Lee Common Church of England School
Oxford Street
Lee Common
Great Missenden
Buckinghamshire
HP16 9JH

Tel: 01494 837267
Email: office@leecommon.bucks.sch.uk
Website: www.leecommon.org

Headteacher: Mr James Edwards BA (QTS) Hons

LEE COMMON WEEKLY NEWSLETTER – Thursday, 12 September 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

After some lovely summer weather we look forward to the rest of the autumn term and the changing seasons.

**School Uniform**
For those of you who are still requiring our school uniform, may I remind you that it can be purchased directly from our suppliers at Uniform4Kids.com. There is a click and collect service at their Elstree warehouse for those of you on a tight schedule.

As a reminder, there is a copy of our uniform policy on the website, http://www.leecommon.org/school-uniform

**PA to the Headteacher Appointed**
After last Friday’s interviews, I am pleased to share the news that Ms Jessica Mayson has been appointed as PA to myself and also acting as Nursery Secretary. Ms Mayson is looking forward to getting to know all the children and parents in the upcoming months. Ms Mayson will be in the school on Mondays, Thursdays and Fridays. Ms Mayson previously worked in a PA and administration role for BMW.

**Parking**
I have had some interest from parents about the new white lines. I can confirm that Colin Sully and the Parish Council did involve the school and nursery in the consultation period around this. The white lines are to keep everyone in the area, particularly children, safe. Please see some further explanation from Colin Sully below.

Just to be clear on this...
The white lines on Oxford Street have been placed where the Highway Code suggests it may be particularly dangerous to park (e.g. on a bend; next to a junction). If you park on one of these lines and there is an accident as a result, you may be found partially liable.
That’s our understanding... and why they were put there.
Therefore, we must insist parents do not park on the white lines. I appreciate that parking near the school can sometimes be difficult. I also appreciate that some parents get frustrated by residents appearing to be parking on the road whilst leaving large driveways empty. Please be reassured that the school and nursery are working with the Parish Council and have shared parents’ frustrations around this.

I also need to ask that parents do not park on the lane as this is only for staff use and parking on the narrow section at the top blocks access to the houses in this area. I have had a recent request from Linaver Farm asking me to remind the school community about this.

**School Plays and Religious Events**

This academic year there will be a particular focus on Easter, as arguably the most significant festival of the Christian calendar. This year’s Year 1 and 2 production is called Easter Praise and is written by Sheila Wilson (who also wrote Crikey Moses). The play explores the Easter story and will, I am sure, support our children’s understanding of the Holy Week and the Easter story.

Due to the theme of this year’s play the KS1 production will be moved from the end of term to the Easter period for this year only. Easter Praise and the additional activities it provides will also replace the Easter Breakfast this year. The nativity play this year will involve Robins, Wrens, Wood Larks and Little Larks. I have included some of the performances for these productions as dates for your diary at the end of this newsletter.

**School Trips**

I wanted to share with you all our plans for school trips this year. These will include an optional trip to Walton on the Naze, a trip to London Zoo, a trip to Willows Farm and a trip to Windsor Castle. The table below provides a summary. Please note other than the trip to Walton on the Naze the children will need to attend the trips if they are in the relevant classes attending. For Walton on the Naze there is the option for parents to have the children ‘stay at school’ with Miss Keen and others as the trip will involve an extended day.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Trip</th>
<th>Little Larks</th>
<th>Wood Larks</th>
<th>Wrens</th>
<th>Robins</th>
<th>Swallows</th>
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<td><strong>Windsor Castle</strong></td>
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<td><strong>London Zoo</strong> (Spring 1)</td>
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<td><strong>Walton on the Naze</strong> (Summer 2)</td>
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<td><strong>Willows Farm</strong> (Summer 1)</td>
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**Wednesday Collection Time/Swimming**

I wanted to thank parents and carers for their understanding with the collection time for the Wednesday swimming group. As many of you are aware at the end of last year the swimming co-ordinator and management of the local Better Pools re-arranged the swimming slots for a number of local schools. This resulted to us reluctantly agreeing to a lesson time which would mean a ‘late’ collection from school. This was agreed as the best time slot available as the others were during lunch time or otherwise extremely unsuitable. I have tried to avoid disruption for parents by placing Reception pupils with brothers and sisters with the group their siblings are in.

As I am sure, you can appreciate when originally suggesting the pick-up time would be 3:15 this was a best estimate based on the time it had taken in the past from leaving the poolside to our return to school. However, there are two schools on the route back from Chesham Leisure Centre, one of which is a large secondary school and this resulted in more delay to our journey than expected yesterday.

I would therefore like to ask parents to collect the children in this group at 3:30 next Wednesday. Once we have completed the journey a number of times we will be in a better position to estimate a more accurate time to us returning to school.

I will also share the positive news that although the slot is not ideal for collection it did provide a lovely non rushed slot for the pupils involved with five adults working with 21 children and led by the area manager. The children were also given slightly over their allocated time to ensure that assessments were accurate. Therefore I feel the real quality of the provision on offer is worth the slight short term disruption. I am pleased that the area manager will be leading both our Tuesday and Wednesday sessions and that the pool is providing additional staff for both sessions.

**Celebration Assembly**

Star Awards this week go the following pupils:

**Wood Larks:**
Gabriella Joy (Chloe Communication)

**Wrens:**
Ida (Izzy Independence)
Jasper (Danny Determination)

**Robins:**
Rose (Colin Curiosity)
Isla (Chloe Communication)

**Swallows:**
Jasmin (Danny Determination)
Israel (Colin Curiosity)
Parents of children receiving star awards and those who have a main school child that has celebrated a birthday since the last assembly are welcome to attend celebration assembly.

I hope you find the key dates table below useful. Further details will go out nearer the time.

Kind Regards,

Mr J Edwards
Headteacher

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Important Dates for your Diary</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Parents’ Evening</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Dressing of the Christmas Tree Assembly</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Nativity Plays</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Easter Production</strong></td>
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