

**LEYS FARM JUNIOR SCHOOL
NEWSLETTER 10 - April 2022**

Spring is here!

Dear Parents,

We have had another busy half term in school with a focus on Science across the school. Year 6 have also been working hard in preparation for their SATs in May. Children have enjoyed getting out onto the field to play as the weather has improved. We are planning some Platinum Jubilee events before half term and hope to invite parents into school again this term for curriculum events! Enjoy your Easter break and we look forward to the start of the summer term!

Miss S. Thomas

Social Media and Internet Safety

This half term we have had an increasing number of issues with children accessing a range of social media platforms at home, including: Twitter, Snap Chat, Tik Tok, WhatsApp, etc. Some of these issues have been brought into school and caused a great deal of upset for those children and families involved. They also take up a lot of staff time to offer support, advice and opportunities to resolve these issues.

In response to this, all classes have had additional sessions this half term about Young People's Rights about Social Media and many have been shocked about what they found out. PCSO Tara Empringham has also offered to come into school after Easter to lead a whole school assembly to raise the children's awareness of safety.

Having spoken to a number of parents about these issues, many have spoken about the parental controls they have on their child's devices (tablets, laptops, mobile phones, etc) and how regularly they check what their child is accessing. Please help your child create healthy digital habits. There are apps, such as 'Family Link', that can help parents set digital ground rules to help guide children as they learn, play and explore online through setting screen time limits, approve or block apps, etc.

Miss Stoney is our Computing Lead. If you need any advice, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Can I please remind you that **mobile phones must not be brought into school**, except in exceptional circumstance and with the agreement of Miss Thomas.

Protection from the Sun

It seems that summer is fast approaching!

Can I please ask that children bring a **sunhat/cap** to school with their name in on warmer days. No sun glasses, please.

Water will be provided throughout the day within the classrooms to ensure the children do not become dehydrated, so no water bottles should be brought into school, thank you.

Sun cream/screen should be applied to your child **before school at home**. There are many brands now that provide at least 12 hours of protection from the sun and are relatively inexpensive so no sun cream needs to be brought into school.

Leys Farm is fortunate to have plenty of areas of natural shade and we will make use of these areas on hotter days.

School uniform must be worn each day except on PE days.

Summer uniform includes;

- girls blue and white gingham summer dresses to be worn with white socks and not tights, please.
- boys can wear grey or black tailored shorts, if you wish.

Please label all uniform. This makes it much easier for it to be returned to its owner when found.

On PE days children should come in their **outdoor PE kit** which should include jogging bottoms or leggings, **white T-shirt**, dark coloured hoodie or jumper and trainers. **These should not include fashion or designer logos but could include school jumpers.** Shorts can be worn on warmer days or worn underneath jogging bottoms.

No extreme hairstyles or nail polish, either, please.

Reading Reward

Congratulations: We have had our first children receiving certificates and book prizes for **20 weeks of reading**.

It isn't too late for your child to start reading at home **five times a week!** The vast majority of children have started this. Thank you for your support with hearing your child

Fund Raising

This half term we raised an amazing £874 from the RED FUN RUN! Thank you to the children for running so many laps of the field and for your support in this sponsored event. Half of the money raised has been sent to Comic Relief.

read at home and signing their planners. They receive a book (of their choice) to take home and keep after 10, 20 and 30 weeks of reading.

Miss Darling has introduced **Reading Plus** to Year 5 and they are loving it! It really focuses on improving reading speed, fluency and comprehension skills. Children are rewarded with certificates and we have a motivational display in school to show their progress and achievements.

Y5 and Y6 can also access Reading Plus at home as two of their reads each week!

Unfortunately, due to a small increase in Covid cases in school some children did not get to take part. There will be another opportunity for those children to take part in a sponsored FUN RUN on 26th April and for the rest of school to run again to see if their fitness has improved.

The Easter Raffle and Bingo also raised £379. Thank you to our families, staff and governors for the many Easter treat donations. Also, a 'huge thank you' to The Blakemore Foundation and Spar for their very kind donation of £40 towards our Easter Raffle and Bingo, arranged by one of our families. Please see our Twitter feed for photos of the prizes @BlakemoreGroup.

Trips, Visitors and Other Events	School Council		
<p>World Book Day on 3rd March and our Harry Potter theme was a great success. Staff and children enjoyed this non-uniform/dressing-up day, a carousel of book related activities and a visit from some owls!</p> <p>There was also a STEM Fair at Queen Elizabeth High School on 15th March, attended by Science, Design Technology and Maths Ambassadors, from across school. The children learnt a lot and really enjoyed this experience. We hope to make this an annual event.</p> <p>Eight children, from across school, attended a Panathlon at John Leggott College, organised by the Getahead Partnership. Congratulations to those who took part! We are proud to say they returned to school with winning t-shirts, certificates and a plaque having won the event!</p> <p>We are extremely proud of one of our Year 6, Adam, for taking part in and winning the Scunthorpe and District Chess Competition. Thank you, Adam, for representing Leys Farm Junior School and to Mr Williams for running our weekly chess club.</p> <p>Year 4 and some Year 5 will start swimming lessons on Wednesday 11th May and Friday 13th May.</p>	<p>After opening our school suggestion box and listening to 'pupil voice', our School Council arranged a Talent Show on 1st April.</p> <p>Auditions took place in classes and two entries were put through to the final from each class. We didn't realise just how much talent Leys Farm has!</p> <p>Talents included: singers, gymnasts, dancers, the plank/naming the American States, a ventriloquist and many, many more...</p> <p>The well deserving winners will be announced after the Easter break.</p> <tr> <th data-bbox="724 1070 1497 1115">Staffing</th> <td data-bbox="724 1115 1497 1675"> <p>We are saying goodbye to Mrs MaCleod (Lunchtime Supervisor) who has worked at Leys Farm for many years! We wish her luck in her new job.</p> <p>Congratulations to Ms Bilton, our new caretaker, who will replace Mr Cliff from May.</p> <p><i>Other staff updates are:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Miss Lunson has been appointed the Upper Key Stage 2 Leader. • Mrs Wass has been appointed the Lower Key Stage Two Leader. • Miss Stoney is the new SENCo, having shadowed Miss Thomas during the autumn and spring terms. </td> </tr>	Staffing	<p>We are saying goodbye to Mrs MaCleod (Lunchtime Supervisor) who has worked at Leys Farm for many years! We wish her luck in her new job.</p> <p>Congratulations to Ms Bilton, our new caretaker, who will replace Mr Cliff from May.</p> <p><i>Other staff updates are:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Miss Lunson has been appointed the Upper Key Stage 2 Leader. • Mrs Wass has been appointed the Lower Key Stage Two Leader. • Miss Stoney is the new SENCo, having shadowed Miss Thomas during the autumn and spring terms.
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School Diary Dates 2022

Friday, 1st April - End of Term
 Tuesday, 19th April - Staff Training Day
 Wednesday, 20th April - Pupils Back
 Monday, 2nd May CLOSED – BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY
 Monday, 9th May to Thursday, 12th May – Year 6 SATS week – **all Y6 must be in school by 8:45am**
 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.

Take a look at our school website: www.leysfarm.org.uk and our @leysfarm Twitter feed!

