

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

OCT 1
UPDATE
TERM 1

WHAT'S
NEW?

House & Vice
Captains

Last week we announced our House Captains and Vice House Captains for this academic year as well as our Prefects for the Autumn Term (see page 5 for full details). I would like to say a huge well done to everyone who put themselves forward for the role of House Captain. It takes a great deal of confidence and bravery to stand up and put yourself forward, and I was incredibly proud of all those who did so. I look forward to working with our newly appointed representatives over the coming year and seeing them develop their leadership skills and make a positive contribution to school life. We will shortly be holding our School Council elections, giving our children another opportunity to experience democracy in action and to have their voices heard.

This year, the School Council will be led by Mrs Lomax, and we will be tweaking a few things about how it operates to ensure that children gain valuable experience of leadership, representation and decision-making. We also want to make sure that the work of the School Council is closely aligned with what matters to our children, alongside our own school priorities. We want our pupils to understand that their views really do matter and that they can play an active role in helping to shape our school.

Last Monday, Mr Dickinson and I introduced the daily IMPACT Lunchtime Play sessions. The assembly provided an initial introduction to the different activities being offered to the infant and junior pupils on the playground and for us to establish some of the important expectations we need to remember when we are out at playtimes and lunchtimes.

Teaching Assistant Appreciation Day - Friday 25th September

Last Friday we celebrated National Teaching Assistant Day. A huge thank you to our incredible Teaching Assistants at Lunsford Primary School. Your dedication, commitment and unwavering support make a tremendous difference to the lives of our children every single day. Through your kindness, patience, and nurturing care, you help create a happy, inclusive and supportive environment where every child feels valued, encouraged and able to thrive.

Whether you are providing learning support, offering reassurance, celebrating successes or helping children overcome challenges, your impact is immeasurable. Our school community is stronger because of your compassion, professionalism and genuine care for the children entrusted to us. Thank you for all that you do.

We are truly grateful for your hard work, dedication and the positive difference you make each day.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

I hope you all have a restful and enjoyable weekend.

Mr Anscombe





Attendance matters



Week Ending 18th September

Panda Class 97.59%

Elephant Class 97.41%

Giraffe Class 96.43%

Lion Class 95.56%

Koala Class 98.59%

Tiger Class 98.7%

Zebra Class 98.67%

Week Ending 25th September

Panda Class 98.31%

Elephant Class 94.81%

Giraffe Class 97.86%

Lion Class 97.41%

Koala Class 97.59%

Tiger Class 97.39%

Zebra Class 96%

**Whole School
Attendance
Target
97%**

**Whole School
Attendance
this Week
95.73%**

**Whole School
Attendance
this year
97.29%**

Please check your child's attendance on Arbor against the below traffic light system - if you are concerned about your child's attendance contact our Family Liaison officer, Mrs Taylor in the school office.

Below 90%

Serious Concern.
Persistent absence.

90 - 95.9%

Concern.
Low attendance.

At least 96%

Expected attendance.



Improved Attendance Celebration Awards

It was wonderful to celebrate the success with 15 children this week who have worked incredibly hard to improve their attendance. Each child was invited to the School Office with their parent or carer to receive a special reward and a gold star in recognition of their efforts.

The children were delighted to receive their awards, and it was lovely to hear how proud they felt of their achievements. Here are a couple of comments from the children:

“Getting my reward made me feel proud of myself, I cant stop smiling. It made me feel like I wanted to come to school to learn more tricky words, read and learn English, improve my handwriting and spelling”

“I feel happy with my attendance because I really like coming to school every day! I enjoy school, even when I sometimes find it difficult to come in. I’m really proud because I’m doing so much work too.”

We are extremely proud of all the children who have shown such determination in improving their attendance. Their hard work is making a real difference to their learning, confidence and progress.

Keep up the fantastic effort!

Classopoly

It was another great couple of weeks for attendance, and most classes got to roll the Classopoly dice,

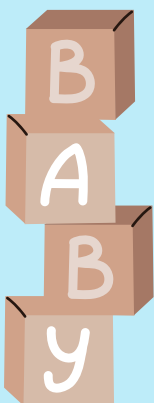
Week Ending 25th September

- Year 2 - Library/ Drop Every Thing And Read (DEAR)
- Year 3 - 5 Dojos each
- Year 4 -Scavenger Hunt
- Year 5 - Free playtime

Week Ending 18th September

- Year 1 - Gift Box
- Year 4 - Library / (DEAR)
- Year 5 - Library / (DEAR)
- Year 6 - 5x class dojos each
-

Let hope next week all classes get to roll to celebrate!



We are delighted to share the wonderful news of the safe arrival of baby boy Ethan Harris yesterday.

Congratulations to Mrs Harris, our Tiger Class teacher and her family on this very special occasion. We are sure you will join us in sending them our best wishes as they enjoy this precious time together.

Mrs Harris let us into a little secret that the name Ethan was inspired by 2 boys in our current Zebra Class and another Ethan she taught in her first year of teaching!

Welcome to the Lunsford family Ethan.



Safeguarding Focus

How We Share Images of School Life

Keeping our children safe is always our highest priority. As part of our ongoing commitment to safeguarding, we are beginning to make some changes to the way we share photographs of school life online. This is in response to growing concerns about the use and manipulation of children's images, including the increasing capabilities of AI technology.

Over the next few months, you will begin to notice a change in some of the photographs featured in our newsletters and website. Please be reassured that we will continue to celebrate all the wonderful experiences, achievements and special moments that take place in school. We're simply taking a slightly different approach to how we do this.

Going forward, you are more likely to see photographs that focus on:

- Children engaged in learning and activities
- Hands-on experiences and creative work
- Side-facing photographs, where appropriate
- Backs of heads and wider classroom scenes

Our aim is to continue sharing the learning, creativity and fun that make our school such a special place, while taking every possible step to protect our children's privacy and safety.

Class teachers may still share photographs of classes and individual children on their Class Dojo and Tapestry pages where appropriate. These pages are invite-only and accessible only to parents and carers of that specific class. Images shared in these private spaces will not be used on publicly accessible platforms.

We would also like to remind families that photographs shared through Class Dojo and Tapestry are intended for personal use only and should not be shared on social media or other public platforms. This helps us maintain a safe environment while continuing to celebrate our children's successes and special moments.

We will continue to allow parents to take photos of their own children at school events and performances but, as always, we will continue to ask that these are for personal use only and are not shared online.

You may spot our new banner advertising our Reception intake open mornings up on display in Larkfield. The photos on this and in our new prospectus have been cleverly edited by the company so that they are not the original images and therefore the children are not recognisable.

Thank you for your continued support and understanding as we make these small but important changes. Together, we can continue to celebrate everything that makes Lunsford such a wonderful school, while ensuring the highest standards of safeguarding for all our children.

As ever, if you require any support, guidance or further information, please do not hesitate to contact a member of DSL team: Mrs Lomax (Deputy Head); Mr Anscombe (Headteacher); Ms Beckett (SENCO); Amy Taylor (FLO)

All can be contacted via the school office

Our new Pupil Leadership Team

Congratulations to the following children who will be joining our Head Pupils Hollie M and Ethan C in our new Pupil Leadership Team:

House Captains:

Knole: Nellie E/ Bethany P
Penshurst: Imogen W/ Aaron M
Chartwell: Lily Da / Mathulika A
Hever: Ethan J/ Sophia M

Vice House Captains:

Knole: Olivia P/ Lia M
Penshurst: Zach B/ Daisy C
Chartwell: Faye L/ Archie H
Hever: Lily Do/ Henry C

Prefects:

Olly B / Kallan H/Charlie JL/ Alyssia W/ Leila P/ Sophie McK

Each child has been issued with the relevant badge which we are sure they are all now wearing with pride.

Well done on your appointments.

Allergy Awareness

We would like to remind parents about the importance of making sure that school is kept up to date with any allergies your child may have. As you may be aware, new statutory requirements around allergy safety have come into effect in England from September 2026, often referred to as Benedict's Law. These strengthen expectations around allergy awareness, staff training, policies and emergency arrangements in schools.

All staff have undertaken allergy awareness training last academic year to ensure that everyone remains up to date with the latest requirements. However, one of the most important parts of keeping children safe is making sure that we have accurate and up-to-date information about individual allergies. If your child has an allergy, it is therefore really important that you inform the school so that we can ensure the appropriate measures are in place and that staff have the information they need.

FOLS UPDATE

As the new school year settles in, we would like to say a massive THANK YOU to all our amazing volunteers, the school, pupils, parents and carers who have supported us over the last few years. ❤️

Whether you've helped at an event, donated, baked, volunteered your time or simply supported what we do — it really does mean so much to us. 😊

And with a new school year comes a few changes to the FoLS team! 🎉

On behalf of Becky Friend and everyone in FoLS, please join us in welcoming:

- 👏 Catherine Brown – our new Chair
- 👏 Lauren Burman – our new Secretary
- 👏 Jem Atkinson – our new Events Coordinator

We're also delighted that Amanda Luck will be continuing in her supporting role as Treasurer. 💰❤️

We know you will give Catherine, Lauren and Jem the same amazing support you always have! 🙌

FoLS is always looking for new volunteers, so if you'd like to get involved, meet new people and be part of a team helping to make Lunsford a great primary school, we'd love to hear from you! 🏡✨

Speak to your class rep or come and find one of the FoLS team if you'd like to find out more.

Every bit of help makes a difference — and we'd love to have you on Team FoLS! 💙

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. ❤️

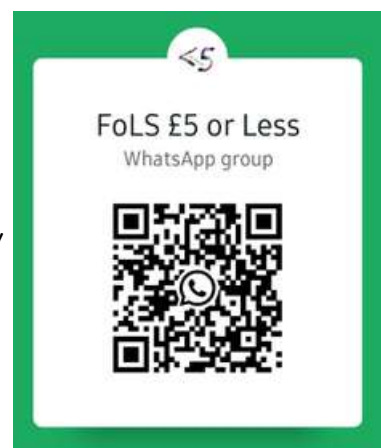
FoLS £5 or less

FoLS are very excited to announce their FoLS £5 or less scheme.

The scheme is for buying and selling clothing, toys and books within the Lunsford Parents/Carers Community. It will not sell school clothing - this is done through FoLS directly.

The scheme will be managed by Jem Atkinson (Lion Class FoLS member).

Scan the QR code to join the scheme.



Harvest Festival 2026



Harvest Festival is a time for us to pause and say a giant 'thank you' and be thankful for the food we have on our plates, and to remember the hard work of the farmers and growers who produce it.

Harvest reminds us to treat everyone in our community with care. Also, Harvest helps teach us to look around our local area and ask: how can we help our neighbours?

Here at Lunsford Primary School we are actively demonstrating our school values of kindness and respect. I am incredibly proud by the fantastic amount of donations – thank you so much. Your kindness and generosity has been amazing.

Every single item donated will go to the Medway Foodbank. As many of you know, the team at Medway Foodbank works tirelessly across the local area to provide emergency food parcels and practical support to local families going through tough times.

Your generosity means that real families living close by – our neighbours - will receive a helping hand this autumn. You are showing our children what it truly means to be a caring and supportive community.

So, a massive, heartfelt thank you to all of our families for your donations.

The children were amazing and we have had such positive and kind feedback regarding their class songs and performances.

South East Water - Water Sustainability Assembly

On 23rd September we were lucky to have South East Water visit us to talk to the children about Water Sustainability. The children got to learn about

- Where water comes from and why it is important.
- The water cycle, explained in an age-appropriate way.
- Discover how water is treated and made potable.
- Virtual water use and how everyday choices affect water demand.
- Simple, practical actions pupils can take at home and in school to save water.

We are sure you agree that after the summer we have just had we all need to be aware of our water usage.

Open Days at Lunsford Primary School

You may have seen on your journey home today, we have taken delivery of our Open Day tours banner. If you have a child or know someone who has a child due to start school in September 2027, we would love to see you all at our open mornings. Places are filling up fast, so don't miss out book your tour (scan the QR code below). New for 2026 - we are also hold an evening session on Wednesday 25th November (6.30pm - 7.30pm), where Mr Anscombe will be hold a talk, and you will have the opportunity to tour the school. Look forward to seeing you there.



Lunsford Primary School



Pupils feel safe,
happy and proud of
their school - Ofsted

Open Days

For children starting in school in Sept 2027
10th, 17th, 18th & 25th November 2026



Parents and carers are warmly invited to our open days to find out more about our welcoming, supportive and caring school.

To book a place please scan the QR code

Or call the School Office on 01732 843352



Admission to

Secondary school in Kent 2027

KCC residents apply online at
kent.gov.uk/secondaryadmissions
Opened Tuesday

For children born between
1 September 2015
and 31 August 2016,
Transferring to Secondary
school in September 2027

Opens Tuesday 1 September 2026 and closes
at midnight on Monday 2 November 2026

What to do

Choose a school

Apply for a school place

Receiving your offer

It's important to find out more about the schools you are interested in before you decide to name them on the application form.

Read the Guide to Secondary admissions at www.kent.gov.uk/secondaryadmissions.

You can name up to four Secondary schools, inside or outside of Kent, but you must name them all on the same application.

A simple, fast, convenient process which opens Tuesday 1 September 2026 and closes at midnight on Monday 2 November 2026. Other LA deadlines may differ.

If you already have an account set up from the Kent Test process, please use these login details. You will receive an email confirmation that your application has been submitted correctly and that the LA has received it.

You can log back in at any time to view the information submitted.

On offer day (**Monday 1 March 2027**) an email will be sent to you informing you of your offer. You must accept or decline the school place you have been offered by **Monday 15 March 2027**. A link to a guide with information you will need to provide the school with will be in your offer email.

If we have not offered your child a place in your preferred school, you have the right to appeal. You can also add their name to the school's waiting list if your child is eligible for admission.

Moving house during the application window will likely complicate your application and we therefore advise you to pay special attention to key dates in the admissions process. KCC has no discretionary authority to vary the process for parents who cannot complete address moves in time to make use of them for admissions purposes. If you are moving, please email the team on one of the email addresses below for advice.

Key dates

Tuesday 1st September 2026

Online application process opens. Go to www.kent.gov.uk/secondaryadmissions to register and apply

Monday 2nd November 2026

Online application process closes for the main round. Any amendments after this date must be emailed to kentonlineadmissions@kent.gov.uk
Offers of school places sent to parents via email after 4pm.

Monday 1st March 2027

Parents should contact the school to accept/refuse the place that has been offered and can use the link in the offer email to ask for their child to be added to the waiting list of eligible schools named on the original application.

Monday 15th March 2027

Tuesday 13th April 2027

Appeals need to be lodged by this date to be heard before September - appeals information can be found at www.kent.gov.uk/schoolappeals. You can only appeal for schools that were named on the application form.

Need help?

Email kent.admissions@kent.gov.uk

Full information booklet can also be viewed online at kent.gov.uk/secondaryadmissions

Only one application per pupil will be accepted. If you apply online, do not complete any other form of application. Keep your login details safe and use your registered email address for all communication with the team.

The confirmation email may go to your junk/spam folder of your email – please check here before contacting our team for confirmation.

Please note applications can only be made via Kent County Council (KCC) if the child resides at a KCC address. If your child does **not** reside at a KCC address, you must make an application via your Local Authority.



IMPACT!
wrap around care

OCTOBER HALF TERM HOLIDAY PROGRAMME

AT LUNS福德 PRIMARY SCHOOL

OPEN TO CHILDREN FROM
★ **YEAR R TO YEAR 6** ★

DATES:
26-30 OCTOBER

8:00am - 4:00pm **£35 per day**

★ OPEN TO THE PUBLIC & CHILDREN FROM OTHER SCHOOLS TOO!
⇒ Everyone is welcome to join the fun! ⇒

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PLAY
LEARN
MAKE FRIENDS
HAVE FUN!

SCAN TO BOOK NOW!

LARKFIELD FC

WILDCATS RESTARTING!

Play Football

WILDCATS
GIRLS' FOOTBALL

**FOR GIRLS
5-11
YEARS OLD**

#LET GIRLS PLAY

MAKE FRIENDS
HAVE FUN
BUILD CONFIDENCE
BE PART OF A TEAM

**TRAINING
WEDNESDAYS**

**TIME
5-6PM**

**WHERE
LARKFIELD REC**

FOR MORE INFO

**CONTACT COLIN ON
07761 341722**

LARKFIELD FC

@LARKFIELD_FC

WWW.LARKFIELD-FC.CO.UK