

Newsletter

September 2019



Welcome back to school. I hope you all had a lovely summer.

Everyone has returned to school with a very positive and determined attitude. It has been lovely to see so many smiles over the last two days! We continue to provide the very best we can for you and your children with well-being and nurture at the heart.

Thank you

Firstly, the staff and I would like to thank you all very much for your kind gifts, cards and words at the end of last year. We all love what we do but it can be an exhausting task, your kindness and support go a long way in keeping us focused and invigorated!

ICT

We have made some great additions to our resources over the summer with new interactive panel boards in each class. Hopefully over the term, your children will be able to tell about some of the new things they have been able to do. It is lovely to have clear, steady text for the children to read. The graphics are bright and engaging and there are endless activities and programmes that can be used to enhance learning. We also have a new set of Chrome books (thanks to PTFA and the funds that you have raised) these are replacing our laptops which are no longer fit for purpose and can be used with a keyboard or as a tablet. We currently have 15 and are continuing to fundraise for another set of 15. Each class also has a new visualiser which means they can project a picture of children work or teacher examples on to the big board. This is a great teaching tool and helps the children to feel really involved and proud of their learning.

Uniform reminder

Please ensure that you follow the uniform dress code, **(especially with shoes and socks). Trainers are not allowed as every day shoes.**

Girls:

Light or dark grey trousers, skirt or pinafore

White shirt

Navy school sweatshirt

Grey or white socks or grey or navy tights

Black shoes (no trainers)

Summer dresses may be worn until half term

Boys:

Light or dark grey trousers

White shirt

Navy school sweatshirt

Grey or black socks

Black shoes (no trainers)

Shorts may be worn until half term

PE kit:

PE t-shirt, black shorts, trainers, plain dark tracksuit bottoms and tops or leggings if desired for the winter

Journals and handwriting

We have started using learning journals this term. These are beautiful presentation books that allow the children to have ownership over their learning and show creativity. We feel very strongly that primary school education should be enjoyable and liberating, not stifled by curriculum demands. We have therefore introduced these books for topic learning, some aspects of literacy and our Wow weeks. The children are using calligraphy pens, watercolours and pictures to illustrate their thoughts and learning. They are already practicing how to draw different banners, shout out and creatively experimenting with different ways of displaying words such as in bunting or through pictures. You may well find that your child would like to practice these skills at home. There are many ideas for journaling on either Pinterest or via google, it is a lovely mindful exercise too that you might enjoy together.

We have just started a new cursive handwriting scheme throughout the school, so as well as journaling, your child may want to practise a joined cursive style of writing. Please do encourage this!

New children

We welcome our new reception starters and families on Monday and three new children and families into Sycamore class, we are very pleased that you have decided to join us and hope you will be very happy at Lympstone Primary School.

PTFA

Please do consider supporting your school by joining the PTFA or offering to help at events (it might just be one). The first meeting will be this half term and dates will follow on parentmail.

School lunches

Please make sure that all lunches are paid for in advance either on parentmail or via the office. Children in Oak & Willow continue to order their lunches on parentmail weekly, all other classes can order daily. Please note school meals are now £2.35.

Parentmail messages and communication

All messages including permission slips and payment schemes for trips are now managed via Parentmail. Please make sure that you have the app on your phone so that you don't miss any important information. Please do not rely on hard copies of letters and information as these will only seldomly be sent home. Please see Mrs Fisher or Mrs Lawrence in the office if you are having trouble with setting up parent mail.

Term dates

October 21st-25th Half term
October 28th Non Pupil Day
December 20th Last day of Autumn term
January 7th First day of Spring term
February 17th -21st Half term
March 27th – Last day of Spring term
April 14th – First day of Summer term
May 25th-29th – Half term
June 26th Non Pupil Day
July 22nd – Last day of Summer term

Any holiday booked during term time will be unauthorised. Please help us to help you children by ensuring they attend school whenever possible.

The diary on the school website is up to date with events and activities already booked this year.

Here's to a great term, thank you for your support,

Emily Mellor