

LEYS FARM JUNIOR SCHOOL
NEWSLETTER 7 - October 2021

A Busy and Successful First Half Term!

Dear Parents,

A huge well done to all the children coming back into school and settling fantastically! They have all done so well but particularly the Y3 children who had limited transition. Staff have been busy making learning fun and identifying any gaps the children may have due to the pandemic.

We were disappointed to have to reinstate our COVID-19 risk assessment, so early this half term, following Public Health England advice, but are hopeful that these restrictions can again be lifted after half term having had two weeks with only one COVID-19 positive PCR result. I'd like to thank you for your vigilance and support in following the guidelines and for those of you who took your child for PCR tests. This helped us to keep the situation under control and identify some children who were asymptomatic. I would appreciate it you could continue to work with school through testing if your child shows any symptoms.

This term, we are focusing on improving reading with the introduction of a 'Reading Reward' which we hope you will support and your child will enjoy! We hope that more children will become engaged in reading for pleasure. Multiplication skills are also high on our agenda. We are encouraging all children to take part in our TT Rockstars Challenge to get onto the leader board and to earn certificates.

Many thanks for your continued support. Enjoy your half term break.

Miss S. Thomas

Covid Update	PE Kit
<p>We unfortunately have had two class bubbles affected more than others (Y5 and Y3). Y4 have been the least impacted this half term by COVID-19. A quarter of staff have also been this half term. Staff continue to test using LFTs at least twice a week.</p> <p>Please continue to notify school of any COVID test results via email, as soon as you have them. This includes both negative and positive PCR test results.</p> <p>Please do not send information about your child's absence to class teachers via Class Dojo. This information should be sent to the school office.</p> <p>If your child is off school/self-isolating but is well, they should access remote learning. Class teachers are providing additional work each week so that your child does not get further behind.</p> <p>Attendance: If your child does not arrive at school and we have not had a message from you, our Learning Mentor, Mrs Elliot, will be in touch to check your child is safe.</p> <p>Holidays: School is following government and local authority guidelines in not authorising holidays taken in term time. However, please do complete a holiday form or let school know if your child will not be attending, so that we can account for your child's absence.</p>	<p>One 'COVID keep' is for children to come to school in their PE kit on their PE days but this kit must be the school PE kit colours (black shorts, a plain white T-shirt, trainers and a jumper/jogging bottoms in colder weather).</p> <p>If children are not wearing the correct kit (i.e. pink tops, T-shirts with logos other than the school's, etc), parents/carers will be contacted and asked to bring in the correct kit.</p> <p>PE kit and uniform requirements are also outlined on the school's website, school handbook and in Home-School Planners.</p> <p>Mr Clixby has joined us from September to deliver some of our PE sessions all day on a Monday and Friday afternoons.</p>
	Fund Raising
	<p>For Macmillan Cancer Support we raised £200! Thank you to those of you who provided cakes and for all your support for this very worthy cause.</p> <p>Our recent Colour Run raised £109 for school fund.</p> <p>We delivered well over 300 tins, packets, jars and bags to the Foodbank warehouse collected for Harvest. This will help a large number of local families.</p> <p>Book Sale: After half term we will hold a book sale as we have been having a good sort out of our book selves!</p>

Remote Learning and Devices	Twitter and New Website
<p>We continue to use Class Dojo for homework and communication with home. Your child should log on to our remote learning platforms; <i>TT Rockstars, Spelling Shed, Maths Shed, Language Angels, Spag.com and Purple Mash</i>, each week, please.</p> <p>Laptops: All laptops borrowed from school through the DfE technology support scheme should have been returned to school. <u>We do have a small number that have not yet been returned.</u></p>	<p>School is using the Twitter account on a regular basis so you can now check out what has been going on in school and keep in touch with your child's learning and school experiences by following us on @leysfarm.</p> <p>We hope to launch our new, up to date website just after half term. The Twitter feed will be a feature on our website. Please look out for it: www.leysfarm.org</p>
Breakfast and After School Clubs	School Photographs and Parents Meetings
<p>Breakfast and Books Club has continued this term, from 8am each morning. So far, we have focused on Roald Dahl, JK Rowling, Enid Blyton, David Walliams book themes and enjoyed healthy, nutritious breakfasts. We do have a small number of places available. Contact the office for further details.</p> <p>Clubs for all year groups, including; art, multi-sports, drama, gardening, chess and book club have begun this term. We do still have a few places available in multi-sports, chess or book club if your child is interested.</p> <p>Thank you to all the staff for organising and running these clubs. They could not go ahead without their support.</p> <p>We are joining the School Milk Subsidy Scheme from November. Your child will be offered a drink of milk each day. There is no cost for this, however, if you do <u>not</u> want your child to have milk please inform school.</p>	<p>School photos will be held on Tuesday, 2nd November. Unfortunately, they will just be individual photographs again this year and not family photos due to COVID-19 restrictions.</p> <p>Parent / Teacher Meetings: Class teachers will hold their meetings on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Tuesday 19th October – Miss Lunson/6L</i> ▪ <i>Thursday 21st October – Miss Hood/6H</i> ▪ <u>Tuesday 2nd November – Miss Darling/5D</u> ▪ <u>Wednesday 3rd November – Mrs Simpson or Mrs Soden/4S</u> ▪ <u>Friday 5th November – Miss Stoney/3S</u> <p>Change of date:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Monday 1st November – Mrs Wass/4W. <p>Time slots have been sent out via Class Dojo.</p>
Colour Run and Other Events	Reading Reward
<p>To celebrate World Mental Health Day the whole school took part in a Colour Run. It was lovely to hear laughter, encouragement and team work.</p> <p>Y3 and Y4 had a fantastic trip to Cresswell Crag, this half term. The visit really brought the Stone Age back to life for them. They really are knowing more and remembering more about this topic. Thank you to the staff for arranging this experience.</p> <p>Our Y6 have also had an exciting Coding, Conductive Plastics and 3D Printing workshop this half term delivered free of charge by STEM UK. The activity really captured the children's imagination and improved their coding skills!</p> <p>Bikeability, took place this week for Y6. It was amazing to see the progress some children made in such a short space of time, despite the rain. Thank you for the staff for supporting them in their achievements.</p> <p>Next half term...</p>	<p>We have started a new reading reward system this term for children reading at home five times a week! The vast majority of children have started this, with some just having completed week 5! Thank you for your support with hearing your child read at home.</p> <p>Miss Lunson, our English Leader, has been working closely with the local library and all classes have now had their first visit. This has been a fantastic opportunity for us to get out into the local community and the vast majority of the children are now members of the library. Two more visits to the library are planned for next half term. A huge thank you to Jemima who has hosted us and to Chair of Governors, Sarah Tipler, for supporting and promoting our visits.</p> <p>Library Visits: You must collect your child from the library at 3pm unless they usually walk home alone.</p>

We are planning a Macbeth theatre visit for Y5 and Y6 later this term and a visit to Gainsborough Old Hall. Further details to follow. 'Aladdin' a pantomime has been booked for the whole school in December.

Road Safety Week and **Anti-Bullying Week** are both the week beginning Monday 15th November. The school council will be leading events this week across school.

Christmas is just around the corner! We are planning to have a day of craft activities (including art and DT) led by our staff.

We will also be taking part in **Children in Need on Friday 19th November** (*further details to follow*) and the Save the Children **Christmas Jumper Day on Thursday 16th December**.

Please remind your child to bring their book to return and library card if they would like to borrow another book.

Visits are:

- Class 6L – Wednesday 3rd November, Wednesday 24th November
- Class 3S – Friday 5th November, Friday 26th November
- Class 6H – Wednesday 10th November, Wednesday 1st December
- Class 4S – Friday 12th November, Friday 3rd December
- Class 5D – Wednesday 17th November, Wednesday 8th December
- Class 4W – Friday 19th November, Friday 10th December.

Staffing

Mrs Herrera (TA) will not be with us for a few weeks as she has had an operation. We all send our very best wishes and wish her a speedy recovery! French will be delivered by class teachers for the next few weeks, until her return.

School Diary Dates 2021 - 2022

- Friday, 22nd October - Half-term
- Monday, 1st November - Pupils Back
- Thursday 16th December – Christmas Jumper Day/End of Term
- Friday 17th December - Staff Training Day
- Tuesday, 4th January - Staff Training Day
- Wednesday, 5th January - Pupils Back
- Friday, 11th February - Half-term
- Monday, 21st February - Pupils Back
- Friday, 1st April - End of Term
- Tuesday, 19th April - Staff Training Day
- Wednesday, 20th April - Pupils Back
- Monday, 2nd May CLOSED – BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY
- Friday, 27th May - Half-term
- Monday, 6th June - Pupils Back
- Wednesday, 20th July End of Term – Queen's Jubilee Date given to school!
- Thursday, 21st July – Staff Training Day.

Our school website as it is being revamped and will be regularly updated. Please take a look! www.leysfarm.org.uk