Message from Miss Gibbs

As we come to the end of another busy and exciting half term, we'd like to say a huge thank you to our wonderful PTA for organising such a fantastic Halloween Disco — the children had a brilliant time!

We hope all our pupils, parents and staff enjoy a well-deserved and relaxing half term break.

Just a reminder that Monday 3rd November is an INSET day, so school will be closed to pupils. We look forward to welcoming the children back on Tuesday 4th November.

Have a spooktacular and restful week off!

Vocab Homework Question:

Question: What makes a good peacekeeper?

Year 1 Trip - Mountfitchet Castle

Year 1 had an amazing day exploring Stansted Mountfitchet Castle as part of their topic on 1066. The children stepped back in time to experience life in a real Norman village, surrounded by the sights, smells, and sounds of the past. They were thrilled to see animals wandering freely, discover real cooking ingredients in the medieval kitchen, and imagine the smells and atmosphere of long ago.

There were plenty of giggles as some brave volunteers tried out the stocks, and wide eyes during visits to the dungeon, jail, and even the privy! Everyone learned so much about how people lived nearly a thousand years ago and had a wonderful time exploring history brought vividly to life.

A huge thank you to our fantastic parent helpers for their support on the day — and well done to all the children for their wonderful behaviour and enthusiasm throughout the trip!

New Lunch Menus

We are changing to our winter menus after the Half Term, Please see page 6

As Halloween and Bonfire Night approach, many of our children are excited about dressing up, trick-or-treating, and watching fireworks. These are wonderful opportunities for family fun, but they also come with important safety reminders.

At school, we will be talking to the children about how to enjoy these celebrations safely, and we'd appreciate your support in reinforcing these messages at home.

Halloween Safety Tips:

- Always accompany young children if they are trick-or-treating.
- Use torches or glow sticks, and choose bright or reflective costumes so your child is visible in the dark.



- Avoid candles in pumpkins battery-operated tea lights are a safer choice.
- Respect neighbours only visit homes with lights on, and don't knock too late in the evening.

Firework & Bonfire Night Safety Tips:

- Attend organised firework displays whenever possible they are much safer.
- If using fireworks at home:



- Fireworks should only be handled by responsible adults.
- Keep a bucket of water nearby for sparklers and emergencies.
- Never give sparklers to very young children, and ensure older children wear gloves and are supervised.
- Stand well back and follow the Firework Code

Let's work together to ensure all our children have a safe and enjoyable time during this festive season. Thank you for your continued support.

Year 5/6 Football Team Match

Last Friday the Boys Football Team played their first match of the season at home against Holy Cross. They played a great game but unfortunately we lost 6-2. Our next fixture will be away to Buckhurst Hill on 7th November.

Year 4 - History of the Page Workshop

Year 4 had an exciting and immersive day taking part in the 'History Off the Page' Viking experience!

In the morning, the children stepped back in time and became Vikings for the day, taking part in a range of hands-on activities. They tried their skills at metal casting, making bracelets, crafting Viking pottery, dipping candles, creating ink and jewellery, mixing traditional medicines, and even practising rune writing. Each activity helped them understand more about what life was like during the Viking era.

In the afternoon, our young historians became archaeologists! They carefully examined a variety of Viking artefacts, exploring where these objects might have been found, who used them, and what they could tell us about Viking life.

It was a fantastic day full of learning, creativity, and curiosity. The children represented our school beautifully — they were engaged, enthusiastic, and wonderfully well-behaved throughout.

Year 6 to 7 secondary admission round for

September 2026

The new secondary school admission round opened on Friday, 12 September 2025, for parents of current Year 6 children to apply for a secondary school (Year 7) place for September 2026. The statutory national closing date for applications is 31 October 2025.

Applications can be made online via www.essex.gov.uk/admissions. 99% of parents in Essex applied online last year.

All of the application information is available on the website above.





Reminders about the start of the school day

- Registration starts at 8.45am.
- The school gates will close at **8.55am**. Children arriving after **8.55am** are required to come into school via the school office. If accompanied by a parent/carer they must sign them into our electronic system 'Late Book' and provide a reason for their lateness. Children arriving after 8.55am but before the registers close at **9.15am** will receive a late mark 'L'.
- At **9.15am** the registers will be closed. In accordance with the Regulations, if your child arrives after that time, they will receive a mark that shows them to be on site 'U', but this will **not** count as a present mark and it will mean that they have an unauthorised absence.



Dates For Your Diary

Mon 3 November 25 Inset Day

Tues 4 November 25 Children Return

Fri 19 December 25 Break up for Christmas

Mon 05 January 26 Children Return

Fri 13 February 26 Break up for Half Term

Mon 23 February 26 Children Return

Fri 27 March 26 Break up for Easter

Mon 13 April 26 Children Return

Mon 04 May 26 Bank Holiday

Thurs 21 May 26 Break up for Half Term

Fri 22 May 26 Inset day

Mon 01 Jun 26 Children Return

Fri 17 July 26 Break up for Summer

Mon 20 July 26 Inset Day

Best Attendance

This week's best attendance was Kingfisher Class

With 98.9%

Well done!



Team Points
Red - 155

Green - 116

Blue - 131

The following children are celebrating birthdays this week



Luca 11, Jaiden 6, Aren 10, Annabelle 7,

BREAKFAST CLUB





It's been lovely to see so many children enjoying our Breakfast Club recently! We're delighted that it continues to be a popular and positive start to the school day. Thank you for your continued support — we love starting the mornings with such happy faces!

Leverton Primary School offer a free Breakfast Club from 8.15am till 8.45am, although food service ends at 8.35am in order for children and staff to tidy up and get the children ready for going to class. This offering is available to children in Reception through to year 6. We will require you to book via a Google Form (QR code below) to ensure we have the correct food options available and staffing ratios.

We understand that parents may require longer than the free 30-minute sessions and we have extended our opening hours to accommodate those parents who need to get to work early. Therefore, Breakfast Club will be open from 7.30am till 8.15am at a chargeable fee of £3 per session (as above, from 8.15am - 8.45am will be free).

The chargeable session will need to be booked directly with Mrs Pentelow. This can be done via message to 07761 729756 or email extendedschools@leverton.essex.sch.uk

Please Scan the QR code/s below to book your free place, please note they are bookable monthly

November QR Code



Afterschool Club Activities w/c 04 November 2025

Construction Week

Firework Art

When collecting please call the Afterschool Club phone on arrival - 07761 729756

Afterschool Club is available every day from 3.15 - 6.00.

Costs - up to 4.45pm £6.00 per session if they are collected after this time it will be £11.00 per session.

All sessions must be booked in advance, contact Mrs Pentelow on 07761 729756 or email extendedschools@leverton.essex.sch.uk. Once your space is confirmed, payments must be made before your child attends their session. Payment is via the

Payments to be made in advance please.

school gateway app please.





Attendance

Attendance Information Update:

The expectation for school attendance for pupils is 95% or above. Please refer to the school's Attendance Policy, available on the school's website.

The DfE guide for parents about working together can be found on the government website:

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/working-together-to-improve-school-attendance

As a school, we are striving to vastly improve our attendance and we want to work together with you to ensure that all our children are in school every day to access education, which they are entitled too.

You can monitor your own child's attendance on the school App to see how absences impact your child's attendance.

It is important that you contact the school office or send an app message on the 1st day of absence, failure to do so could lead to a welfare visit the following day if we have not heard from you. We also request that you provide symptoms/ reasons for the absence. Just putting <u>unwell</u> cannot be accepted and if you do not provide sufficient reason, then the absence will be unauthorised.

We know that there are many reasons why a child's attendance may drop and we want to do all we can to support you as it is different for every child and family.

We understand that some families can become upset by receiving an attendance letter. These letters are not sent to upset you, but to inform you of your child's current attendance percentage and to engage in communication between you and the school to offer ways to improve your child's attendance through support, if needed.

Attendance reviews are carried out regularly to monitor levels of attendance and improvements. The Department for Education and Local Authority monitor our school attendance.

If your child has had an absence and their attendance falls below 95% this may trigger a letter to see how, as a school, we can support you. The letter formats are provided by Essex.

If a child's attendance falls below 90%, they then come under the category of persistently absent (PA) and below 50% severely absent (SA). If this happens, you maybe invited for a meeting with Miss Beggs (Deputy Head) and Mrs Johnson (Attendance Officer). This meeting will give you an opportunity to update the school on any health concerns that we need to be aware of and discuss any support that the school can put in place to help, if needed.

As a school we meet termly with our Attendance Specialist from Essex to discuss what we are doing to support children and families that fall into the PA and SA categories.

Missing a few days of school here and there may not seem a big deal, but research shows that it can have a significant impact on children's learning and stop them from reaching their true academic potential. Children who miss a substantial amount of school can fall behind their peers, struggle to catch up and it can lead to big gaps in their learning and it can affect their social skills and friendships.

We understand that children can become ill. If your child is ill, read the <u>NHS advice</u> to help you decide whether they can go to school. The link can be found in the school attendance policy on the school website.

Miss Beggs is Running the **London Marathon 2026!**

Miss Beggs is taking on the London Marathon 2026 in support of **3Food4U**, a fantastic

local charity.



To help reach the £2,500 fundraising target, Leverton is hosting a Quiz Night — come along, enjoy a fun evening, and support a great cause!

All proceeds will go towards fundraising for 360040.org



When: 14th November 2025

Where: Leverton Primary School

Time: Doors open from 6.30pm

Time: Quiz starts at 7pm

Cost: £5 per person payable via the school gateway app or cash in a sealed envelope with a name and how many places are required

Maximium of 8 people per table / Adults only Raffle tickets will be on sale at an additional cost on the night Please bring along your own drinks and snacks.

WEEK 1

Monday W/C 03/11, 24/11,15/12,5/1,26/1,16/2

Pork Sausages Vegetarian Sausage (V) Served with Mashed Potato, Garden Peas, Carrots Lemon Sponge served & Custard

Tuesday

Homemade Beef Lasagne
Vegetarian Lasagne (V)
Served with Sweetcorn,
Mixed Garden Salad,
Diced Herby Potatoes
Shortbread Finger with Fruit Wedges

Wednesday

Roast Chicken with Gravy Vegetarian Mince & Onion Pie (V) Served with Roast Potatoes, Green Beans, Carrots Iced Chocolate Sponge

Thursday

Mild Beef Chilli Con Carne Vegetable Enchilada (V) Served with Fluffy Rice, Sweetcorn, Broccoli Apple Crumble & Custard

Friday

Fish Fingers & Tomato Ketchup Cheese & Tomato Pizza (V) Served with Oven Chips, Garden Peas, Baked Beans Famous Fruity Friday

-WEEK 2-

Monday W/C 10/11, 1/12,22/12,12/1,2/2,23/2

Beef Burger in a Bun Cheese & Tomato Pinwheel (V) Served with Roasted Potato Wedges, Mixed Garden Salad, Jam Sponge

Tuesday

BBQ Chicken
Chickpea & Vegetable Biryani (V)
Served with Fluffy Rice,
Garden Peas, Broccoli
Mini Sultana Oat Cookie with Fruit
Slices

Wednesday

Roast Turkey with Gravy
Vegan Quorn Sausage (V)
Served with Roast Potatoes,
Green Beans, Carrots
Pineapple Upside Down Cake
with Custard

Thursday

Chicken Wrap
Cheese & Tomato Pizza (V)
Served with Roasted Potato Wedges,
Sweetcorn, Mixed Garden Salad
Chocolate Brownie

Friday

Fish Fingers & Tomato Ketchup BBQ Vegetable & Bean Wrap (V) Served with Oven Chips, Garden Peas, Baked Beans Famous Fruity Friday

-WEEK 3

Monday W/C

17/11,8/12,29/12,19/1,9/2 Cheese, Tomato & Ham Pizza

Mixed Bean Fajita (V)
Served with Roasted Potato
Wedges, Mixed Garden Salad,
Shortbread

Tuesday

Mexican Chicken & Rice Macaroni Cheese (V) Served with Warm Baguette, Garden Peas, Broccoli Chocolate Sponge with Custard

Wednesday

Roast Gammon with Gravy Roast Quorn Fillet with Gravy (V) Served with Mashed Potato, Carrots, Green Beans Banana Tray Bake

Thursday

Pasta Bolognaise Vegetarian Chilli & Rice (V) Served with Bread, Sweetcorn, Broccoli Chocolate Cookie

Friday

Fish Fingers & Tomato Ketchup Vegetable Fingers (V) Served with Oven Chips, Garden Peas, Baked Beans Famous Fruity Friday



AVAILABLE DAILY:
Jacket Potato topped with either Baked Beans, or Cheese
Choice of Sandwiches
Cheese or Harn.



Mental Health Support Teams in Schools



Are you looking for effective ways to help you, help your young person, navigate anxiety and help them manage their worries?

The Mental Health Support Team is running 2 online parent groups in NOVEMBER

When?

Tuesday 4th 11th 18th 25th November 1-2pm

When?

Thursday 6th 13th 20th 27th November 9.30-10.30am

Where?

zoom link will be sent to you via email for each session

Choose sessions on Tuesday <u>OR</u> Thursday

Attendance at all four sessions is expected Notes for each session are emailed for you to try out the ideas each week

Next steps:

- · scan QR code
- complete form
- practitioner will telephone to confirm details



For any questions email: mhstadmin@mindinwestessex.org.uk Information for parent/carers



