

Leeming RAF Primary School Newsletter



January 2018

Dear All,

I commenced this newsletter last week, but such is the pace of life at Leeming that this is coming to you slightly later than normal – apologies!

It seems like a long time since the sparkle and glitter of Christmas was packed away for another year – and the school has been busy as always with events, clubs and, of course, lots of learning! This week, the children in Year 6 have been doing some 'mock SATs', getting used to the format of these assessments in advance of next term. Meanwhile, other children in KS2 have been undertaking some computer-based assessments and KS1 are busy practicing their skills – especially in Phonics. There has been some amazing writing going on in the school too – Spooky Stories up in Eagles, and some magical adventures in Hogwarts among the Kingfishers and Owls. In Years 1 and 2, the children have been learning all about Africa, with some brilliant Safari tales on display in Nightingales. Early Years is a dangerous place to be this week – I understand that there have been dinosaur footprints stomping through the classrooms – I trust that Mrs. Whitworth and Miss Baddon have fully risk-assessed the implications of Tyrannosaurus Rexs in Reception... We're also joining in the big schools' birdwatch – a national initiative run by the RSPB. Our revitalised Wildlife area (many thanks to our Governors and volunteers from base!) was the perfect spot and is already attracting a wide range of our feathered friends – 14 species at least have been observed!

This month saw our pupils get involved in the Cluster Tag Rugby competition. Our team did really well, especially considering that most of the other schools fielded teams comprised entirely of Y6 children, and most of our squad were Y4s! Many thanks to Mr. Lewis who has been helping out with our rugby training and came along! Here's a few photos of what we've been up to!



Good luck Miss Robinson – our best wishes to Miss Robinson who will be heading off on maternity leave at the end of the week – we hope all goes as smoothly as possible!

Recruiting Relief MSAs – as a result of the departure of a number of our staff due to postings, we are looking to increase our pool of relief MSAs (Mid-day Supervisors). If you would like to work with children, perhaps as a prelude to considering additional training or working in schools in other capacities, this can be a great place to start. If you're interested, please contact Mrs. Scott in the office.

PE clubs and opportunities – Rugby Tots for our Key Stage 1 pupils is off to a flying start – the children are really enjoying it and having loads of fun. Next half term, we will be getting girls' football club started too - letters to follow.

PE Kit – staying with the sporting theme, a reminder to please ensure your child has appropriate warm PE kit. We have recently updated our PE participation policy which can be found on the website. As you will know, we place a high priority on sport in school but to teach this well we need children to have correct kit so that they can keep themselves safe. Thanks for your help with this.

Hairstyles – a brief reminder to all that we want to ensure our children always look smart and also to stay safe. Please avoid radical hairstyles, hair 'tattoos', and please ensure that all long hair is tied back for safety reasons. Many thanks.

D&V – please can parents note that, in accordance with public health guidance, children who have any incidence of Diarrhoea and / or Vomiting should remain off school for 48 hours after the last incident. We have had a number of cases in school recently and want to limit the spread of such bugs.

Governor Update – we have said farewell to another of our governors recently – Mr. Adrian Fox stepped down at Christmas after serving the board for a number of years. I'm delighted to inform you that in his place the governors have co-opted Mrs. Barbara Calvert – Mrs. Calvert's long service to Leeming as a teacher and years of experience will be invaluable in the strategic leadership of the school – we welcome her back!

Foods – a reminder that no nut products (including Nutella) should be brought in lunches, as we have some severely allergic children. Also, please do *not* send your child with packets of sweets, (e.g. skittles), and large chocolate bars in their lunches. Thank you.

Service Pupil Premium – as many of you will know, service pupils receive a small amount of additional funding from the DfE. The school publishes information about how this is spent on the website. We have recently included an additional document detailing the 'Care, Guidance and Support' that we offer to our pupils – please do have a read, we hope it is helpful for parents.

Attendance – please could all parents do their very best to ensure good attendance; we have had many children taken out of school early / during the day for appointments, an increasing number of pupils arriving late in a morning, and lots of applications for leave for visiting family etc. Whilst we appreciate that medical issues do happen, we can only teach children when they are in school, and it really hampers pupils' progress when they have high levels of absenteeism. Please do your best to avoid taking your children out of school at all. Many thanks.

Internet Safety – a warm invitation to all parents to the internet safety talk at 2:15pm on Friday 9th. Also, a warning has recently been received by the school about the online game **Roblox**. Many children are playing this, but most parents are unaware that through the game, children can be contacted by people (who may not be who they claim to be) from all over the globe; this presents a real risk of inappropriate behaviours. Please supervise your children carefully whenever they are online.

Intouch – a reminder that all children who have a parent deployed may contact them through the school's 'Intouch' lunchtime club (replacing 'E-bluey'). Forms are available through the office which gather the details needed to reach deployed personnel, please just ask.

Book week – watch this space for exciting information about our book week taking place week commencing 26th Feb, including some exciting 'reading based' events and competitions!

And Finally... I had to share this photo of Miles, one of our Reception pupils, who spent a good chunk of playtime the other day in this position – when asked what he was up to, he simply smiled and said he was "fishing, of course"! Full marks for imagination Miles!



Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'Rob Campbell'.

Rob Campbell
Headteacher