



Welcome Back

Welcome back to everyone across our school community. We are really pleased to see all the children back in school and also to welcome our new Reception pupils, as well as some other new children and staff. We have eleven new starters in Kingfisher Class, as well as Violet and Phoebe, who have started in Starling and Goldfinch Classes. We are also welcoming Mr Paul Schofield to the team, who will be teaching Swallow Class. By 9:00am on the first morning, all the children were settled in their new classes, working hard and behaving impeccably, reaching the high standards that we expect and that our children are so good at achieving.

Staffing

We are keeping our staffing structure the same for 2025-2026. We are pleased with how this worked last year and are confident we can make some small changes so that it is even more effective this year. I will continue in my role as Executive Headteacher, in which I am responsible for leading three primary schools in the Trust. I am usually at Leigh two or three days a week and am planning to be here on Wednesdays, as well as some Mondays and Fridays. Mrs Smith and Mrs Ball continue to be our co-school leaders, being responsible for many of the day-to-day operational tasks of the school. Mrs Smith will be in the office on Mondays and Tuesdays with Mrs Ball in the office on Thursdays and Fridays. They will be the first point of contact for parents, should you have any issues that need resolving, or you can speak to Mrs Payne, in the office. We will also have someone out on the gate every morning to welcome you. Our contact details are below:

Executive Headteacher:	Mr Dan Turull - dturull@msnpartnership.com
Co-School Leaders:	Mrs Gemma Smith - gsmith@leighonmendip.mnsp.org.uk Mrs Michelle Ball - mball@leighonmendip.mnsp.org.uk
Office Manager:	Mrs Katie Payne - office@leighonmendip.mnsp.org.uk

School Uniform

The beginning of term is always a good time to focus on school uniform and the majority of our children have returned looking very smart in the correct uniform. Please refer to the website link [here](#) for what your child should be wearing to school, with a particular focus on PE lessons, as this was the area that some children deviated from in the summer term.

Attendance

A year ago, we launched a real drive to improve attendance both in our school and across the Trust. We set ourselves an aspirational target of 97% at Leigh on Mendip and we almost achieved it, finishing the year at 96.7%. You may have seen attendance as a focus again in the news over the last few days and although we understand the financial pressures on parents and appreciate that holidays are often cheaper in term time, we would encourage all parents to refrain from booking holidays while their children are in school.

Building Work

Over the summer we had a considerable amount of building work carried out at the school, which included renovations and decoration in the hall, new windows in Goldfinch Class and the construction of a lodge at the top of the field. We have a little work still to do around the lodge such as a stone path to avoid it getting too muddy, but when it is all completed we will have an official opening.

We are all looking forward to working with your children once again and all the staff are very optimistic of what everyone can achieve in the year ahead.

Mr Turull

Useful Contacts

Office - office@leighonmendip.mnsp.org.uk

SENCO - Gemma Smith - gsmith@leighonmendip.mnsp.org.uk

Leadership - mball@leighonmendip.mnsp.org.uk or gsmith@leighonmendip.mnsp.org.uk

Leigh on Mendip School

Nurturing Curious Minds

Newsletter 1 - 5th September 2025



Diary Dates

September

Monday 8th	Meet the Teacher- Goldfinches
Monday 8th	Afterschool Clubs begin
Tuesday 9th	Meet the Teacher- Starlings
Thursday 11th	Meet the Teacher- Swallows
Wednesday 24th	Writhlington School Open Evening 6-8pm

October

Monday 6th	Great Athletes Event (info to follow)
Friday 24th	INSET DAY
	End of Term One

November

Monday 3rd	Start of Term Two
Monday 10th	Individual & Sibling Photos
Thursday 13th	Nasal Flu Vaccinations
Wednesday 26th	School Book Fair Starts

December

Monday 1st	School Book Fair Ends
Friday 12th	Whole School Pantomime Trip
Friday 19th	End of Term Two

Arbor Parent Portal

We have had some great feedback from parents regarding the Arbor Parent Portal. We now have 92% of parents logged into this and encourage those remaining few to get signed up. Through this system, you are able to join your child to clubs, provide consent and change contact details. Soon this platform will also take over from Parent Pay where it will handle school meals, payments and trips too.

If you need any help with this process, please come and see Katie in the office.

Notices

- **Clubs** - A reminder that our weekly clubs begin next week. Please use your parent Arbor app for all club information.
- **Parental Consents** - These will now be annually requested through your Arbor account. There are still some consents outstanding. Please check your Arbor account, where the request for consent will sit in the notices section on your child's page.
- **Contact Information** - It is important that we keep up to date contact details on record. If you have moved address or changed numbers over the summer, please update these via your Arbor Parent Portal.
- **School Lunches** - As a reminder, school lunches are bookable via Parent Pay. These should be booked by midnight every Thursday to secure school lunches for the following week.
- **Packed Lunches** - Under new early years guidance, please can we ask that children under the age of 5 do not have popcorn in their lunchboxes. Thank you.

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