



Headteacher: Tina Holditch

Rectory Lane North
Leybourne
West Malling
Kent
ME19 5HD

Tel: 01732 842008
Email: headteacher@leybourne.school
www.leybourne.school

19th January 2024

Dear Parents,

Mrs Wendy Snow

Some of you with a long association with the school may remember Mrs Snow, who was the Finance Officer here at Leybourne until 2014. I am sorry to say that Mrs Snow sadly passed away over Christmas. Mrs Snow was formidable – incredibly loyal, supportive and dedicated. She will be remembered fondly by all of us who had the privilege of knowing and working with her. We all send our love and prayers to Mrs Snow's family at this time.

PTFA Discos

A reminder that the PTFA discos will take place on Friday 2nd February, at 3:30-4:30pm for Reception and Key Stage 1 and 5:00 – 6:15pm for Key Stage 2. Payments can be made only through the PTFA Sum Up shop, and the *final day for payments is Monday 29th January 2024*. In order to allow the PTFA to make the necessary arrangements for the disco, please be aware that *no late payments will be accepted*. The PTFA are volunteers, who very kindly organise and run these events around their own busy family and work commitments. I am extremely grateful to them for doing so.

School Meals

I am so pleased with the improved quality of our school meals since Dolce took over our catering service. Alex and Mandy in the kitchen really are doing a great job! Please could I just ask that if you pre-book your child's meals, you remind them what they are having each day? We have had a small number of children recently who have been upset because they have seen one item on the menu and decided they would like it – only to get to the hatch and discover they have had an alternative item pre-booked for them. Unfortunately, we are unable to change the menu choice that has been requested, and must give the children the food that has been ordered for them.

Staff Car Park

I am very pleased that, in line with the other primary schools in the Trust, our staff car park is now protected by automated gates. This obviously offers increased security for the children as it will prevent unauthorised use of the car park, reducing the risk of

Nurturing the spark of God within

"Those who trust in the Lord will find new strength. They will soar high on wings like eagles" Isaiah 40:31



accidents at the beginning and end of the day, and after school hours. I would remind parents dropping off for Breakfast Club to please not follow staff cars into the car park when the gate is opening, thank you.

Please do take care, and encourage your children to be especially alert, when crossing the entrance to the car park. The gates open automatically for cars to exit, so pedestrians may not always be aware of when a car is leaving the car park. Thank you.

Term Dates 2024-2025

I am pleased to confirm the term dates and INSET Days for the coming academic year:

- Term 1 Monday 2nd September 2024 – INSET Day
 Tuesday 3rd September 2024 – Children return to school
 Thursday 24th October – Last day of Term 1 for children
 Friday 25th October 2024 - INSET Day (children not in school)
- Term 2 Monday 4th November 2024 – Children return to school
 Friday 20th December 2024 – Last day of Term 2
- Term 3 Monday 6th January 2025 – INSET Day (children not in school)
 Friday 14th February 2025 – Last day of Term 3
- Term 4 Monday 24th February 2025 – Children return to school
 Friday 4th April 2025 – Last day of Term 4
- Term 5 Tuesday 22nd April 2025 – Children return to school
 Friday 23rd May 2025- Last day of Term 5
- Term 6 Monday 2nd June 2025 – Children return to school
 Friday 18th July 2025 – Last day of Term 6 for children
 Monday 21st July 2025 – INSET Day (children not in school)
 Tuesday 22nd July 2025 – INSET Day (children not in school)

I do hope this helps with your planning for the year ahead.

Woodland Learning

Unfortunately, the recent storms and bad weather have caused some damage to both the trees and the canopy in the Woodland Learning area, making it unsafe for us to use at this time. Remedial work has been booked and is ongoing, with the aim of reopening Woodland Learning next term.

Have a lovely, if somewhat cold, weekend!

Best wishes

Tina Holditch
Headteacher