



SMART CODE

Speak politely and listen carefully

Make school enjoyable for everyone



Act safely



Respect and care for each other



Tell someone your worries



Term 6, Newsletter 3 (2020-21)

15th July 2021

Dear Parents

What a year we have all had! I think we all need to congratulate ourselves on getting to the end of it in one piece. Thank you to everyone for all of the support you have given.

This year has been very different. We have had staggered drop offs and collections and children have stayed in their bubbles every day. We have cleaned constantly and, thankfully, we have managed to stay safe.

The second national lockdown made us look at things in a different way and our teaching team rapidly learnt how to use Teams to stay in contact with the children each day. We bought more laptops so that we could support families who did not have access to IT, as well as the families of Key Workers who were in school, and we produced paper packs for families who found it easier to work from paper. We were all really pleased to return to school at the beginning of March and the children love being back at school.

National assessments (SATs) did not take place again this year. Ofsted visited us a few weeks ago and we are waiting for their report to be published. Once we receive it, we will be able to send it out and will email it to all of our current parents and our new ones too. A couple of days after our Ofsted visit, we had a small fire in our school kitchen and, this week, we have had a big fire inspection. I am delighted to be able to let you know that they were really impressed with all of the fire arrangements at Leighterton.

We have welcomed new governors and will be moving to a five class structure next year.

Our PTFA have welcomed new members and have worked relentlessly to raise funds to buy a new Interactive Whiteboard, reading books and a stage. The money they raise makes a huge difference in school and buys items that we would not otherwise be able to afford. Thank you.

MOVING FORWARD TO SEPTEMBER

In September, we are really looking forward to getting back to 'normal'. We will no longer have bubbles but will still be cleaning regularly.

We will return to 'normal' drop off and collection. This means that our gate will open at 8.30 am each morning and that you may come onto the playground with your child to drop them off. If you would prefer, you are able to drop your child and they may come in by themselves. We are asking parents to keep all younger children with them as we still have to clean everything.

The bell will ring at 8.40 am and classroom doors will open for your child to come into their classroom. The bell will ring again at 8.45 am and the registers will be taken. This is when the gate will be locked so parents will need to vacate the playground by 8.45 am.

At the end of the day, the gate will be unlocked just before the bell rings at 3.00 pm and parents may come onto the playground to collect their child/ children from their classrooms. Some children travel to and from school on the school bus and these children will be met by Mrs Stevens.

Our youngest children in Apsemore class have not yet had the chance to meet the children in Key Stage Two so they will have Buddies next year, when they are in Year One, as well as the new Apsemore

children. I know that our new Buddies are very excited about their new roles. Congratulations to William, Thomas, George, Maisie, Ella, Henry, Zandy, William, Freddie, Torin, William, Lara, Riley, Alex, Enola, Jacob, Thomas and Fee who successfully applied to be Buddies, as well as Elizabeth, Evie, Ruby, Daisy and Archie who were appointed last year.

We are really looking forward to being able to invite you to come into school for Celebration Assemblies at 2.40 pm each Friday again, although we ask everyone over the age of 11 to wear a face covering. Again, younger siblings will need to stay with their parents and if they become unsettled, we would ask you to take them out of the hall so that the children can enjoy their 'moments of glory'.

CLASSROOMS

Next year, Apsemore (for our Reception Class), Haymead and Ridge Classes will remain in the same rooms. Barnhill Class (Year One with Miss Tetlow) will be where our current Bowldown Class is and Boxwell Class (Year Two with Mrs Pocock) will be in our new classroom which is next to After School Club.

EARLY FINISH NEXT TUESDAY

The children in Apsemore and Bowldown classes will be finishing at 12.45 pm and can be collected in the normal way. Haymead and Year 5 will finish at 1.00 pm. There will be no school bus service on Tuesday afternoon. This will mean that Year 6 families (only) will be able to join us during the afternoon for our Leaver's Assembly.

STAFFING

Joanne Davey will be leaving us at the end of term and I am sure that you will join me in wishing her well as she moves on. Claire will be full time in our School Office from September.

Congratulations to Mrs Laver and her family, who are expecting a baby at the end of the year.

LEAVERS

Our Year 6 children will also be leaving us next week and we all wish them well as they move on to secondary school, where they will continue to flourish. We hope they will look back to their days at Leighterton with fond memories.

CLUBS

A huge 'thank you' to everyone who has run a club for the children this year. This Friday will be Ceri's last week running our Cricket Club at Leighterton. He has led a Cricket Club and organised events here every year since 2005 and has inspired many of our children to play and take part in events. Thank you very much Ceri.

PIZZAS

The pizza van from The Priory Inn in Tetbury will be in our school car park from 4 pm – 8 pm on Friday 16th July selling pizzas. The link to their menu is: <https://prioritypizza.touchtakeaway.net/menu>. Items may be preordered or ordered and they will make a small donation to school for any profit they make.

SCISSORS AND READING BOOKS

If you find any of our school scissors (with red handles) or reading books at home, please would you return them to school. We have lost quite a few of each this year and would be grateful to have them back. Many thanks, in advance.

SAVE THE DATE

On Monday 13th September, we would like to invite you into school to 'Meet the Teacher' and to see your child's classroom. Barnhill and Miss Tetlow will be at 3.15 pm, Boxwell and Mrs Pocock will be at 3.30 pm, Mrs Laver and Mrs Walker will be in Haymead at 4.00 pm and Miss Bence will be in Ridge Class at 4.15 pm. Please would you wear a face covering while you are in school.

I hope you all have a wonderful summer break and we all look forward to seeing you on Monday 6th September when the children return to school.

With best wishes

Meryl Hatfield
Headteacher