November 2026

Headteacher's letter

From the desks of Mrs Davies and Mr Pearce

Dates for your diary

11th November- Rememberance assembly - whole school 2 minute silence

Friday 13th November - Children in Need - Crazy Hair Day

TUESDAY 17TH November - Early Years Open Afternoon 1.30-2.30 visits for new to school families

Monday 23rd November - anti bullying week events

Thursday 3rd December - Lower school Film night PTA event

Friday 4th December - Whole School Pantomime - Christmas Theatre Treat

Friday 4th December - Upper school Film night PTA event

Monday 14th December 1.45-3.00 EYFS/KS1 Christmas production

Tuesday 15th December 9.30-10.45 EYFS/KS1 Christmas Production

Tuesday 15th December - 2.15 -3.15 Years 5/6 Christmas Carols service

Wednesday 16th December 2.15-3.15 Years 3/ 4 Christmas Carol Service

Thursday 17th December Christmas Party Day

Friday 18th December School closes for end of term

Monday 4th January 2027 School returns for spring term

The darker nights are well and truly with us and it's hard to believe that this week marks the tenth school week of the academic year already. Time moves far too quickly!

We have already had so many proud moments to share- from our wonderful Sports teams competing in Cross Country, Netball, Football and Karate competitions(with fantastic success may I add) to our incredible Reading ambassadors, School Council and House Captain contributions across the school.

In addition to our pupils, School staff have been working hard behind the scenes to ready the school for the opening of the Leighswood Schools Specialist Resource Provision.

Our middle building ,once home to the Sure Start Centre is now once again full of life and purpose , supporting children with their learning with a specialist focus on communication and interaction. For those new to our school , we welcome you to our school and hope you have many happy years as part of our school community. A special thanks to the newest members of our team for making this provision come to fruition for the benefit of our children.

It wouldn't be right to finish the introduction without a special mention of our fundraising efforts.

Our fundraising events for Mental Health Charity Mind, as well as for School have also not only raised much appreciated funds but have also raised huge smiles. The colour run proved to be a firm favourite with children and staff alike. We are still collecting sponsor money for this event and I look forward to sharing final totals with you as soon as we can.

We have said it before but our children and community are what makes our school such an incredible place to be.

I also want to give a special mention to those who joined us in representing our school in the Aldridge Rememberance Parade this Sunday . It was wonderful to see a selection of children from across the school come to join us and for our Year 6 members to lay the wreath on behalf of the School. A special Leighswood moment of history indeed - and one to be most proud of!

With our kindest regards,

Mrs Ruth Davies and Mr James Pearce

From the desk of the School Council



November 2026

Dear Community

As a school Council , we have recently ben concerned about the unhealthy and dangerous snacks that some children are bringing into school. Leighswood is a nut free school , which is very important because some of our friends have nut allergies. This can be really serious and can mean that if people with an allergy like this are exposed to nuts, it can lead to serious problems needing emergency treatment in hospital . THIS IS REALLY SERIOUS!

As a School Council , we would like to ask parents not to let children bring in anything containing nuts or nut oils. This includes Nutella spread, or chocolate spreads which can contain nuts - as well as cereal bars, chocolate snacks or even some croissants.

We are also worried that at breaktime , children are not making healthy choices. At our school ,we do not want to see packets of crisps, biscuits or chocolate bars. These are not brain foods and can cause sugar crashes and low energy . We want our friends to be healthy and well and not hungry - did you know that too much sugar can cause health problems ? It can also mean you dont feel full and can get' hangry'

We would like to ask that at breaktime , our friends have the following healthy snacks - we've talked it through during our school council meetings and these were the most popular ideas in our classes. These foods are healthy and should keep us full until lunchtime



Cheese pieces
Chicken pieces
Fresh fruit
Vegi sticks - like cucumber or carrots
A small sandwich
Rice cakes
Cheese and crackers
An oat cereal bar- not one with nuts in
Freeze dried fruit
Croissants
Bread sticks

If you can please help us to keep our friends healthy and safe we would really



Proud Moment

From tiny acorns , might Oaks will grow.
Our reading leaders are leading the way with our youngest readers, providing reading opportunities in their own time to help their reading buddies, learn , grow and understand what it means to not only belong to a school of learners and future leaders but how to develop a life long love of literature.

Our Leighswood A Star Sherrifs have been promoting healthy lifestyles and safe travel - demonstrating care and diligence in their traffic surveys and encouraging us all to be seen, be active and be safe as we encourage walking and cycling to school as part of a healthy lifestyle







The School events colour run was a moment of sheer joy for all members of the school community . A special thankyou for allowing us a truely joyous moment with the children and for your fundraising and kind donations to school fund . We have been bowled over by your generosity and look forward to announcing our final total when the sponsor money has all been collected.

Lest We Forget .



On Sunday 8th November we were honoured to take part in the **Aldridge Community Remembrance Parade**. We are incredibly grateful to all of our families, staff, pupils and members of our school community who supported and attended the parade and service.

At 11:00am, we joined the nation in observing a two-minute silence to pay tribute to the brave men and women, past and present, who have served in the Armed Forces. Remembrance Sunday commemorates the military and civilian personnel who gave their lives during the First and Second World Wars, as well as those who have lost their lives in subsequent conflicts.

This year was particularly special as a father from our school community, who currently serves in the Armed Forces Reserves, joined us in the parade. It was a poignant reminder that alongside remembering those who made the ultimate sacrifice, we also honour and thank those who continue to serve our country today.

One particularly powerful message came from Wendy Morton MP, who spoke proudly of our local community, saying:



ldridge, we do our village and community proud. Every year our Remembrance Service gets stronger and stronger."

s reflected the incredible sense of unity and respect shown by those attending the service.

Lest We Forget





Every Day Counts!

Let's Work Together for Great Attendance

Regular attendance and punctuality make a big difference in your child's learning, confidence, and friendships. In primary school, every lesson builds important skills — and missing even small amounts of time can quickly add up.



As parents and carers, you have a **legal responsibility** to ensure your child attends school every day and **arrives on time, ready** to learn.

A calm morning routine and positive start to the day really helps children feel settled and successful.

Reporting Absence

If your child is **unwell** or unable to attend, please contact **the school office** **between 8.30am and 9.15am** each day of absence to let us know the reason.



If we do not hear from you, the school will call you,
and we will continue to make contact on each day your child is absent.

We're Here to Help

If there are any concerns or difficulties affecting attendance, please speak to us.



We are always happy to work in partnership with families to ensure every child is in school, on time, and ready to thrive.



Be Here. Be On Time. Be Ready to Shine!









A big well done to our whole school and to Mrs Portlock for organising our 2026 Big Draw Festival.

As you can see, children from our youngest 2 year olds to our oldest 11 year olds - and even our 43 year olds - took part in some amazing collaborative art pieces showing everyone how accessible art can be . Throughout the day, children explored drawing in exciting and unexpected ways. We challenged traditional ideas of what drawing can be by creating artwork on different scales, from tiny detailed marks to enormous collaborative pieces. Children enjoyed kinetic movement drawing, sensory "drawing without seeing" activities, and discovered the joy and creativity that can come from a simple doodle.

One of the most memorable aspects of the festival was the opportunity to create art together. Working alongside friends and peers in an immersive creative environment encouraged collaboration, communication and confidence. The children embraced every challenge with enthusiasm and imagination.

Leighswood- Taking the Lead in Sporting achievement







And finally , it wouldn't be right to leave our half termly newsletter without mentioning our incredible sports teams here at Leighswood. The school year has started with a bang with success in netball tournaments , cross country running tournaments and football tournaments with children representing our school and upholding the reputation of our school in the time honoured way. We are so proud of our teams and individual competitors who make the most of the sporting opportunities we present them with here at Leighswood.

A special mention must also go to our playground leaders- many of whom are members of our sporting teams in Upper School. These children give their time to instil our Leighswood Values across the school years, helping our youngest children enjoy organised games and activities at lunchtime. Truely, remarkable children ensuring the legacy of our Leighswood Way always continues to be upheld.