

Leaffield C.E. Primary School News and Notices

October Newsletter 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

We have had a super, busy and productive half term. It has been wonderful getting to know our Reception pupils and I am sure you will agree that our new members of staff already feel like an established part of our Leaffield team.

Across the school the children have been very absorbed in their topics. Rosen Class had a wonderful trip to the woods this week to immerse themselves in Stone Age living. Blackman Class have been engaged in some fantastic drama activities as part of their 'Dynamic Dynasties' topic, including the making of costumes and props. Murphy Class are about to embark on a range of short trips, within the village as part of the topic about getting to know their community and Donaldson recently enjoyed a special afternoon with a visitor who came into their classroom and spoke about their own childhood in the 1950s.

As mentioned in our September newsletter, we are developing our website this year, by increasing the amount of important information available for you. You may want to look at our updated [Learning](#) pages. We have also recently updated information on our approaches to the teaching of [reading](#) at Leaffield.

The school [calendar](#) on the website has several new dates that extend beyond this half term. Following ongoing issues with Twitter/X, we will not be using this platform anymore; we will be using Instagram as an alternative. With the increase of information on the website, this newsletter has changed to being a monthly newsletter.

We look forward to welcoming you into school for Parent Consultation Meetings with our teachers in the final week of term. Bookings remain live on SCO PAY until Friday 13th October at 9 a.m.

Finally, I want to inform parents that from next week (12th October), I will not be in school for a short time, due to the need for me to have an operation. During this time, Mrs Abberley and Mrs Kenny will be able to assist parents with any issues, that would usually be handled by the Headteacher. I will be returning to school after the half-term break.

Ms Dean
Headteacher



Diary

Our school diary dates are available on this page of our [website](#). Don't forget it is **Harvest Festival** next Thu 11th Oct at the Church. Parents will be warmly welcomed. Children are invited to bring in a food donation which will be taken to Witney Food Bank.

Admissions for Secondary School for Sept 2024

For our Year 6 parents you can now apply for a secondary school place via the Local Authority website. The deadlines for applications is 31st October. Please enquire at the school if you have any concerns or questions about this process.

Life beyond Leaffield Assemblies and Clubs

This year, we are continuing with our commitment to broadening the children's experiences. With this in mind, I would love to hear from any parents who would be willing to come into school to talk about their work/career in one of our assemblies. The regular timings for this are Wednesday or Thursday at 2.50 p.m. We are also looking for parent volunteers who may have particular skills for after school activities e.g. gardening or music. Please do email the school office if you are interested in helping the school in this way.

Friends of Leaffield School

I recently met with members of our parent fundraising group (FOLS) who are currently planning events for this year. There are a whole range of activities coming up including: cakes sales, mufti days, Christmas Craft afternoon and the school disco. The FOLS have provided so much for the school (have a look at their report from last year [here](#)) and we are incredibly grateful to all their members. This year, they really do need some more parents to join the group. If you are interested please contact the office and your details can be forwarded to the FOLS team.

Our Vision

At the start of every year, our staff and Governors renew our commitment to serving our community through our school [vision](#):

Our mission is clear. We develop young people with healthy enquiring minds, compassion for others and the courage to act.

We aim to:

provide excellence: guiding every child to exceptional progress;

nurture enthusiasm: through a curriculum which challenges and inspires;

build confidence: where learners know the value of effort and perseverance.

We have developed a short motto for this vision which we encourage all members of our community to live by:

Be curious, be kind, be you!