



Leighton Academy Weekly Update

Friday 4th September 2020

Head of School's Message:

It has been a lovely start to the new term. Children have come back to school excited and eager to learn. We are hoping that the 3 days with their old teacher has eased some anxiety and they are all looking forward to starting with their new class teachers today. A huge thank you to all our families who have adhered to the safety measures put in place and worked with us to ensure the safety of our community as a whole.

Have a lovely weekend,

Mrs Thompson



The St. Paul's Centre in Crewe are working with Sal's Shoes and the Guinness Partnership on a referral service for school age children to access appropriate footwear.

If you feel that your children could benefit from this service, please make contact with a member of staff confidentially and we will be happy to make a referral in support of your family.



Mathletes of the Week

**Will be back next week!
Can you be the first winner?**



Principal's Awards

**Isla Windsor in 2S
&
Jasmine Windsor in 5A
for settling in so well**



Events this week:

Monday 7th September	Reception children start school
Tuesday 8th September	
Wednesday 9th September	
Thursday 10th September	
Friday 11th September	PM - Year 4 music lessons start
Advanced Notice	Thursday 22nd October - Children finish school for half term



Our first recommended read of the new school year comes from Mr Emes for the parents and carers

'A Theatre For Dreamers' by Polly Samson



Another exceptional novel by an experienced writer (in addition to being the wife of Dave Gilmour and lyricist for Pink Floyd), this story was a delight to read over the lockdown period. In keeping with her rock star background, Samson explores the relationships of a number of artistic families on the Greek island of Hydra during the early to mid-1960s. Although not the central character, Samson bases the events of the novel around the real-life meeting and love affair between Leonard Cohen and Marianne Ihlen.

Samson's descriptions are perfectly observed and made me pine for the warmth of the Mediterranean Sea, while the relaxed atmosphere of a different time and place where books, music and cooking were central to life will help you forget about your smartphone for a few hours and allow you to wallow in the literary equivalent of drinking a glass of ouzo, wrapped up in a comfy duvet.



PE AT LEIGHTON

Here is a list of which days each year group will be doing their PE lessons. Every year group will have up to 2 hours of PE per week, some will be spread over 2 days and some will be during a double session on 1 day. Please ensure your child comes to school in their PE kit on these days. They will not be required to get changed again after PE and can go home again in their kit.

Please ensure that PE kit consists of a dark coloured tracksuit, a plain white t-shirt and trainers. Please also ensure that long hair is tied back and children are not wearing jewellery. We are hoping that our swimming lessons will recommence next half term.

Reception	Wednesday
Year 1	Tuesday
Year 2	Monday and Wednesday
Year 3	Thursday
Year 4	Wednesday and Thursday
Year 5	Tuesday
Year 6	Monday

Online Learning Platforms

All of our online learning platforms are now up and running again, linked to the children's new classes. There is open access to these to support your child's learning from home and some will be used for setting homework. Here is a reminder of the web addresses. If you need a reminder of your child's usernames or passwords, please email the class teacher. Reception children will be introduced to the relevant platforms in the coming weeks.

Myon — <https://www.myon.co.uk/login/>

Purple Mash — <https://www.purplemash.com/login/>

Mathletics — <https://login.mathletics.com/>

Lexia — <https://www.lexiacore5.com/register>



School Meals

For a short period of time, we will be offering 'grab bags' in replacement for the usual hot school meals which will be served to the children in their classroom, which means we do not need to use the dining room. Each bag contains a baguette or sandwich, veg sticks, a cake or biscuit, a piece of fruit, a yogurt and a juice cup.

There will also be a special menu each Friday with hot sandwich fillings. Please look out for more information about this via email. School meals are now £2.30 per day and can be paid for via Arbor in the usual way.

- Red**—meat filling (ham, chicken etc)
- Yellow**—cheese filling
- Green**—Tuna filling
- Orange**—pasta pot

IS MY CHILD ELIGIBLE FOR FREE SCHOOL MEALS?

What is the benefit?

If you qualify for free school meals, the following will benefit you:

- A daily free school meal
- A free school jumper and tie for each child that qualifies (new applications only)
- The school will also receive additional funding for any child who qualifies to support them with their education

Am I eligible?

All children from reception to Y6 are eligible to apply for free school meals, regardless of whether your child receives a universal free school meal in reception, Y1 or Y2. You can claim free school meals for each child who attends school in Cheshire East if you receive one of these benefits:

- Universal Credit with no earned income or with net monthly earnings less than £616.67
- Income Support
- Income based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income related Employment Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit - as long as you have a yearly household income of less than £16,190 (as assessed by HM Revenue and Customs) and do not get Working Tax Credit
- Working Tax Credit run-on (paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit)



You can apply for nursery-age children if they attend before and after lunch sessions at a local authority nursery school, nursery class or an Academy nursery if it has the same Ofsted number as the primary school.

How do I apply?

The application process is really simple. You can apply using the following link:

<https://synergyweb.cheshireeast.gov.uk/Website/>

You will need your National Insurance number and the child's date of birth to complete the application. For more help or support, please call: 0300 123 5012. If you qualify, you will be able to receive the benefits that week.

If you complete the application and successfully qualify, please notify the school office so that we can ensure you receive your benefits.

Attendance Matters

Please can we remind parents that we are unable to authorise family holidays and that fixed penalty notices will be issued for unauthorised holidays — please see the attendance and punctuality policy on our website and the chart on the next page. Every minute your child misses matters and we appreciate your support in this.

In line with our Attendance Policy, attendance is monitored very closely, and as a school we are required to record all authorised and unauthorised absences and monitor accordingly. Section 7 of the Education Act 1996 states that: "The parent of every child of compulsory school age shall cause him/her to receive efficient full time education either by regular attendance at school or otherwise".

As stated in our Attendance Management policy: 'Children are expected to attend school for the full 190 days of the academic year, unless there is good reason for absence.'

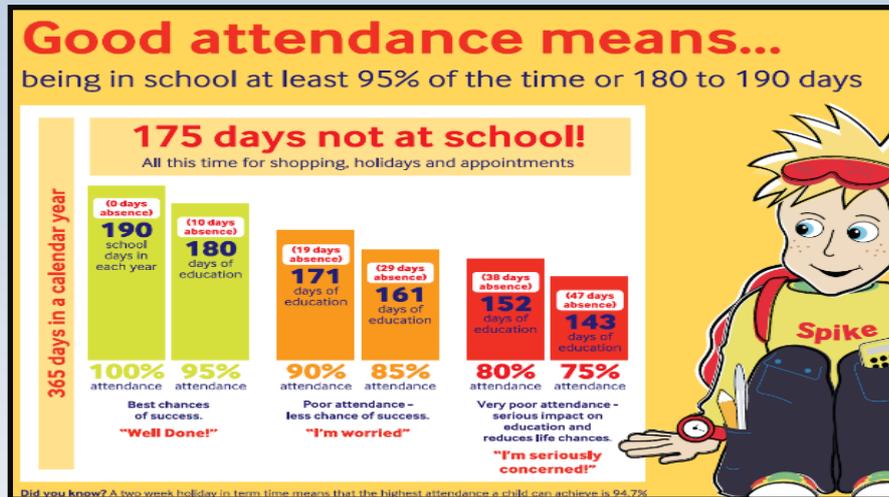
There are two types of absence:

- Authorised (where the school approves a learner's absence)
- Unauthorised (where school will not approve the absence)

Parents will be asked to telephone or notify the school every day that their child is absent or ill as part of fulfilling the schools safeguarding requirements. The school office will make telephone contact with home when a child is absent and the parent has not notified the school of the absence. If no contact can be achieved or the reason for absence is not accepted, the absence will be unauthorised.'

Penalties for Unauthorised Absences

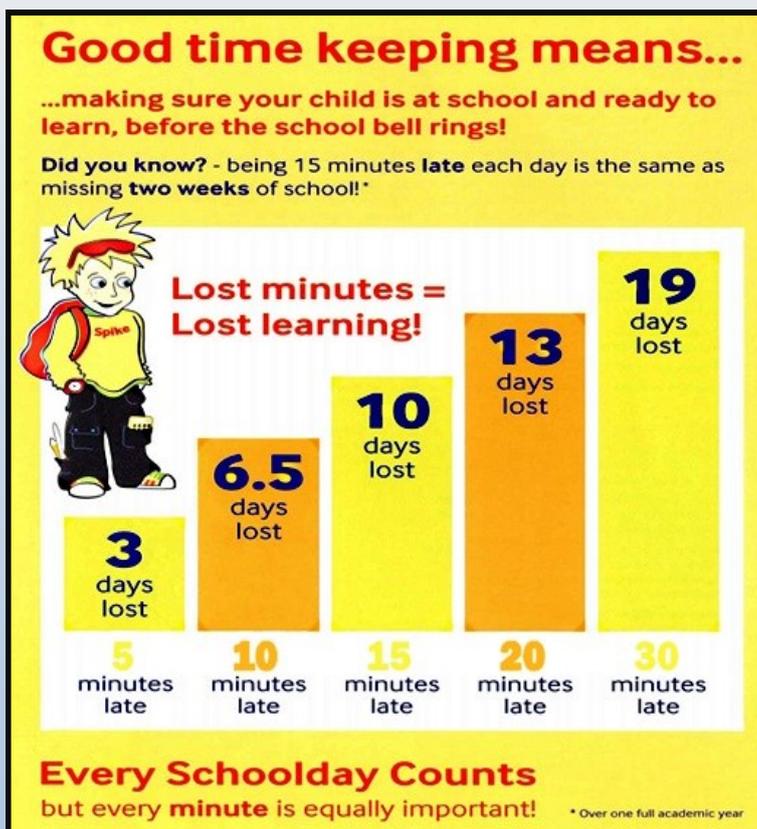
Timeline	One child	Two children
Paid within 21 days	£60 per parent – initially	£60 per child - £120 per parent
After 21 days and before 28 days	£120 per parent	£120 per child - £240 per parent
After 28 days	A summons to appear before the Magistrates' Court on the grounds you have failed to secure your child's regular attendance	A summons to appear before the Magistrates' Court on the grounds you have failed to secure your child's regular attendance



Any medical absences in excess of 5 days (10 sessions) per academic year will need to be supported by medical evidence. This does not have to be a doctor's note but can be prescriptions, medication or appointment cards. If no medical evidence is received then the absence will be coded as unauthorised.

All our policies are available for you to read on our academy website. If you have any concerns or need any support with any matters relating to your child's attendance, please don't hesitate to contact us to discuss this.

We thank you for supporting the academy in this drive to improve attendance.



Attendance	
Our first week's attendance	
Overall school target attendance	96%
Overall school attendance this week	96.9%
Year 1	98%
Year 2	93.9%
Year 3	93.9%
Year 4	100%
Year 5	98.8%
Year 6	96.5%