LEIGH NEWS

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Pupil Honours

School Council

Last week the classes have been voting for their School Council representatives. Each class has two School Council members and they are there to represent the views of their classes during School Council meetings and at other events. The School Council are also given a budget each year and they are free to spend this on what they feel would be of most benefit to the school. They have already had their first meeting with Miss Marshall and will be meeting regularly throughout the year. This year's School Council members are: Freya Dorward, Freya Pearson, Jacob Frost, Amelia Cochrane, Poppy Denham, Jacob Murray, Joe Kirby and Maxwell Yeoman. Congratulations to all of them.

Prefects

We have also now appointed 5 Prefects from children in Year 6. This was an incredibly difficult decision this year, especially with a large year group, and it's true to say that any of the children in Year 6 would have made terrific Prefects. The children selected will have various duties throughout the year and are there to represent the school as and when they are needed. This year's Prefects are: Amber Woods, Tabitha Tyler, Skye Newman, Maxwell Yeoman and Isabelle Waghorn. Congratulations to all of them.

PESE Information

As a reminder, the following dates are crucial in this year's Procedure for Entry to Secondary Education (PESE).

13th October 2016	**11+ Assessment decision sent to parents**
31st October 2016	**SCAF Closing date**
1st March 2017	**Offer letters sent to parents**
29th March 2017	**Last date for appeals**
28th April 2017	**Reallocation of places**

If any parent would like to discuss Secondary School applications or the PESE system then please do make an appointment to see me.

HARVEST FESTIVAL

This year's Harvest Festival is being held on Tuesday 11th October at 10am in St. Mary's Church. Early next week the children will be bringing home decorated envelopes and we are asking that they put a small amount of loose change in them so that we can raise money for the work David Bennie is doing in the Gambia. During the service David will talk about where last year's money has been spent and the impact it has made on the lives of the children in that community. All are very welcome to attend this short service which will last about 25 minutes.

OFF BY HEART COMPETITION

Please do encourage your child to start learning a poem from the list on the school website. This can be found by clicking on the link below. Thank you.

http://www.leighprimaryschool.com/Learning/Off-By-Heart-Poetry-Competition/

Parent Survey

A huge thank you to all of you who took the time to fill in the most recent Parent Questionnaire; your opinions and feedback are extremely important to us. Over the past few weeks we have been analysing the results and identifying what we can learn from them and how we can use them to further the development of the school. Any good school needs to be constantly looking at itself and reviewing its procedures and your opinions form a fundamental part of that process. There are a huge number of positives to be taken from the report and this highlights a number of strengths that you feel the school has. The school must, however, listen to areas that you feel could be improved upon and the staff and I have been doing that over the past week. Attached to this letter is a response to the main areas of concern and action that we will take as a result. I feel it's important that we listen carefully and, when appropriate, take action. I always welcome any feedback about any aspect of school life. Although the official surveys are only once every year I am always very keen to hear from parents with suggestions for improvement in the way we are operating. Please feel free to catch me at school, to email me on headteacher@leigh.kent.sch.uk or to call if you feel you have something to contribute.

Sporting News

Rugby

Congratulations to our wonderful rugby team who have played their first three matches in the Sevenoaks District League. The team lost to Amherst 4-2 but beat Dunton Green Primary School 2-1 and Sevenoaks Primary School 4-2 which is a terrific achievement. Congratulations to: Tom Butler, Emily Henderson, Kaedyn Poulter, Frank Gonzalez, Stanley Simmons, Amelia Bell, Jess Stanbridge and Joe Kirby and many thanks to Mrs Harper for organising the team.

Triathlon

Congratulations also to Tom Butler who competed in the Hever Triathlon at the weekend. Tom had to swim 200 metres, cycle 4 kilometres and then run a further 2 kilometres. Fortunately (unlike Jonny Brownlee) Tom paced himself throughout the gruelling race and, as you can see, crossed the finishing line very strongly. Congratulations Tom!

SDP Summary for Parents

Last week a group of staff and governors met to decide on the priorities for this year's School Development Plan. The SDP sets out how we aim not only to maintain performance but also to raise overall school standards, individual pupil achievement and to place every child at the heart of every decision we take. Attached to this Newsletter is a summary of the main objectives for this year. We also took into consideration the results of the Parent Survey which provided the basis for some of the objectives. If you would like to find out more about the SDP please visit the page on the school website or click on the link below. Thank you.

http://www.leighprimaryschool.com/School-Improvement-Plan/

Next Week's Theme – 'Doing Your Best'

Operation Christmas Child

This week David Bennie took assembly to introduce this year's shoebox appeal. Attached with this Newsletter is further information about this very worthy cause which we have supported for many years. If you require further information about it then please contact David. Thank you.

PTA NEWS

Dates for your diary: Layabouts gig at the Fleur de Lis (to raise money for the creative arts facility) 8th Oct, Kids Halloween Film night 20th Oct, Xmas Fair 26th Nov, Breakfast with Santa 10th Dec
Scarecrow competition…coming soon, Look out for flyers!

SEVENOAKS SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Family Concert aimed at children 4-12 yrs and their families
Live Symphony Orchestra with music based on the theme of Animals including the story of Peter & the Wolf narrated by David Leonard (Matilda's Miss Trunchball 2012-13)
Two performances at Stag Theatre, Sevenoaks on Sunday 9 October 2016 at 2pm and 4pm.
Tickets are £7.50 with a discount for 4+ tickets bought (NB. there is a Stag admin charge of £2 *per transaction* not per ticket)

Events

4.10.16	M&M Theatre Production of The Railway Children Fox Class Forest School
5.10.16	Hawks Class to Royal Observatory Wolves Class to see Wicked
6.10.16	Kent Messenger to take Squirrel Class Photo
11.10.16	Parent Workshop 3 – Key Stage 2 Writing (9am) Harvest Festival Service at St. Marys Church (10am) Fox Class Forest School
12.10.16	Robins Class to Tunbridge Wells Museum Hedgehog Class Forest School
13.10.16	11+ Results sent to Parents
17.10.16	Parent Workshop 4 – Years 2/3/4 Writing/Spelling (9am)
18.10.16	Robins Class Forest School
19.10.16	Parent Workshop 5 – Phonics/Early Writing (9am) Wolves Class Forest School
20.10.16	Open Morning
21.10.16	End of Term 1

Further dates will be published on the website under School Calendar