

Leverton News - Spring Term

Friday 6th
February 2026



Issue No.19

Message from Miss Gibbs

We are fast approaching what will be a busy last week before the half term break, we have Parents' Evening on Tuesday and Thursday, PTA Valentine's Disco on Wednesday, an exciting Chinese New Year Lunch and non uniform day next Friday. I look forward to see many of you at on Parents' Evening.

Vocab Homework Question:

Story: Adults in the UK are talking about whether children under 16 should be allowed to use social media, as the government is considering new rules to help keep children safe online.

Question: Should children have social media?

Packed Lunches and Eating Arrangements

We understand that some parents and children have raised concerns about not being able to eat packed lunches outside. We'd like to explain the reasons behind this decision.

Our main priority is children's safety. While eating, children need to be closely supervised as there is a risk of choking. In addition, children may sometimes share food, even though they are not allowed to, which could lead to an allergic reaction. For us to respond quickly and appropriately if an incident occurs, children must be eating in an area where staff can clearly see and monitor them.

When children eat outside across different areas of the playground, it becomes impossible to supervise everyone effectively. We have also noticed that children are often not sitting down to eat, instead running around and returning to their food. This is not safe and is not good for their wellbeing.

For these reasons, packed lunches and school dinners are eaten in designated areas under supervision. The timing of when children are called for packed lunches or school dinners depends on the space available in the dinner hall.

Thank you for your understanding and support as we work to keep all children safe and well.

New Catering Company

We will be changing our catering company to Herts Catering after the Easter holidays. They will be here for Tuesday's parents evening with food samples for you all to try.

Indoor Athletics

Last week, we had 2 events for year 3/4 and 5/6 in sports hall athletics. Both events, were a huge success with both winning the competition with year 3/4 gaining 164 points and year 5/6 gaining 162 points. The year 5/6 have now qualified for the large school sports hall athletics in a few weeks, so good luck to them!

Special Lunch Menu

Next Thursday, 12th February, we will be having a special lunch menu to celebrate Chinese New Year. See menu on page 6

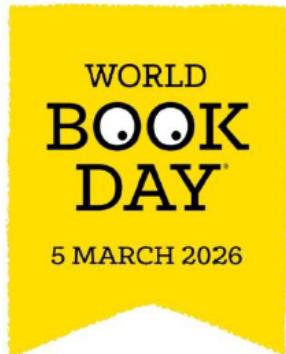
Children's Mental Health Week - Non Uniform Day

We will be celebrating Children's Mental Health Week (9-13 February) this year by delivering the next phase of Inner Wings confidence programme - Finding My Voice.

On Friday 13th February, we will be holding a non-uniform day, where the children can wear what makes them happy for a £1 donation to our school 'happiness fund'. The school councillors will speak to the pupils in their classes and choose how to spend this money, we will update you once we have decided.

We are sure the children will have an amazing week of fun activities, while learning about the importance of staying healthy mentally as well as physically.





Leverton's Sponsored Read Challenge!

To celebrate **World Book Day**, we welcome all children to take part in a World Book Day Challenge- a **sponsored read**!

When?

Friday 13th February to Monday 2nd March 2026

Prizes:

A child from **each year group** will win a prize for the most reading during the challenge period!

A **special prize** will also be given to the child who **raises the most funds**!

How?

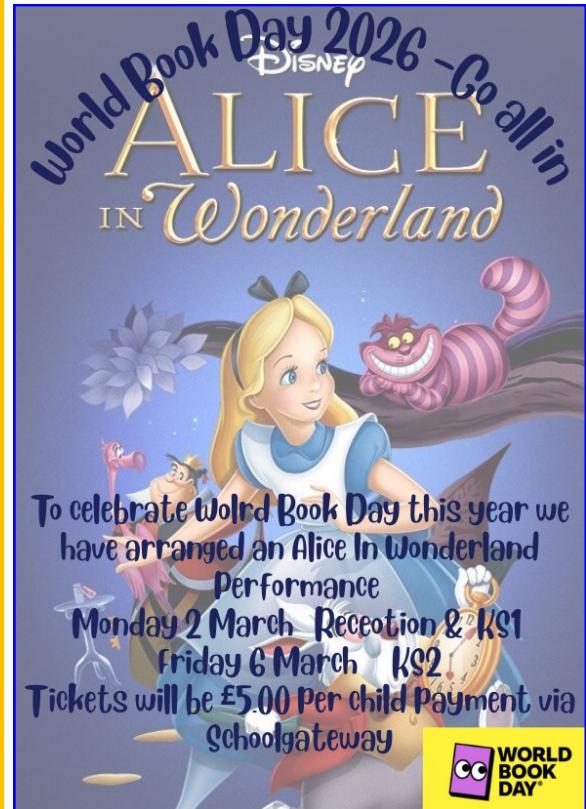
Feel free to print the sponsorship form yourself which has been sent via app message to you or please ask your class teacher for one. Make sure they are returned by Monday 2nd March 2026.

Why?

All money raised will go towards, much needed, new books for Leverton!

All winners will be announced on World Book Day, Thursday 5th March 2026.

Thank you for your continued support in helping us promote a love for reading and raise funds for fantastic new books, for our children to enjoy!



Epping Food Bank will be providing food Parcels over the Easter Break. While they will still be providing food support, the programme will now focus specifically on the children rather than the whole family. Packages can be collected during the week commencing 23rd March. The Foodbank will be in contact with the families directly to communicate the precise details of collection.

Food in School Holidays Easter 2026

The hubs are located in: Debden, Epping, Loughton, Chigwell, Ongar and Waltham Abbey.

This new approach will also give families the opportunity to connect with additional support services, including benefits and debt advice, which will be available at the hubs during collection times. They can also explain to families how to access additional support as necessary.

If you require Food in School Holidays please come to the school office to complete a form. The form only asks for name, address, phone number, number of children in the different age brackets and dietary requirements. Please ensure the information and phone numbers are accurate as they will be calling every family referred to ensure they get appropriate support. Deadline for referrals is Friday 6th March at 3pm.

The Essex Teaching Awards 2026 - Nominations Opening Soon!

The Essex Teaching Awards 2026 are almost here, and this is your chance to help celebrate the amazing staff who support our children every day. Nominations open on Friday 30 January 2026.

Parents and carers can nominate a whole school, a team, or an individual member of staff — whether that's a teacher, early years practitioner, or a member of our support team who has made a real difference to your child or family.

If there's someone you feel deserves recognition, please get ready to nominate and help shine a light on their dedication and impact.

February Half Term Clubs Now Open for Booking with Essex ActivAte

Essex ActivAte half term clubs are now live to book, which offer free spaces for eligible families across Essex. These clubs continue to play an important role in supporting local communities by providing school aged children with access to high quality activities, including sports, creative arts, wellbeing sessions, food education, and opportunities to build confidence and form new friendships. With nearly 100 clubs operating county wide, families can expect a diverse range of enriching experiences throughout the school break.

A Holiday Activities voucher code is not required to book. Families can simply visit the Find Your Active Activity Finder, locate their nearest club, and contact the provider directly to secure a free place. Clubs are also offering paid for and paid spaces, so there is something for everyone at an Essex ActivAte club.

<https://www.activeessex.org/children-young-people/essex-activate/>

Royal Academy of Arts' Young Artists' Summer Show

We are delighted to be taking part in the **Royal Academy of Arts' Young Artists' Summer Show**, a national exhibition that celebrates the creativity of children and young people aged 4-18 across the UK.

Pupils are invited to submit an image of their own original artwork that they are proud of! Along with their name, a title for the piece, and a short description explaining their work. Selected artworks will be exhibited at the Royal Academy in London and online. This is a non-competitive, inclusive opportunity designed to encourage creativity and confidence.

The deadline for submissions is 4th March 2026 at 5pm.

Please note that all submissions are managed through the school's Royal Academy account.

Kindly bring the child's artwork, along with the required details, to the school rather than uploading it directly to the Royal Academy website, and we will upload it on your behalf. Thank you.



Dates For Your Diary

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
Chestnut Class
With 97.3%



Team Points

Red - 239
Blue - 188
Yellow - 246
Green - 244

The following people are celebrating birthdays this week



Lavinia 9, Francis 11, Lara 6, Leighton 4

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

February QR Code



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



Afterschool Club Activities w/c 09 February 2026

Valentines Week

Wednesdays will be organised games and sports

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 Afterschool club 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 school gateway app please.

Payments to be made in advance please.

Until further notice afterschool club is in the KS1 hall



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 Chicken 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 Bolognaisse
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 Ham.

Choice of Freshly Baked Bread, Salad Bar, Fresh Fruit,
Fruit Yoghurt, Jelly and Water.





新年快乐

HAPPY CHINESE NEW YEAR

YEAR OF THE FIRE HORSE

Thursday 12th February 2026

Chinese Chicken Noodles

or

Vegetable & Five Bean Noodles

Served with

Broccoli and Sweetcorn

Jacket potatoes with
Beans or Cheese

Dessert

Pancakes

Served with a choice of

Lemon and sugar or

Jam or

Syrup or

Sliced bananas

PTA VALENTINE'S DISCO WEDNESDAY 11 FEBRUARY 26

Years 1,2 & 3 - 16.00 - 17.00

Years 4,5 & 6 - 17.30 - 19.00

Tickets £3.50 per child includes a snack, glow stick & unlimited juice.

Payments via the Schoolgateway App only,
no cash or card

So we are able to accommodate all the
children, payments to be made by midnight
Tuesday 10th February

Children must be collected by an adult at the
end of the evening

Mother's Day Gift Shop

The gift shop will be open to children on
Friday 13th March. The children will complete
gift tags at school and will visit the shop to
pick their gift or gifts. All gifts will come home
with your child that day.

The cost per gift is £3.50

Payment via the Schoolgateway app, all
payments to be made by end of the day
Monday 9th March.