

www.lighthorneheathprimaryschool.co.uk

Welcome back to a new school year!

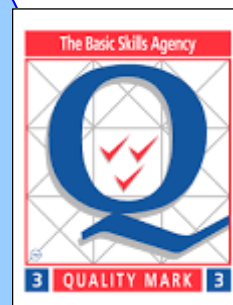
Thank you all for helping me have such a positive start to my time here at Lighthorne Heath Primary School.

I am delighted to see the children back so smart in their new uniforms. They have all settled in to their new settings really well and have enjoyed catching up with each other and getting to know new teachers and friends.



New Faces

We welcome our new additions to school this year—
all our Nursery and Reception children, Beau and Sebastian in
Class 4/5/6, and 2 new teachers Mrs Hartley in N/R and
Mrs Munday in Y1/2/3.





Library



We would like to re-energise the school library to emphasise the joy and importance of reading. We have some eager Y6 librarians newly recruited to help! If you have any spare scatter pillows we could use to create a snuggly reading zone, donations would be very welcome !

School Business/ Notices

School Meals

Our fantastic Educaterers kitchen staff (Mrs Cook and Mrs Andrews) and our mid-day supervisors are doing a fantastic job preparing and serving hot school dinners. A reminder that school meals are free for all infants. School dinners for juniors (years 3, 4, 5 and 6) cost £2.25 each, payable for in advance using **ParentPay**.

Packed Lunches

We are trying to encourage children to make healthy lifestyle choices, and politely request that children do not bring fizzy drinks, chocolate confectionary bars or sweets to school as part of their packed lunches. These foods can impact negatively on children's behaviour during afternoon learning sessions. Thank you, in anticipation of your usual support. Can I also bring to your attention that we have a couple of children with **nut sensitivity** and it would be appreciated if you could not include nut based products in packed lunches or break snacks.





Absence in Term Time

The government has introduced some significant changes to attendance regulations for pupils at school last September. The most important of these is in relation to term-time leave of absence. Amendments have been made to the 2006 regulations in the Education (Pupil Registration) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2013. **The amendments make clear that head teachers are no longer permitted to authorise absence for holidays taken during term time.**

"There is a clear link between poor attendance at school and lower academic achievement". (Charlie Taylor DfE)

Lateness

Please note that all children should be lined up in the school playground at 8.55am for the start of the school day. Please remember lateness causes disruption to all the children's learning, and can cause children to feel upset and anxious. If you do arrive late, please note that children must come into school via the main reception / office area, and be signed in by an adult.

Medical Appointments

Please try to make medical / dental appointments out of school hours, so that your child does not miss out on any of her / his learning. Thank you, in anticipation of your support.

Topic Letters

Each class teacher has published a 'Topic Letter' so that you can see what your child will be taught this term. These are coming home today with your child.. Please do not hesitate to see your child's class teacher if you would like any additional information.

Emergency Contact Details / Text Alert Service



It is **vital** that the school has up-to-date contact details for all parents and carers in case of an emergency situation. We also need your current mobile phone number so that you don't miss out on our text alert service. Please ensure you have informed the school office of any changes to your address or telephone numbers. If you do not wish your child's photograph to be published digitally, please let us know as soon as possible. Thank you.

Bikes and scooters



Please ensure that all children who are bringing bikes and scooters to school take care as they are putting them in the bike shed. The staff car park can be busy in the morning and children need to stay safe when crossing. They should wait in the playground once they have stored their bikes and not remain in the car park area. Children should not ride their scooters, bikes or skateboards in the playground as it is crowded and may cause an accident. Thank you for your support.

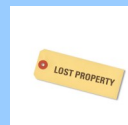
School Uniform

Please help your child to look after their school uniform by ensuring that all clothing items are clearly labelled with your child's name. There have already been a couple of children a bit distressed by misplacing kit. Thank you.

PE kit

A reminder that for PE children should be wearing a white or blue t-shirt (without logos), blue, black or grey shorts or tracksuit bottoms and white or black trainers/pumps. All children need to have their PE kit in school (R, 1, 2, 3—Wednesdays, 4, 5, 6—Fridays). Thank you for your cooperation.

Lost Property



There is a huge amount of lost property left over from last term (without names on) in the white bins in the school entrance hall. We will lay this out after school one day next week. Please take anything that is yours. Anything left over will be recycled or disposed of.

Home Learning and Book Bags

Research over a number of years in this and other countries has shown that home learning can make an important contribution to pupils' progress at school. An OFSTED Report published in 1995 confirmed that many pupils and their parents saw learning done at home as a valuable and essential part of school work.

The Government believes that there is enormous advantage in children spending regular periods of time on different learning activities devised by schools, as part of a home learning programme which supports the work they do in class.

Your child should have received a brand new style home learning book with the school logo on the front.

Children should receive home learning to do each week. We will try hard to give your child several suggested activities related to their learning in school, so that everyone feels able to achieve something. Please talk to your child's class teacher if you have any difficulties or concerns, or need to be able to access resources such as the internet in school. Home learning books will be sent home on Thursdays and must be returned by The following Tuesday. Children will still be required to read regularly at home with you and are given regular spellings to learn. Please make sure that your child brings his / her book bag to school every day. Children in Key Stage 2 will also receive maths homework or times tables to learn. Please see your child's class teacher if you have any further queries or concerns about home learning. We appreciate that home learning can present difficulties for some families, and that children sometimes need access to a computer, the internet and books. We will endeavour to help where we can.

Trips and Visits

From time to time we need extra adults to come on trips with us. To ensure our safeguarding records are up to date we ask that these adults have a DBS check. If you would like to be able to come and support us on school trips please ask Mrs Birch or Mrs Hendriksen about doing your DBS check - its easy to do online and we can help you do it in the school office.

Admissions 2019

Please note that the closing date for applications for Reception Class places for September 2020 is 15th January 2020. It is very important that forms are returned on time to ensure your child is given a place!

Telephone 01926 742037

or apply online at <http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/startingprimaryschool>

After– School Clubs

We will be organising our After-School clubs next week.



We are considering offering a Gym Club run by onsite coaching on Wednesdays after school. The cost would be £3 per child paid through **ParentPay**. Please would you let Mrs Hendrickson in the office know by **Tuesday 10th September** if your child would like to take part in this, so we can ascertain numbers and confirm arrangements.

Summer Holiday Homework.

If any children did the Miniature matchbox challenge over the summer holiday, please would they bring their collections in before next Friday.

Reception children estimating counters using words 'more' and 'less'



Have a enjoyable and
relaxing weekend.

See you on Monday :)

Mrs Birch Associate Head Teacher



Lighthorne Heath Heroes!

Congratulations to all of this week's
Lighthorne Heath Heroes!
Friday 6th September 2019



LEAVE OF ABSENCE DURING TERM TIME UPDATED INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

The Supreme Court recently reached a decision in the case of *Platt v Isle of Wight Council* which has clarified the law on unauthorised leave, including holidays, during term time. The parents of children of compulsory school age are required to ensure that they attend school on a regular basis. The Supreme Court has made clear that attending school 'regularly' means that the children must attend school on every day that they are required to do so. As such, the parents of any child who is absent from school without authorisation for any length of time are likely to be considered as committing an offence under s444 of the Education Act 1996.

Head Teachers retain the ability to authorise leave in accordance with the Education (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2006. When considering such requests for a leave of absence, the school are obliged to act within the law. Head Teachers may not grant any leave of absence during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances relating to the application. If the leave is granted, head teachers are able to determine the number of school days a child can be absent for.

It is for the Head Teacher to decide what is 'exceptional' and it is at their discretion if the circumstances warrant the leave to be granted. The school can only consider Leave of Absence requests which are made by the 'resident' parent.

Each application for a leave of absence will be considered on a case by case basis and on its own merits.

Where applications for leave of absence are made in advance and refused, the child will be required to be in school on the dates set out in the application. If the child is absent during that period, it will be recorded as an unauthorised absence.

Failure to make an application for leave in advance will result in the absence being recorded as an unauthorised absence.

Your child's progress academically as well as socially is our shared priority

VOLUNTEER



Gain

valuable experience-volunteer opportunities are available through the new Children and Family Centres.

Anyone can volunteer!

It's a great way to :

- Gain new or use existing skills
- Get experience
- Increase confidence
- Meet new people
- Make a BIG difference to your community

Why not offer 1 session a week to start with and see if you can then offer more time as you gain valuable experience in one of our Children and Family Centres.

You can :

- Support staff in various groups and activities
- Have an active role to play in your local Children and Family Centre
- Support new parents
- Decide how you want to help with an activity that suits you (ie gardening...)
- Opportunities to volunteer for meeting and greeting families and other opportunities as requested by the Children and Family Centre managers.

Ask for a flyer for contact details