

Leverton News - Summer Term

Friday 17th
July 2026



Issue No.37

Message from Miss Gibbs

As we come to the end of another incredible school year, I find myself reflecting on just how much we have achieved together as a school community. It has certainly been another busy year, full of learning, laughter, memorable experiences and many proud moments. None of this would be possible without the dedication of our wonderful staff, the support of our fantastic families and, of course, our amazing children, who continue to make me proud every single day.

I would like to say a heartfelt thank you to all of our parents and carers. It has been a pleasure working alongside you this year. Building strong relationships between home and school is so important. It isn't always easy, but with open communication, mutual respect and understanding, we can overcome challenges together. Our shared goal is, and always will be, to ensure every child is happy, supported and successful.

I would also like to thank everyone who has supported our PTA throughout the year. Your generosity, enthusiasm and willingness to get involved make such a difference to our school community. Our recent Stay and Play event was a wonderful success, and it was lovely to see so many of you enjoying the afternoon with your children. Thank you to everyone who attended, donated, volunteered and, of course, to those of you who paid to see me get completely soaked! I was more than happy to take one for the team if it helped raise money for our children!

Every event attended, every raffle ticket purchased and every donation helps provide opportunities and resources that directly benefit our pupils. Thanks to the incredible fundraising efforts of our PTA, they have funded our school library bus, the KS2 outdoor classroom, the school gym, the KS1 adventure trail, the climbing wall and our zip wire. Their next exciting project is to raise funds for a brand-new outdoor climbing frame for our Nursery children.

Our PTA members work tirelessly behind the scenes, giving up countless hours of their own time to organise events and support our school. We are incredibly grateful for everything they do. If you enjoy organising events, would like to meet other parents or would simply like to become more involved in school life, please consider joining our PTA. Please speak to the school office or one of our PTA members if you would like to find out more. It is a wonderful way to support the school, and children love seeing their parents involved. As a thank you, PTA members are invited to enjoy Christmas dinner with their child each year and are able to hire the school hall free of charge once a year.

This time of year is always one of mixed emotions as we say goodbye to some very special members of our Leverton family.

Firstly, we wish Miss Smith every success as she embarks on an exciting new adventure teaching in Dubai. Miss Smith's connection with Leverton is a particularly special one. She first came to Leverton as a pupil before returning years later as one of our teachers. Throughout her time here, she has been an exceptional teacher whose kindness, dedication and commitment to every child have made a lasting difference. Whilst we are incredibly sad to see her leave, we are immensely proud of her and know she will be a fantastic ambassador for Leverton wherever she goes. We wish her every happiness and success in this exciting new chapter.

We also say goodbye to our wonderful Year 6 children as they prepare for secondary school. It has been a privilege to watch them grow into confident, kind, caring and resilient young people. They have led our school with pride, embraced every opportunity and created memories that will stay with them for years to come. To our Year 6 children and your families, thank you for allowing us to be part of your journey. Although you may be leaving Leverton, you will always be part of the Leverton family. We are incredibly proud of each and every one of you and wish you every success and happiness in the future.

Whilst we say goodbye, we are also excited to welcome new members to our school community. A very warm welcome to all of our new Nursery and Reception children and their families who will be joining us in September. We cannot wait to meet you all and begin your journey together as part of the Leverton family.

We are also delighted to welcome Mrs Hounslow, who will be joining our teaching team in September. She is excited to become part of the Leverton family, and I know our children, families and staff will make her feel incredibly welcome.

Finally, I would like to thank every member of staff for their dedication, professionalism and care throughout another busy year. They go above and beyond every day to provide the very best opportunities for our children, and I am incredibly proud to lead such a committed and hardworking team.

I wish you all a wonderful, restful and well-deserved summer break. To those families returning in September, we look forward to welcoming you back. To those moving on, thank you for allowing us to be part of your children's lives. Please do stop and say hello if you see me around the village or out and about. I always love hearing how our former pupils are getting on, and you and your children will be greatly missed.

Thank you for another fantastic year of learning, friendship and partnership. Have a wonderful summer, make lots of happy memories, stay safe and enjoy every moment.

See you in September!

Mrs Lisa Gibbs

Learning and achieving; today, tomorrow, for life!

Message from our Chair of Governors

The governors want to thank the children, parents, carers, staff, PTA, and everyone who supports the school, for another great year.

We wish our Year 6 leavers all the best as they transition to their new schools - we hope you will look back fondly at your time at Leverton.

We look forward to welcoming our new parents and carers in September to the Leverton family. And we wish all children a great year as they settle into their new classes in September.

We want to say a special thank you to the PTA for their support this year in putting on some fantastic events and helping the school to raise vital funds. We are so lucky to have the space that allows us to hold these events. If anyone would be interested in supporting next year, or has ideas for other events, please let the school know.

As governors, we visit the school throughout the year and help at events. It is lovely to see the children engaged and enjoying their learning and the community feeling within the school. This year was no exception with visitors regularly commenting how good the children are - we are incredibly proud of all of them.

We hope everyone enjoys the summer break and we look forward to seeing everyone in the new school year.

Many thanks again for your support.

Puddle Magazine May Issue for Early Years and Primary Schools

The summer holiday issue of [Puddle Magazine](#) is now available, packed with free days out, local events, crafts, inspiration and family-friendly ideas for the weeks ahead, including special features from Essex Wildlife Trust and SNAP Charity. Please share this with parents and carers. The team at Puddle Magazine would like to wish your staff, pupils and families a wonderful summer break!

ACL Essex for all Schools

As funding is ending soon, [ACL Essex](#) is making a final call for prospective childminders to learn more about its offer and gain the skills to run a safe, successful home-based childcare setting. Training is fully funded, and eligible low-income families are also able to access a grant of up to £1,000 through the Poppins Bursary to help start their business.

Healthy Start Scheme for all Schools

NHS Healthy Start is here to help Essex families buy healthy food. Healthy Start can help if you're 10-weeks pregnant or more, or have a child under four and receive certain benefits. Eligible residents will get a prepaid card to help pay for fruit, vegetables, milk and infant formula, plus access to free vitamins. To check if you qualify and/or to apply, visit the [NHS Healthy Start](#) website. It's a simple way to get extra support and give your child the healthy start in life they deserve.

Dates For Your Diary

Fri 17 July 26	Break up for Summer
Mon 20 July 26	Inset Day

Best Attendance

This week's best attendance was

Chestnut Class

with 98.7%



The following children are celebrating birthdays this week and over the Summer Holidays



Wilbie 6, Zuri 5, Asel 7, Troy 7, Ayuli 5, Mithansh 8, Leo 8, Lana 7, Stella-Rose 5, Evie 9, Oggy 6, Kenzi 6, Emilio 6, Teddy 7, Kuzey 11, Chester 8, Reiash 9, Elliot 9, Enzo 6, Maya 8, leo 11, Grace 9, Joey 8, Gracie-Rose 11, Sienna 8, Tilly 10, Jessica 5, Arjin 9, Drayce 11, Lorraine 10, Aya-Gul 5, Eden 8, Alara 11, Ryan 11, Macie 9, Alex 11, Sophie 7, Max 10, Scarlett 10, Fatima 10, Romeo 7, Arla 8, Sienna 9, Oliwia 7, Ella 9, Braxton 8, Leo 9, Isabella 7, Roan 11, Dylan 5, Noah 8, Harry 6, Beren 6, Arya 7, Skylah 9, Andreas 6, Ella Naz 5, Arya 6

Agreed dates for 2026/ 2027 Academic Year

Tues 01 September 26	Inset Day
Weds 02 September 26	Inset Day
Thurs 03 September 26	First Day of Autumn Term
Fri 23 October 26	Break up for Half Term
Mon 2 November 26	Inset Day
Tues 3 November 26	Children Return
Fri 18 December 26	Break up for Christmas
Mon 04 January 27	Children Return
Fri 12 February 27	Break up for Half Term
Mon 22 February 27	Inset Day
Tues 23 February 27	Children Return
Thurs 25 March 27	Break up for Easter
Mon 12 April 27	Children Return
Mon 03 May 27	Bank Holiday
Thurs 27 May 27	Break up for Half Term
Fri 28 May 27	Inset day
Mon 07 Jun 27	Children Return
Weds 21 July 27	Break up for Summer

BREAKFAST CLUB



Breakfast Club: The free breakfast club runs from 8.15am until 8.45am, although food service ends at 8.35am as does the last admission, in order for the children and staff to tidy up and get the children ready for going into class. From 8.35am children will need to wait with their parent in the usual way until the classrooms doors are opened at 8.45am. Please remember to book in with the QR code if you would like your child to attend the free breakfast club.

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 Breakfast Club. 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

September 26



● WEEK 1: 13 Apr, 5 May, 1 Jun, 22 Jun, 13 Jul, 1 Sep, 21 Sep, 12 Oct ● WEEK 2: 20 Apr, 11 May, 8 Jun, 29 Jun, 20 Jul, 7 Sep, 28 Sep, 19 Oct ● WEEK 3: 27 Apr, 18 May, 15 Jun, 6 Jul, 14 Sep, 5 Oct

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
MAIN MEAL 1	Pork Sausages & Gravy	Beef Lasagne	Roast Chicken with Stuffing & Gravy	Quorn Burger (v)	Fish Fillet Fingers
MAIN MEAL 2	Lentil Bolognese Pasta Shells (Ve)	Plant-Based Grill (Ve)	Cheese & Tomato Puff Pastry Tart (v)	Butternut & Chickpea Biryani (Ve) (New)	Margherita Pizza (v)
SIDE DISH	Mashed Potatoes	Herby Garlic Bread or Potato Wedges	Roast Potatoes or Wholemeal Pasta	Potato Wedges or Herby Garlic Bread	Chips or Tricolour Pasta
PASTA	Cheesy Pasta (v)	Pesto Pasta (v)	Herby Tomato Pasta with Cheese (v)	Cheesy Pasta (v)	Pesto Pasta (v)
JACKET POTATOVARIOUS	Grated Cheese (v), Baked Beans (Ve), Beans & Cheese (v), Tuna Mayo	Grated Cheese (v), Baked Beans (Ve), Beans & Cheese (v), Tuna Mayo	Grated Cheese (v), Baked Beans (Ve), Beans & Cheese (v), Tuna Mayo	Grated Cheese (v), Baked Beans (Ve), Beans & Cheese (v)	Grated Cheese (v), Baked Beans (Ve), Beans & Cheese (v), Tuna Mayo
COLD OPTION FIXED	Tuna Mayo Baguette	Chicken Mayo Baguette	Ham Baguette	Egg Mayo Baguette (v)	Cheese Baguette (v)
DESSERT	Peach & Apple Crumble & Ice Cream (v)	Fresh Fruit Wedges (Ve)	Fresh Fruit Jelly (Ve)	Raspberry & Lemon Square (v) (New)	Marble Cookie (v)

MAIN MEAL 1	Chicken Curry	Plant-Based Meatballs with Tomato Sauce (Ve)	Roast Beef with Yorkshire Pudding & Gravy	Chicken Pie & Gravy	Battered Fish
MAIN MEAL 2	Plant-Based Sausages & Gravy (Ve)	Mac 'n' Cheese (v)	Quorn Fillet with Stuffing & Gravy (Ve)	Mild Bean Chilli (Ve)	Margherita Pizza (v)
SIDE DISH	Brown & White Rice or Potato Wedges	Pasta or Herby Garlic Bread	Roast Potatoes or Wholemeal Pasta	New Potatoes or Brown & White Rice	Chips or Tricolour Pasta
PASTA	Cheesy Pasta (v)	Pesto Pasta (v)	Herby Tomato Pasta with Cheese (v)	Cheesy Pasta (v)	Pesto Pasta (v)
JACKET POTATO VARIOUS	Grated Cheese (v), Baked Beans (Ve), Beans & Cheese (v), Tuna Mayo	Grated Cheese (v), Baked Beans (Ve), Beans & Cheese (v)	Grated Cheese (v), Baked Beans (Ve), Beans & Cheese (v), Tuna Mayo	Grated Cheese (v), Baked Beans (Ve), Beans & Cheese (v), Tuna Mayo	Grated Cheese (v), Baked Beans (Ve), Beans & Cheese (v), Tuna Mayo
COLD OPTION FIXED	Cheese Baguette (v)	Egg Mayo Baguette (v)	Chicken Mayo Baguette	Ham Baguette	Salmon Mayo Baguette
DESSERT	Apple Tart & Ice Cream (v)	Fresh Fruit Wedges (Ve)	Fresh Fruit Jelly (Ve)	Strawberry Mousse (v)	Chocolate Muffin (v)

MAIN MEAL 1	Pulled Paprika Chicken Flatbread (New)	Beef Burger	Roast Chicken with Stuffing & Gravy	Quorn Hotdog (v)	Fish Fillet Fingers
MAIN MEAL 2	Breaded Bean & Vegetable Grill (Ve)	BBQ Bean Loaded Hash Browns (Ve)	Roasted Summer Veg Quiche (v)	Cauliflower Cheese Pasta Bake (v) (New)	Margherita Pizza (v)
SIDE DISH	Brown & White Rice or Pasta	Potato Wedges	Roast Potatoes or Wholemeal Pasta	New Potatoes	Potato Wedges or Tricolour Pasta
PASTA	Cheesy Pasta (v)	Pesto Pasta (v)	Cheesy Pasta (v)	Herby Tomato Pasta with Cheese (v)	Pesto Pasta (v)
JACKET POTATO VARIOUS	Grated Cheese (v), Baked Beans (Ve), Beans & Cheese (v), Tuna Mayo, Salmon Mayo	Grated Cheese (v), Baked Beans (Ve), Beans & Cheese (v), Tuna Mayo	Grated Cheese (v), Baked Beans (Ve), Beans & Cheese (v), Tuna Mayo	Grated Cheese (v), Baked Beans (Ve), Beans & Cheese (v)	Grated Cheese (v), Baked Beans (Ve), Beans & Cheese (v), Tuna Mayo
COLD OPTION FIXED	Tuna Mayo Baguette	Chicken Mayo Baguette	Ham Baguette	Egg Mayo Baguette (v)	Cheese Baguette (v)
DESSERT	Pancake with Blueberries (v)	Ice Cream with Chocolate Cookie Crumb (v)	Fresh Fruit Jelly (Ve)	Fresh Fruit Wedges (Ve)	Orange Shortbread (Ve)

Vegetables and a variety of salads are served daily. V = Vegetarian Ve = Vegan.

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Essex County Council
Libraries



READ to the BEAT



Turn up the volume on reading this summer!

We invite children throughout Essex to discover the joy of reading through Read to the Beat! — the music-themed Summer Reading Challenge 2026. Read six books to receive a certificate and medal!

**Saturday 18 July to
Saturday 5 September 2026**

Find out more about how to take part in this free activity:

libraries.essex.gov.uk/news/summer-reading-challenge





West Essex SEN Fun Day Picnic

Epping Forest District Council

29th July 11-3pm

**Bring a Picnic.
Fruit Bags and
Water
available**

**Yoga
session**



**Special
Guests
'SPACE'**



11-3pm



Activities for 0-25 yr olds

Arts & Crafts, Hook the Duck, Sensory tents, 0-5 year Ball pond, Techno room, and much much more.

11-3pm



Sport Activities for 0-25 yr olds

Out door Table Tennis, Field Tennis, Gentle Cone work, Space hoppers, 0-5 physical area and more.

11pm-3pm



Sing & Sign with Jessie Cat

Singing and sign fun with Rebecca and Jess the Cat.

11-3pm



Lets talk Rubbish info board

Board showing the effects of litter on our environment. Can you guess how long something breaks down in the environment.

1pm-3pm



Fire Engine & Fire Safety Talk (dependant on being called out)

Come along and meet the local firemen. Sit in the fire Engine and have a go at using the Hose. Then enjoy the fantastic safety talk.

11-3pm



Non-contact Boxing

Come and have some physical fun through non-contact boxing.

11-3pm



DJ interactive work shop

Take part in an interactive DJ workshop and learn more about sounds, beats and basic DJ skills! Plus, design a DJ logo and create your very own DJ name.

11-3pm



Story Time with Essex Library

Come and enjoy listening to a story in our story corner with Ruth from Essex Libraries.

11-3pm

Ice-cream van token zone

Our local ice-cream van will be joining us. Each child/young person attending will receive one free ice-cream.

11-3pm



Essex Child & Family Wellbeing Services

Talk to our team regarding various questions you may have, our Health Visitor, School Nurse, Family Wellbeing Nurse, Speech & language, Nutrition team and Healthy family support practitioners.

**EFDC
Short breaks
Talk Listen Cuddle
Hammerart
Active Essex
ACL
Essex Youth
Services**

**Face
painting**

**Hazelwood Delivery Hub
Waltham Abbey
EN9 3EL**

Commisioned by
NHS
Essex County Council



Picture News For Parents



July 2026

Hello!

It's Katie from Picture News here. If you're reading this newsletter, your child's school uses our weekly news resources, so I thought it'd be helpful to fill you in on everything Picture News schools have been up to this term! Let's get started...



News Recap

"Special" What can football teach us about the world?

June 2026



To celebrate the biggest-ever World Cup in the US, Mexico and Canada, this resource explored what football teaches us about other people and places in the world. Children discussed why countries want to host the tournament, and what football shows us about cultures, teamwork, respect and diversity.

Is technology changing childhood?

15th June 2026



With the launch of Toy Story 5, this pack focused on the film's plot about the impact of technology on childhood. Children reflected on how toys and children's pastimes have changed, and the importance of imagination, creativity, and spending time together whilst using screens responsibly.

How much should the weather influence our decisions?

29th June 2026



This resource looked at the El Niño climate pattern, and how it affects weather all over the world. Prompted by news of El Niño returning, children learned how meteorologists track weather, and considered how we can thoughtfully prepare for different types of weather.

What makes something popular?

6th July 2026



News of the viral dumpling squishies and discussions around their suitability and popularity with children was this resource's focus. This inspired conversations about how we can ensure the squishies are safe to play with and how toys can become a trend.

Join in weekly news conversations



Remember Picture News schools receive a weekly Take Home resource, which is great for parents and carers to get involved in news discussions too!

It's an opportunity to extend news learning at home, and get the whole family involved in talking about what's happening in the news.



Social media ban: Advice for parents



This term has seen news of the social media ban for under-16s. Picture News schools covered this topic back in February, when conversations in UK Parliament emerged following Australia's social media ban for under-16s.

Now the ban has been announced for the UK, lots of schools and parents have been in touch for ways to talk about this with children.

You know your children best and each child's experience of the online world is different. Some may be frustrated, others relieved. But you may find the blog linked below useful to guide some of your conversations around the social media ban for under-16s.

READ THE BLOG

P.S. For some thought-provoking stats on children's screen time, check out our recent Instagram post [here](#).



Big World Cup Primary Party!

Talk about an end of year party! This month, we welcomed children online for a special live assembly inspired by the World Cup! Ahead of the final, we celebrated the excitement of the tournament whilst reflecting on the highs and lows of the school year.



The children shared some incredibly insightful thoughts as we discussed what football can teach us about teamwork, resilience, pride, disappointment and belonging.

Has the World Cup been topic of conversation in your family?

CATCH UP ON YOUTUBE

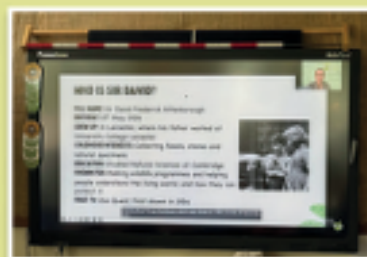


Sir David Attenborough's 100th Birthday - Live Celebration!

It was the 100th birthday of national treasure, Sir David Attenborough, this term! And what better way to celebrate than with our biggest-ever online birthday party, which saw over 7,000 schools join!

With special guest naturalist and explorer, Steve Backshall – you may recognise him from CBBC's *Deadly 60* – we looked back at Sir David's life, his legacy, and the importance of protecting the natural world.

Steve told us about his adventures and what Sir David means to him.



How did your child's school celebrate Sir David's birthday?



Bye for now!

That's all from me for now – the summer break is almost here! I hope you have a wonderful time together during the school holidays.

Another edition of Picture News for Parents will be published ahead of October half term, but in the meantime you can keep up with all-things Picture News on our socials (linked below).

And as always, any questions or feedback are welcome!

Speak soon,

Katie, Editor
katie.n@picture-news.co.uk

