LEIGH NEWS

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HOUSE CAPTAINS

Despite the restrictions around class bubbles not being allowed to mix, we have managed to elect four House Captains for this year. The children in Year 6 were asked to make a video of themselves and talk about what qualities they had that they felt would make them an effective House Captain. The Houses then voted and the totals were added up. I would like to thank all the children who took part in this event and congratulate our four new House Captains Issy Richardson, Jacob Frost, Rocco Padden and Alex Punnett.

Mrs Barber

Huge congratulations to Mrs Barber who has recently given birth to a beautiful baby girl! Ivy Jayne Barber was born on Saturday 12th September at 8.05am and both mother and baby are doing really well. I'm sure Mrs Barber will be coming into school soon to introduce Ivy to us and that we would all like to congratulate Suzanne, Andy and Isla on their beautiful new arrival.

SCHOOL TIMINGS

Now that the staggered drop-off and collection arrangements have had the chance to bed in I've been looking at ways of trying to reduce the waiting time for parents and carers at the start and end of the day. I'm very conscious that, especially now the weather has changed, many of you are having to wait around for children in different classes. I'm therefore tweaking the timings to ensure that the maximum waiting time will be 20 minutes. Therefore from Monday the classes will be dropped off and collected at these times:

Squirrel Class 8.50am-3pm (Yellow Cones)
Robins Class 8.50am-3pm (Orange Cones)
Fox Class 9am-3.20pm (Yellow Cones)
Hedgehog Class 9am-3.20pm (Orange Cones)
Hawks Class 8.40am-3.10pm (Orange Cones)
Wolves Class 8.40am-3.10pm (Yellow Cones)

I am also looking at other options to try and reduce waiting times and, if these prove to be possible, I will of course let you know. Thank you again for all your forbearance with this new system and we hope that we will be able to return to some form of normality at some point during this academic year.

Class Curriculum Leaflets

Each class now has their curriculum leaflet on the class pages of the school website. Please do ensure you have downloaded your child's leaflet to see what they will be learning this term.

PTA NEWS

A huge 'Thank you' to our superstars!

We would like to say a huge 'Thank you' to Ruby and Frankie Baggott, Connor and Sophie Green and Huxley Korvin who raised a whopping £2081 for SEN provision at our school. The group of superstars walked a half-marathon (13 miles) around Bewl water on 28th September 2019. The money raised has recently been spent to fund a 3 year licence for a specialist software programme called Clicker, in addition to two new laptops to load SEN programmes and resources onto.

Clicker is the complete writing solution for the primary classroom, providing every pupil with just the right level of support and challenge. It is a child friendly word processor with speech feedback, audio note recorder, talking spell checker and word predictor. Clicker Grids enable pupils to write with whole words and phrases. Emerging writers build sentences word-by-word, while Word Banks provide scaffolding to support developing writers. Clicker 8's new 'Picturize' button instantly adds pictures to any Clicker Grid, helping children to find the word they want. Choose from over 4500 Clicker curriculum pictures or use your own. Clicker includes a child-friendly mind mapping area to help learners prepare for writing. Clicker includes free access to LearningGrids, an ever-growing bank of ready-made classroom resources created by their curriculum team. We also have home licences for all children in the school so that they will be able to access all of the Clicker resources and tools from home.

Sally Brown (SENCO) said 'I know that Clicker 8 and the new laptops are going to be so beneficial to the school to help support, not just our children with SEN, but all children in the school. We really are so grateful for the children's efforts in raising the money and they should be very proud of the contribution they have made to the school.'

PARENT CONSULTATIONS AND REPORTS

Due to the restrictions around the way we are operating at the moment, the next set of parent consultations will take place on the telephone. These will begin on Monday 12th October and will take place throughout the week. You can book a slot via the Arbor App from Monday 5th October at 12pm and your child's class teacher will phone you at that particular time. We are also releasing the children's first reports of the year via the Arbor App and these will be available for you to read from Monday 12th October at 12pm. Please note that these reports will only provide the starting points for discussion at the Parent Consultation meetings and are not intended to cover all aspects of your child's first term this year. If any of you have any issues with accessing your child's report or booking a consultation time, please do contact the school office. Thank you.

MRS SHORT

Mrs Short would like to say a huge thank you to all of you for all your best wishes and gifts in relation to her wedding on Saturday. Mr and Mrs Short had the most wonderful day and we were overwhelmed by the generosity of the school community. Thankfully the weather on the day stayed dry and Mrs Short was able to walk to the church in Yalding from her home, stopping all the traffic in the process! Thank you.

Events

2.10.20	Robins Forest School
5.10.20	Wolves Class Mexican Day
9.10.20	Squirrels Forest School
12.10.20	Parent Consultations All Week Fox Class To Himalayan Gardens
15.10.20	11+ Assessments
16.10.20	Wolves Forest School

Further dates will be published on the website under School Calendar