



We have now come to the end of our Ofsted inspection. Many thanks to all of you who took the time to complete the parent view survey or who spoke to the inspectors when they were here. Although we will not receive the report for a few weeks - probably not until after the Christmas break - we know that the inspection team were really impressed with the conduct, knowledge and enthusiasm of all of our pupils of whom we were all very proud. We would also like to thank our dedicated team of staff who all worked tirelessly - as they always do - and who demonstrated their expertise with their subjects and teaching, as well as their care for all the pupils in their class.

As school leaders, it was in many ways a humbling experience, watching our whole school work so well together and realising how much we have all achieved together over the last few years. The journey since we took over as the leadership team in September 2018 has seen so much change to the school. At that time we had 45 pupils, from Reception to Year 4, in two classes, compared to over 100 now aged 2 to 11. We have had two significant building projects completed, funded by our Trust, which has helped us increase the amount of children at the school and provided us with considerably more resources. In many ways the school is unrecognisable from Leigh on Mendip First School which was last inspected in May 2010 (just as David Cameron first took office as prime minister!) We look forward to sharing the report with you when it is published later this year.

Having spoken to the inspection team this week, we do acknowledge that communication is still something some parents feel strongly about. We are not able to read the comments submitted to Parent View, but we were informed that this was an issue raised. Next Wednesday will see the first of our coffee mornings, straight after school drop-off in the hall. It is clear that we need to provide parents with a wide range of different opportunities for communication with school staff and this will be an informal and relaxed session, where parents can talk to teachers, as well as school leaders and office staff, about any thoughts, ideas or concerns. It is not replacing any of the other chances to talk with teachers or school staff during the year, which include parents' evenings, initial 'meet the teacher' sessions in September and the weekly open classroom sessions which are now taking place each Wednesday between 3:15pm and 3:30pm. Teachers can continue to be emailed, contacted through Seesaw or meetings arranged with them at the beginning or end of the day, when a problem arises.

On the subject of the open classroom, please remember that on Wednesdays after school you are very welcome to come into your child's class and have a look in their books and at the work they have been completing. These last for 15 minutes and teachers will be available to talk to you before their weekly staff meeting which starts at approximately 3:30pm. We will only ever postpone these if there is a different school event taking place at that time such as the KS2 Carol Concert on the last week of this term.

We'd like to invite you and your child to take part in the Big Ambition survey and have your say. Children or parents can complete the survey here: www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/thebigambition Further resources are available on their [website](#). The Big Ambition provides a much-needed opportunity for the children of England to tell political decision makers what is important to them ahead of the General Election. It is important that the voices of the children in Somerset are fairly represented in the findings so please do take this opportunity to have your say.



Our lunchtime staff have been noticing that some packed lunches are not looking particularly healthy recently with a lot of chocolate products and children sometimes having more than one bag of crisps. Please see the following from the Trust policy on packed lunches:

Government guidelines recommend that packed lunches should include:

- At least one portion of fruit and one portion of vegetables every day e.g. apple or carrot sticks
- One portion of meat, fish or other source of non-dairy protein (e.g. lentils, kidney beans, chickpeas, hummus, and falafel) every day
- Oily fish such as tuna or salmon at least once every three weeks
- A starchy food such as whole meal bread/wraps/roll, pasta, rice, couscous, noodles, every day
- Dairy food such as milk, cheese, yoghurt or fromage frais everyday
- Only water, sugar free squash, semi-skimmed milk, or smoothies

Government guidelines recommend that packed lunches should not include:

- Snacks such as crisps on a regular basis
- Confectionery such as chocolate bars, chocolate-coated biscuits, sweets and fizzy drinks.
- 'Processed' fruit i.e. fruit 'Winders' or sugar/yoghurt coated fruit
- Processed cheese products i.e. cheese strings/Dairylea snack corners
- Meat products such as sausage rolls, sausages / chipolatas should be included only occasionally.

Thank you for your cooperation in supporting us to ensure our children eat a healthy lunch at school.

Mrs Phillips

Mr Turull

Friends Of Leigh School

🎄👤_FOLS Christmas Fayre!! 9th of December!! Lots of exciting activities and stalls!! We are looking for some volunteers to help out at the stalls, or if you have a hidden talent, like hair braiding then it would be great if you could volunteer your time . It can be for just an hour or longer. If you can spare some time, please chat to any FOLS member!!

Any help would be very much appreciated !! 🎄👤

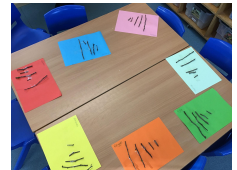




News from the Classrooms



We've been reading Stick Man in Robins this week, we collected sticks in the garden to make our own Stick Man family and learnt about length by putting them in height order.



This week in Kingfisher class our focus was the story "Stick man", we made stick people and re-enacted the story. In Maths we learned the characteristics of 4 sided shapes and how to combine them to make new ones. We also learned the first digraphs in phonics - "qu" and "ch".



A few weeks ago we tested a variety of joining techniques and we decided on the one that we thought was best. We then drew a design of the character we wanted to make from Little Red Riding Hood. This week in Starling Class we began making our puppets using our design and our chosen technique.



This week Goldfinch Class have been working really hard on their times tables. They have all shown a lot of progress and set themselves new challenges by trying times tables they find more difficult.



Swallows have enjoyed exploring the phases of the moon in Science as well as writing super engaging stories about a mystery character in English - we have worked hard on our editing skills to improve our story.



Diary Dates

November

- Wednesday 29th Parents' coffee morning (8:45am - 9:30am)
Goldfinches trip to Liberty Gymnastics
Thursday 30th Local Governing Body Meeting (6:00pm)

December

- Friday 1st Cake sale to raise funds for school equipment. All donations gratefully received!
Wednesday 6th FOLS meeting at 7:30pm
Friday 8th Christmas Tree Sale 3pm - 4.30pm
Saturday 9th Christmas Tree Sale and Fayre 10am - 2pm
Monday 11th Violin performance to parents of children in Goldfinches 2.45pm TBC
FOLS Christmas Movie Night
Wednesday 13th Christmas lunch day
Goldfinches and Swallows Carol Concert (2:30pm)
Friday 15th School pantomime trip to Bristol Hippodrome for reception year through to year 6
Monday 18th Kingfisher/Starlings Nativity performance to parents at 2pm in Memorial Hall
Tuesday 19th Christmas Jumper Day
End of Term 2