

Leigh on Mendip First School

working together to achieve our best

Newsletter 22 - 26th April 2019



Welcome back to school for our summer term. We hope you all had a great Easter break and enjoyed the fabulous sunshine. During the holidays, Mrs Phillips and Ms Stafford had a really exciting adventure in India. They explored both northern and southern cities and villages and even saw a tiger on safari!

You may well have noticed that the fencing around the school has changed during the holidays. This is part of a project to ensure that schools in Somerset have secure sites and follows on from the first phase that took place over the half-term week in February. While we are pleased with some of the fencing, there are aspects of the project that we are not happy with and therefore the company will be back in school over the next few weeks to move some of the fencing and make good parts of the playground. Until then please can we ask that you take care when arriving on site.

We regret to inform you that our significant change bid to turn Leigh on Mendip from a First School to a Primary School has not been successful on our first attempt. The DfE have not ruled out the change but have put it on pause while they consider whether to investigate the two or three tier system in more depth. They are concerned that should we become a primary school that this could 'undermine the integrity of the school system locally'. They also believe that 'piecemeal change is likely to have implications for pupil numbers and funding, in particular the middle schools in Frome'. While of course we are very disappointed as we appreciate you will be, we are not giving up at this point. It does mean though that for our current Year 4 pupils there will not be the option to stay on next year. We are happy to discuss this further with you and indeed would appreciate your thoughts as we look at our next steps to try and secure the change.

Finally, we would like to formally welcome Miss Brown to the school this week who will be working in Eagle Class for Terms 5 and 6 as a teaching assistant. We look forward to working with her over the coming weeks.

Mrs Phillips

Mr Turull

School Diary Dates

April

Tues 30th FOLS meeting at 7.30pm

May

Tues 7th NSPCC Speak Out, Stay Safe workshops

Fri 10th Bags for Help Collection

Mon 13th Year 4 visit to Wells Cathedral

Thurs 16th Class photographs

Mon 20th - Year 3 and 4 Residential Trip to

Wed 22nd New Barn Field Centre

Summer Term Clubs

The following clubs are now confirmed:

Monday Sports Club 3.15pm - 4.15pm

Tuesday Sunflower 3.15pm - 4.30pm

Wednesday Art Club 3.15pm - 4.15pm

Friday Dance Club 3.15pm - 4.15pm

We continue to try and offer after-school provision every day of the week, but sadly we have had to cancel Bubble Club for this term as not enough children were signed up for this after school club on a Thursday.