Newsletter 7 - 17th October 2025



## Friends of Leigh School

FOLS held their AGM on Monday this week where they looked back over another very successful year. The members all give up a lot of their own time to support fundraising for the school which ensures that all of our children get those little extras - whether it is funding to support school trips so that our children can have wonderful experiences or equipment for lunchtimes to keep them entertained and active. We really appreciate all that the committee members do. As with many PTAs, there are only a handful of parents on the committee at the moment, so please could we ask that anyone who has just a little spare time comes to see Katie in the school office, who can share details of the support that FOLS needs.

#### **Attendance**

We have had our regular meeting with the EWO team today looking at attendance. The good news is that the school is currently at 97.7% attendance, which is comfortably above the national average at the moment. However there are some children whose attendance is slightly concerning, as well as some who are frequently arriving late. We do know that there have been many viruses circulating this term which is the reason why some of the children have been absent from school. Nevertheless we will monitor those children who are below 93% as we always do and should these percentages not increase, we will arrange meetings to discuss this. Can we also please remind you that if your child has any medical appointments that you need to send through the confirmation of this to the school office.

#### **Football Match**

Our football team showed fantastic spirit and enthusiasm as they took part in their first ever match in the Midsomer Norton and District Small Schools' League on Thursday. We were up against a very tough opposition in St Benedict's, but all of our children worked so hard throughout the match and are already looking forward to the next one. We also have two tournaments coming up soon after the half-term break down at Strode College, the ESFA small schools cup and the ESFA girls' cup. We will let you know how our teams get on in those.



## **Open Morning**

We have our first Open Morning on Wednesday next week for prospective parents. Please do mention this to any parents of preschool children who you may know. The morning starts at 9:30am.

## **Inset Day**

Finally, a reminder that next Friday is an Inset Day, so Term 1 will finish for the children on Thursday next week. We will be holding our Celebration Assembly on Thursday morning and don't forget the FOLS Halloween Disco after school.

Mr Turull

## **Useful Contacts**

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## **School Open Days**

The application process for Reception Class 2026 is now live. If you have a child starting school or know any parents who have children due to start or looking for an in-year school transfer, please come along to one of our upcoming open days.

- Wednesday 22nd October from 9.30 11.30am
  - Wednesday 19th November from 1.30 3pm.

## Diary Dates

#### <u>October</u>

Wednesday 22nd Open Morning 9.30 - 11.30am Thursday 23rd FOLS Halloween Disco Thursday 23rd No afterschool clubs on this day! Friday 24th Inset Day

End of Term One

#### **Notices**

- Christmas Artwork Thank you for returning your artwork orders so promptly. Payments have all been uploaded to your ParentPay account.
- Social Media We love sharing insights of our school and preschool with our wider community. Please follow us on Facebook and/or Instagram to see photos and highlights from our classrooms and events.
  - Feel free to share our posts with friends and family which helps us spread the word about the great things happening at our school!
    - Facebook & Instagram: @leighonmendip\_school
- Lunches Don't forget, you are able to book your school lunches for after half term now.
- Rags 2 Riches If you are having a sort out in half term, please consider donating your unwanted clothes/shoes to our Rags 2 Riches collection. Your black bag(s) can be dropped off in the school hall on Thursday 23rd October or at drop off on Monday 3rd November.
- Swallow Class Parents As we look towards term two, please provide consent and payment on Parent Pay for Swallow Class children to continue with their weekly swimming lessons.
- Clubs No Clubs on the last day of term (Thursday 23rd October)

#### November Monday 3rd Start of Term Two

Monday 3rd Rags 2 Riches Collection Monday 6th Football - Mendip U11 ESFA Qualifiers TBC

Monday 10th Individual & Sibling Photos

Girls Football - Mendip U11 ESFA Qualifiers TBC Monday 10th Monday 10th Booking for Parent Consultations open on Arbor Wednesday 12th MSN Year 4 & 5 Cross Country Event - 2.30-3.45pm at

Downside School

Thursday 13th Nasal Flu Vaccinations Wednesday 19th Open Afternoon - 1.30 - 3pm Wednesday 26th Parents Consultations - 1.30pm - 6pm

Thursday 27th School Book Fair Starts

#### <u>December</u>

School Book Fair Ends Monday 1st Saturday 6th Christmas Fayre Friday 12th Whole School Pantomime Trip

Wednesday 17th School Christmas Dinner Day

Wednesday 17th Goldfinch & Swallow Class Carol Service 11am & 2pm

Thursday 18th Kingfisher & Starling Class Nativity

Friday 19th **End of Term Two** 

#### Stars of the Week

Kingfishers - Arna Starlings - Nancy Goldfinches - Viv Swallows - Aria

## Top Doodlers

#### **Doodle Maths**

Kingfishers - Oliver & Oriana Starlings - Amelia & Freddie Goldfinches - William & Jess Swallows - Caitlin & Sophia

Top Doodlers - Starlings

Doodle Tables

Goldfinches - Adele & Jess Swallows - Kye & Flo

## **Useful Contacts**

Office - office@leighonmendip.mnsp.org.uk SENCO - Gemma Smith - senco@leighonmendip.mnsp.org.uk Leadership - mball@leighonmendip.mnsp.org.uk or qsmith@leighonmendip.mnsp.org.uk

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## **News from the Classrooms**



In Robins, we have been enjoying looking at shapes and colours. We have been making shape monsters and talking about how many sides and corners each shape has. We also did popsicle painting looking at colours mixing as it melted.





After enjoying Quentin Blake's Mr Magnolia and creating our own imaginative versions and endings, the children demonstrated wonderful creativity. As the weather turns colder, we built a hibernation nest for our clay hedgehogs and learned about other hibernating animals.





Over the past few weeks in Starling Class the children have really enjoyed exploring the text 'Voices in the Park'. At the end of last week, the children began writing a diary entry from the viewpoint of their chosen character from the book. I was extremely impressed by the children's descriptions of their setting and writing in detail the events that took place. They all remembered to write in the past tense and make sure they were using the first person.



You can see an example of our work here.



We had a great Science lesson this week dissecting eggs! We have been learning all about life cycles and this week we were learning the difference between a fertilised egg and the eggs we eat. Children identified the different parts of the egg and were able to name many of the parts we have been learning about, such as the air cell, chalazae the outer and inner membrane.





In Swallows class, I have been impressed with some of the Maths work being done in our workbooks. There has been clear organisation, working out and excellent, detailed explanations for Maths problems. We have also discussed 'collective responsibility' for the class and they have all impressed me with their ability to have mature conversations about how we should be learning and helping those around us who are learning too! Well done, Swallows!

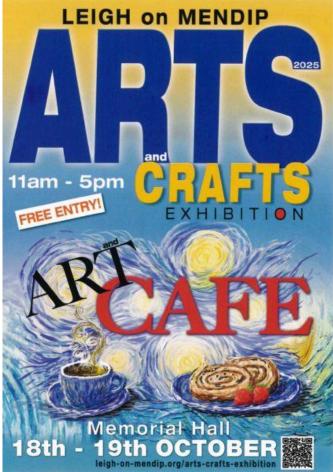


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