



What an incredible week we've had! We successfully hosted several key first-time events, making it a truly memorable week: **Doodlemaths trust competition, a Parents Maths Morning, FOLS Family Bingo Night, and the Speedwatch community team visit.**

Maths Week

Maths Week kicked off on Monday with a visit from the Trust's Maths Lead. She observed the wonderful maths taking place in every classroom and officially launched our inter-school **Doodlemaths competition**. She was extremely impressed with the calm learning environments and the opportunities children had to discuss their mathematical learning.

Doodlemaths Competition Update: There was lots of movement on the leader board this week, with our Key Stage 2 learners holding the top spot at one point, and Key Stage 1 in a close second! The final results are currently being collated and will be announced and rewarded next week.

Parent Workshop Success: On Wednesday evening, parents learned more about how Doodlemaths supports home practice. A key takeaway was the fascinating fact that "earning just 7 stars a day resulted in an average increase of 1.3 Doodleage a year." Parents also had the chance to ask our Doodlemaths advisor individual questions.

Parents Maths Morning (Thursday): This busy day included a meeting focusing on the concrete, pictorial and abstract (CPA) strategies we use to build mathematical understanding. Parents then had the valuable opportunity to work alongside their children in the classroom on 'real life' maths problems.

Thursday ended with a wonderful event led by our fantastic FoLS—the **Family Bingo Night!** We were thrilled with the turnout. It was a lot of fun, with some greatly appreciated prizes. A massive thank you to the entire team behind the scenes for putting this brilliant event together!

Speedwatch

We were delighted to welcome Martin and his community team into our school on Thursday. The team delivered an assembly explaining what Speedwatch is and why it is vital in our village. We were all amazed (teachers included!) to learn that the **safe stopping distance for a car travelling at 30 mph is longer than our entire school hall!** We took the rope out onto the playground for a visual demonstration—hopefully, you saw it at pick-up; it really makes you think.

Today, our older children in **Swallows and Goldfinches** supported Martin and the team on a live Speedwatch duty. They learned to operate the machinery and recorded findings, including noting number plates of relevant vehicles (especially lorries restricted from driving through our village).

Poster Competition: All children were involved in a poster competition, which Martin will judge. The winning designs will be turned into official signs to be displayed throughout the village!



Mrs Ball

Useful Contacts

Office - office@leighonmendip.mnsp.org.uk

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

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



Notices

Parents Consultations - Parent Consultations are available to book through Arbor. This system has mostly worked well, however if you have any problems booking your time slot, please speak the office and it can be booked for you.

PE Kits - Mr Groves will be continuing PE lessons outside for as long as the weather allows. As the temperatures drop, please make sure your children bring a coat, leggings/joggers and a hat & gloves.

School Photos - The deadline for all school photo orders is Wednesday 26th November.

Christmas Craft Afternoon - We will be running our Christmas Craft afternoon on Thursday 4th December between 1.15pm - 3.15pm. The children will be dividing into their houses and parents are welcome to join them whilst they rotate around various craft stations. Children in Robins on this day are welcome to join their siblings, or you can pop into Robins at 1.15pm to do an activity with your child in Preschool.

Dogs - Due to Health and Safety, please can we remind parents that dogs should not be brought onto the school playground.

FOLS 100 CLUB

The next round of the FOLS 100 club will be starting soon. Please join in by buying a number (or numbers) for the upcoming draws. Each number costs £15 for the year, with a chance of winning £30, £20 or £10 every month. This is a great way to raise funds for our school and have some fun in the process. Please see Katie in the office for a form. Thank you.

Top Doodlers

Doodle Maths

Kingfishers - Marli & Amara

Starlings - Violet & Freddy

Goldfinches - Kian & Viv

Swallows - Austin & Sophia

Top Doodlers - Goldfinches

Doodle Tables

Goldfinches - Darcey T & Jess

Swallows - Kye & Isabella

Stars of the Week

Kingfishers - Hudson

Starlings - Caden

Goldfinches - Phoebe

Swallows - Tilly

Diary Dates

Wednesday 26th Parents Consultations - 1.30pm - 6pm
Thursday 27th School Book Fair Starts

December

Monday 1st	School Book Fair Ends
Tuesday 2nd	Small Schools Swimming Gala
Thursday 4th	Christmas Craft Afternoon - Parents invited 1.15pm - 3.15pm
Saturday 6th	Christmas Fayre
Friday 12th	Whole School Pantomime Trip
Wednesday 17th	School Christmas Dinner Day - Wear Christmas Jumpers
Wednesday 17th	Goldfinch & Swallow Class Carol Service 11am & 2pm
Thursday 18th	Kingfisher & Starling Class Nativity
Friday 19th	End of Term Two



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News from the Classrooms



In Robins this week we are continuing our theme of people who help us. We have been practicing our writing skills in our Police station and outside we have been putting out fires in our fire engines.



This week, the Kingfishers worked hard in geography to complete their maps of the playground. We also finished our DT unit, where we created wonderful windmills. Our story of the week was *The Dragon Who Swallowed a Knight*, and the children all came up with ideas for how to teach the mischievous dragon a lesson.



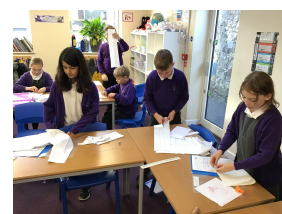
The children in Year 3 Starlings have come across some really tricky maths in this unit on Addition & Subtraction. Many new concepts are introduced with larger numbers so we have gone back to concrete apparatus to help us understand the maths taking place. The children have used place value charts and place value counters to work out calculations such as $356 - 179 = ?$ Well done Year 3, keep up the good work.



This week, Goldfinch class enjoyed a little festive treat where they made Christmas decorations or lanterns. First they drew their design and planned what they would need to make and decorate it, then they used a range of tools and techniques to make their decorations come to life. We all had a good sing along too, to get us all in the mood!



This week, Swallows class have been working hard on their Design & Technology project this half term, which is to design and make a textile tote bag. They have made a paper pattern, have cut out their pieces of fabric, and are now starting to sew them together. The children will then create a design for their bag and then use applique to add and personalise their bags. I'm sure we're going to have some excellent results when we finish them!



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Santa's Grotto

We are delighted to announce that by popular demand, our magical Santa's Grotto will be back again this year. This will run alongside our annual Christmas Festival where you will be able to purchase your christmas tree, browse the christmas market and join in with many other festivities.

It will take place in our new Woodland Lodge, beautifully transformed into a winter wonderland. Children will have the opportunity to meet Father Christmas, share stories and receive a special gift to take home.

Your child should have brought home a letter to book into this event. If you need another letter, please pop into the office.

LEIGH ON MENDIP SCHOOL

Christmas Festival

6TH DECEMBER 2025
10AM - 2PM

CHRISTMAS TREE SALE
SANTA'S GROTTO
ELF WORKSHOP
INDEPENDENT STALLS
GAMES & CRAFTS
FESTIVE REFRESHMENTS
RAFFLE

Santa's Grotto Please book in at the School Office. Limited spaces available on the day

Christmas Tree Sale

6TH DECEMBER 2025
10AM - 2PM
LEIGH ON MENDIP SCHOOL
LOCALLY GROWN
QUALITY NORDMANN
SUPER PREMIUM CUT FIR TREES

150CM - 175CM	£35
175CM - 200CM	£40
200CM - 250CM	£45

CASH PREFERRED
ORDERS ON THE DAY OR PRE-ORDER:
OFFICE@LEIGHONMENDIP.MNSP.ORG.UK
01373 812592

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