in a safe, nurturing, and respectful environment.



Can You Spare a Couple of Hours a Week?



We are looking for enthusiastic parents and grandparents to join us in supporting our children's reading development. If you have a little time to spare each week and would enjoy listening to children read, we'd love to hear from you! Volunteering in school is a rewarding way to make a real difference—and your support helps build confidence, fluency, and a love of reading in our pupils.

If you're interested, please contact the school office. We will arrange a DBS check, which is required before you begin. Thank you for helping us nurture a love of reading in every child!



'Meet the Teacher'

We are excited to invite you to our 'Meet the Teacher' sessions, taking place during the week beginning Monday 15th September. These sessions are a fantastic opportunity to:

- Meet your child's new teacher
- Learn about the curriculum and expectations for the year
- Discover ways you can support your child's learning at home

Here's the schedule for the week:

- Monday
- Year 3 – 2:45pm
- Tuesday
- Year 2 – 8:45–9:30am
- Year 4 – 2:45pm
- Wednesday
- Year 1 – 8:45–9:30am
- Year 6 – 2:45pm
- Thursday
- Year 5 – 2:45pm



We encourage you to come along, ask questions, and find out how we can work together to support your child's success this year. We look forward to seeing you there!

Parking Reminder – Keep Our Children Safe

We kindly ask all parents and carers to refrain from parking on the zig-zag lines outside the school.

These markings are there to keep visibility clear and ensure the safety of our children during drop-off and pick-up times. Please also remember to park considerately in the surrounding area and be mindful of our neighbours. Thank you for your cooperation.



Diary Dates Autumn

Tues 14TH & Wed 15th
Oct Parents Evening
Tue 21st Oct
Lower Non Curriculum Day
Wed 22nd October SEND Coffee
Afternoon 2pm–3pm
Fri 24th Oct Upper Non Curriculum Day
27th–31st Oct Half Term Holliday

Fri 28th Nov School Photos
Tue 2nd Dec Panto
8th–10th Dec Y6 Residential
Mon 8th Dec EYFS Stay & Play
Tue 9th Dec KS1 Crafternoon
Wed 10th Dec EYFS Nativity
Thus 11th Dec KS2 Crafternoon
Fri 12th Dec Xmas Fair
Tues 16th Dec Church Service
Wed 17th Dec Church Service
Wed 17th Dec Xmas Lunch
Thur 18th Dec Xmas Party
Friday 19th Dec– Last day of term
Mon 5th Jan School Reopens

After School Clubs

Details of after school clubs will be shared next week and will be bookable on Arbor.



Could You Be Eligible for Free School Meals?

Don't forget to check if your family is eligible for Free School Meals! This not only supports your child with a nutritious meal each day, but also ensures you receive access to additional benefits such as: holiday activity club, food vouchers and extra funding to support your child's learning. It's a quick and simple check—just contact the school office.

Curriculum Enrichment – Exciting Experiences Ahead!

We believe that learning goes far beyond the classroom. Our curriculum continues to be enriched with trips, visitors, sports events, and non-curriculum days throughout the year. We understand how important it is for children to enjoy a diverse range of experiences as part of their education.

Already, we have some exciting visitors and enrichment days planned in the school diary, and class teachers are busy organising school trips for the Autumn term.

Once dates are confirmed, we will share all the details with you via Class Dojo. We always aim to give as much notice as possible to help with planning and preparation.



Morning Supervision Reminder

As we settle into the new term, we would like to remind all families that there is no staff supervision for children playing outside in the yard or on the field before 8:45am at Upper School. While we understand that children enjoy socialising and playing with friends before the school day begins, for health and safety reasons, children are not permitted to play on site without supervision.

Children arriving before 8:45am must either:

- Be supervised by a parent or carer, or
- Attend our Breakfast Club, which is free from 8:30am and provides a safe, welcoming start to the day.

Thank you for your understanding and continued support in helping us keep all our children safe.

Support Our School Fund – Every Contribution Counts!

As we begin the new school year, we'd like to remind everyone that contributions to our School Fund are still very much appreciated! The School Fund plays a vital role in enriching our children's experiences beyond the classroom.

Thanks to your generosity last year, we were able to provide a range of exciting extras, including:

- Festive Christmas treats/parties/pantos
- A visits from the ever-popular ice cream van
- Visitors such as the magician and EYFS crazy creatures.
- Contributions towards school trips

These special moments create lasting memories for our pupils and help bring joy and excitement to their learning journey. If you are able to contribute this year, no matter how big or small, it will make a real difference. Thank you for your continued support—it truly helps us go the extra mile for our children.



Keep Us Updated!

Please ensure that any changes to your contact details, including phone numbers and emergency contacts, are communicated to the school office as soon as possible. This helps us stay in touch with you quickly and efficiently when needed.

If your child has developed any new allergies or medical conditions, it's essential that you inform us promptly so we can update our records.





Stay Connected with Class Dojo



Class Dojo is our primary platform for sharing important information and for direct communication between families and staff. It's a great way to stay updated on school news, class activities, and your child's learning journey. We are proud of our open-door policy—if you ever have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to reach out. Our staff are always happy to help and support you in any way we can.

Reception & Secondary School Admissions – September 2026

If your child is due to start Reception or Secondary School in September 2026, please be aware of the following important dates and application details:

Apply Now

- Reception Admissions (Sept 2026)
 - For children born between 1st September 2021 and 31st August 2022
 - Applications open: Autumn 2025
 - Deadline to apply: 15th January 2026
- Secondary School Admissions (Sept 2026)
 - Applications open: 1st September 2025
 - Deadline to apply: 31st October 2025

All applications must be made through Durham County Council. Please ensure you apply within the given timeframe to secure your child's place.



Nursery Places Available – Apply Now!

We currently have spaces available in our Nursery for children aged three and above. Children become eligible for 15 hours of funded provision starting from the term after their third birthday. We typically welcome new starters in September, January, and after Easter, but please note that places are limited, so we encourage early registration to secure your child's space.

Attending our nursery provides numerous benefits, including enhanced social skills, early learning experiences, and a strong foundation for future education. If you're interested or would like more information, please contact the school office. We look forward to welcoming your child into our caring and supportive nursery setting!

Thank You for Your Feedback!

A big thank you to all the families who completed our end-of-term surveys. We truly value your feedback—it plays a vital role in shaping our school development priorities and helps us to celebrate our strengths while identifying areas for improvement.

We appreciate all the comments, suggestions, and compliments shared. Your views help us better understand the needs of our families and ensure we continue to provide the best possible experience for our children.

Once the results have been fully analysed, we will share the findings with you. These will also be discussed at the next Governing Body meeting and shared with staff, so that together we can continue to make Leadgate Primary an even better place for everyone.

Thank you for your continued support!



Leadgate Primary School

Diary Dates Sept 2025- July 2026



SEPTEMBER

Welcome BACK to SCHOOL

Thurs 4th - School Reopens
 Thurs 4th & Fri 5th - Reception 8.50-12pm
 8th-10th - Reception 8.50-1pm
 11th-12th - Reception Full Time
 15th-19th - Meet the Teacher Week

OCTOBER

Tues 14th & Wed 15th Parents Evening
 Tue 21st - Lower Non Curriculum Day
 Wed 22nd - SEND Coffee Afternoon 2pm-3pm
 Fri 24th Upper Non Curriculum Day
 27th-31st - Half Term Holiday

NOVEMBER

Fri 28th - School Photos

DECEMBER

Tue 2nd - Panto Rec-Y6
 Mon 8th-10th - Y6 Residential
 Mon 8th - EYFS Stay & Play
 Tue 9th - KS1 Crafternoon
 Wed 10th - EYFS Nativity
 Thus 11th - KS2 Crafternoon & Xmas Jumper Day
 Fri 12th - Xmas Fair
 Tues 16th & 17th - Church Service
 Wed 17th - Christmas Lunch
 Thur 18th - Xmas Party

JANUARY

Mon 5th Jan - School Reopens
 Tue 20th Jan - SEND Coffee Morning 9-10am
 Tue 27th - Rock Kidz Workshop

FEBRUARY

Tue 17th - Lower Non Curriculum Day
 Fri 20th Upper Non Curriculum Day
 23rd-27th Half Term Holidays

MARCH

2nd - School Reopens
 Thus 12th - Upper Mother's Day Lunch
 Fri 13th - Lower Mother's Day Lunch
 Tues 24th & Wed 25th Parents Evening
 Monday 30th - KS2 Crafternoon egg entries
 Tue 31st - Rec/KS1 Crafternoon

APRIL

1st - Nursery Stay and Play 9-10
 Fri 3rd - School Closed Bank Holiday
 Fri 3rd- 17th Easter Holidays
 Mon 20th - School Reopens
 Thurs 23rd - World Book Day
 Tues 28th - SEND Coffee Afternoon 2pm-3pm

MAY

Mon 4th May - School Closed Bank Holiday
 Mon 11th - Y6 SATS Week
 Tue 19th - Lower Non Curriculum Day
 Fri 22nd - Upper Non Curriculum Day

JUNE

Thus 18th - Lower Father's Day Lunch
 Fri 19th - Upper Father's Day Lunch
 Mon 22nd - New Reception Parents Meeting 3.30-4pm
 Mon 29th - New Reception Stay and Play 9.30-10.30am



JULY

Fri 3rd July - Summer Fair
 Tue 7th & Wed 8th - Parents Evening
 Thurs 9th - EYFS/KS1 Sports Day
 Mon 13th - Rec/KS1 Crafternoon
 Tue 14th - KS2 Crafternoon
 Wed 15th - KS2 Sports Day
 Thurs 16th - Y6 Celebration
 Thurs 16th - Y2 Moving up Party
 Friday 17th - Last Day of Term



Important Dates

Please find attached the academic year dates. While changes may occur, we will ensure you receive sufficient notice of any necessary adjustments. Thank you for your understanding!