



Reach for the Stars

# Leas Park Junior School

# NEWSLETTER

Week commencing 14<sup>th</sup> July 2025

Welcome to our weekly newsletter.

We will be enjoying our Bastille Day activities today and have our Summer Fayre coming up this week.

Next week we are looking forward to our Talent Show, Year 6 Presentation and School Picnic. It's all go!

## School Transition

Moving to a new school or class can be a big change for children. We use transition sessions to help make this change a positive event and give the children something to look forward to over the Summer holidays.

Over the past two weeks, our Year 6 children have been attending transition visits, as an introduction into the next academic year in their new secondary schools.

On Thursday last week, our children from Years 3, 4 & 5 moved up to their new classes and we welcomed the Year 2s, soon to be Year 3s, from Nettleworth for our own Move Up morning session.

The children took part in activities in their new classes, asking questions and getting to know their new teachers. In their new classes, they attended a whole school assembly, with Mrs Hall, who talked about fresh starts, making new friends and change.

On Friday morning, the children moved to join their new classes again for our Move Up Writing session. They joined in with different exercises and impressed their teachers with their wonderful writing skills.

It was a very successful transition and we are all excited about what the new academic year will bring.

## Year 6 Presentation

Our Year 6 Presentation Evening will be taking place on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2025. This performance is open to all parents/carers of Year 6 pupils (only) and will begin at 7:00pm.

Please note that due to fire regulations we can only allow 2 seats per family for the presentation. This does not include babies on laps, but prams and pushchairs will need to be left outside reception.

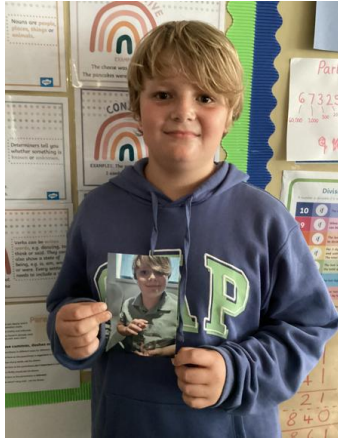
On the evening of the presentation, the children will need to arrive in their uniforms at 6:30pm promptly, please. All costumes are to be kept in school and children will change into them on arrival.

We are all looking forward to what is promising to be an amazing show!

# Leas Park superstars!

Logan, in 5H, won an award at his basketball team last week for being the most committed player. What an achievement!

Well done Logan!



Elliott, in 6A, took part in the Young Ringers competition in Birmingham. This year they challenged themselves by playing a 'Plain Hunt', where each bell strikes in a different position upon each round. They came a respectful 7th in the method ringing section- a total of 47 teams of young ringers took part.



## School Picnic

Don't forget to join us for this year's School Picnic on the playground on Wednesday 23rd July 2025 at 11:45am. Nip out of work, pop across to school and spend your lunchtime break with your child at Leas Park – if the weather is fine you could bring a blanket to sit on whilst you eat on the school field! The whole school will be having a picnic and it promises to be a fun, family time! Due to exciting activities taking place in the afternoon, the picnic will end at 1:00pm and we will need the field to be vacated and parents to leave site promptly thereafter. We thank you for your support with this and look forward to seeing you there!

## Summer Reading Challenge

Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> July marked the start of the Summer Reading Challenge 2025. Last week, we had the privilege of a visit from Mansfield Woodhouse Library to introduce this year's theme, which is Story Garden.

“The annual Summer Reading Challenge is delivered in partnership with public libraries across the UK, and it's free for children to take part.

Throughout the summer, children joining 'Story Garden' can discover new books, participate in free activities at their local library, and explore the link between reading and the great outdoors, where nature and imagination come together.

Recent research shows that children's enjoyment and engagement in reading is in decline, despite research from the OECD showing that reading for pleasure is the single biggest indicator of a child's future success – more important than either parents' educational background or household income. The Summer Reading Challenge supports children to get excited about reading throughout the summer, helping to maintain their reading at a time when engagement can often dip” – National Reading Agency

**READING Summer Reading Challenge**

**Mansfield Woodhouse Library.**

**Super Launch Day: Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> July.** Sign up and plant the start of your very own Story Garden!  
9:30-1pm

**Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> August:**  
Bookmark Craft  
10-2pm

**Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> August:**  
Potters Wheel (Please wear old clothes)  
10-2pm

**Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> August**  
Bird Feeders  
10-2pm

**Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> August**  
Ladybird Lifecycles  
10-2pm

**Story Garden**

**Inspire**  
Culture | Learning | Libraries

# Summer Fayre

Our Summer Fayre is due to take place on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> July 2025. We will be having lots of stalls and activities and our raffle is now open on ParentPay with the opportunity to win a 12ft pool!

Can you help us by donating any of the following, please:

- Chocolate
- Wine
- Toiletries (gift sets)
- Items for the Tombola Stall

(No bric-a-brac or books this time, please)

If you, or anyone you know would like to hold a stall at the Fayre, please ask them to contact the office either via email on [admin1@leaspark.notts.sch.uk](mailto:admin1@leaspark.notts.sch.uk) or on 01623477629.

Leas Park Junior School

## SUMMER FAYRE

\*\*\*\*\*  
WEDNESDAY 16<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2025  
FROM 3:30PM  
\*\*\*\*\*

**FIRE ENGINE** ★ **ICE CREAMS** ★ **TOMBOLA** ★  
**BURGERS & HOT DOGS** ★ **DARTBOARD** ★ **NFFC PREMIER** ★  
**STARS PENALTY SHOOT OUT** ★ **RAFFLE** ★ **SAND ART** ★ **TREASURE HUNT** ★  
**HOOK - A - DUCK** ★ **TIN CAN ALLEY** ★ **SWEETS** ★  
★ **GIANT INFLATABLE SLIDE** ★ **REFRESHMENTS** ★  
★ **POCKET MONEY STALL** ★  
**AND MUCH MORE... COME AND JOIN THE FUN!**

Leas Park Junior School, Ley Lane, Mansfield Woodhouse, Notts. NG19 8LD

We look forward to seeing you there!

# Reminders, messages and additional news – please read!!

## Waterproof coats

Please ensure your child brings a waterproof coat to school everyday, to keep them protected from the elements during our inclement English weather! All items of clothing should be labelled.

## Late collection

If you are aware that you are going to be late to collect your child at the end of the school day, please let us know in plenty of time and **before** the end of school at 3:15pm. When calls are received after the end of school, it is difficult for Reception Staff to get to the classrooms before the children have left.

## Changing dinners

Please note that the school office will need **one weeks' notice**, if you wish to change your child from school meals to sandwiches, or vice versa. Thank you.

## Pupil Information

Please ensure school have all of your current contact information up to date. If you change your name, telephone number or address, please let school know as soon as possible and ensure that we always have **at least two separate emergency contacts** for your child.

## Pupil Lateness and Absence

School starts at **08:45am**. Please ensure your child arrives on time and with all the uniform, equipment, lunch and snacks that they require for their day. If you are going to be late arriving to school, or if your child is not in full school uniform, please contact us on 01623 477629 to let us know why. If you know in advance that your child will not be in or will be late in the following day, the message system regarding pupil absence can be accessed at any time outside of office hours via our telephone number.

If your child needs to be out of school for any reason, please complete a 'Withdrawal from Learning Form' and submit to the school office asap, for authorisation at the discretion of the head teacher. These forms can be accessed via this link: <https://forms.office.com/e/v7wFmYp9J7> or paper copies are available from the leaflet stand in reception.

## Illness & Medications

If you do need to keep your child off school on a school day, please contact the school office on 01623 477629 **before 09:00am on the day they are due to be off**.

If you wish for your child to be given medication whilst at school, please complete and submit the form via this link:

[Leas Park Junior School - Permission for School to Administer Medication](#)

**All medication needs to be both handed into school and collected, by an adult.**

## Staff Car Park

Please note the staff car park is for use **by staff only**. We have very limited space and quite often staff need to leave site and return at short notice. Extra vehicles can make manoeuvring dangerous and can also mean that spaces aren't available for staff who need to be here. Thank you for your understanding.

## Nut and Fish free school

In line with NCC policy regarding nut allergies, we do not allow any type of nuts including peanuts in school - either in packed lunches or in snacks. This also includes any nut based products including Nutella, other sandwich spreads containing nuts and any cereal bars that may contain nuts.

Also we would like to remind you that Leas Park is a "fish-free" school, and as such we do not allow any fish or fish products in the children's packed lunches or snacks. Thank you for your support.

## Snacks

Children are allowed to bring a healthy snack in with them to have during break time, for example fruit or vegetables. Please do not send in grab bags/multi packs of crisps, biscuits or sweets. Please ensure any food sent in to school is both fish and nut free. Thank you for your co-operation.

## Jewellery

Children should not be wearing jewellery to school, with the exception of a watch (not a smartwatch) and small stud earrings, which will need to be removed or covered during PE lessons. This is due to Health and Safety and the possibility of loss or damage.

# Leas Park Awards

## Golden Tickets

Class	Amount collected this week	Running total so far this half term:
3B	3	10
3P	0	4
4C	2	22
4G	0	2
5C	1	3
5H	1	14
6A	0	1
6P	0	8



Winner of the Week: Overall winner this half term so far:

3B

4C

## Rapid Wristbands

Class	Name
3B	Ayda C
	Isabella D
3P	Kristens V
	Ellis N
4C	Alexander P
	Cameron S
4G	Charles C
	Faith R
5C	Frankie G
	Ava D
5H	Tyler M
	Ivy T



## Zones of Regulation Champion

Class	Name
3B	Aubree W
3P	Eliott R
4C	Ella C
4G	Tristan M
5C	Ava D
5H	Billy T



## Tea Party

Class	Name
3B	Freyja H
3P	Lorenzo D
4C	Saffire W
4G	Jasmina B
5C	Sid B
5H	Jaxson J



## Reading Certificates

Class	Name	No. of reads & award given
3P	Ellysia S	25 reads = Bronze
3P	Arthur S	50 reads = Silver
3P	Bella G	50 reads = Silver
4C	Abigail W	250 reads = Emerald
4C	Saffire W	300 reads = Sapphire



Thumbs Up!		
Class	Name	Amount awarded
3P	Ellysia S	100
4C	Jayden D	75
4C	Cody B	150
4C	Ethan S	150
4C	Priya W	150
4C	Emilie G	200
5C	Oliver V	100
5C	Joshua S	100
5C	Ariela B	75
5H	Ava-Mae L	100
5H	Alden G	100
5H	Freya B	100
5H	Harry P	100
5H	Ivy T	100
5H	Leo C	100
5H	Maisie P	100
5H	Ruby-Leigh H	100
5H	Tyler M	100



Pen Licences		
Class	Name	
5C	Ellie-Mae B	
5C	Benjamin G	
5C	Sam O	
5C	William R	
5C	Cohen W	



Book Vending Machine		
Lower School Winner		
Class	Name	
4G	Athena D	
Upper School Winner		
Class	Name	
5C	Benjamin G	



Dinner Winners		
Class	Name	
3B	Arla D	
3P	Jack H	
4C	Oliver M	
4G	Beau B	
5C	Ariela B	
5H	Jenson M	



Shout Outs			
Class	Name	Reason & From	
	Leas Park	For two super transition days! All the teachers have loved meeting their new classes this week.	

Shout out!



### Attendance Awards

The Attendance Award for w/c 07/07/2025 goes to **Class 6P** with **97.0%**

Please follow this link to our current Attendance Policy for more information: [School Policies | Leas Park Junior School](#)

The whole school attendance this academic year to date is **95.0%** - the national target is **96%**!

**Please help support us in raising our attendance!**



**wildlife  
watch**  
www.wildlifewatch.org.uk



Facebook



Website

Scan  
Me



### Swap 'Screen Time' for Green Time

and enjoy outdoor activities on Titchfield Park and Quarry Lane and Oakham Nature Reserves. If you're 7 to 13 years old, why not join us to find out more about the natural world at these events in 2025?

Saturday 1 March	Signs of Spring
Saturday 5 April	Plantastic
Saturday 3 May	Habitat Creation
Saturday 7 June	Insect Inspectors

We are **Mansfield & Ashfield Wildlife Watch Group** and we meet on the first Saturday of the month  
10.30 - 12.30 at  
St. Mark's Church Hall, Nottingham Road,  
Mansfield NG18 1BP

Come and join in the fun - it's free but donations are welcome.  
Remember to dress for the weather!

For more information or to book your first session, please contact Sarah Spurry, Watch Leader by email: [mansfieldwatch@nottswt.co.uk](mailto:mansfieldwatch@nottswt.co.uk) or mobile on 07885169111

We welcome parents/guardians to accompany their children for their first few introductory sessions if required.

Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust is a registered charity - Charity No 224168

# INSPIRE YOUTH ARTS

## Summer Rock School 2025!

Do you know a young person aged 9-12 who plays drums/guitar/keys or sings, who is looking for a fun, creative start to the summer holidays?

Come and join the Summer Rock School!

**Tuesday 29, Wednesday 30, Thursday 31 July**

**10am-4pm**

**The Old Library, Leeming Street, Mansfield,  
NG18 1NG.**

**£10 per day (Bursaries available)**

For more information and to sign up, please fill in [this form](#) or scan the QR code below



Contact: [iya@inspireculture.org.uk](mailto:iya@inspireculture.org.uk)

01623 644 377



Photo Credit: Brendon Gravell

# What Parents & Educators Need to Know about APPLE IPADS

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Tablets remain a staple of children's digital lives – and Apple's iPad is by far the most popular model. According to Ofcom, over half of younger children regularly use a tablet to play games, watch online content or access apps. With their broad functionality, iPads can be helpful tools, but without supervision, they may expose children to risks ranging from inappropriate content to screen overuse.

### COSTLY TO REPAIR

Unlike some child-friendly tablets, the iPad is not built for rough handling. Its slim design and high cost mean that a drop or spill can result in a costly repair. If a child is using the device regularly, a sturdy case and screen protector are strongly recommended to help prevent accidental damage.

### DATA PRIVACY

While Apple is known for strong privacy protections, a recent study found that many iOS apps aimed at children still share personal data. Over 40% of the tested apps sent at least one piece of user information to third parties, raising concerns about advertising and analytics being targeted at underage users.

### INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

The App Store and Safari browser provide almost unrestricted access to online material. Children may stumble upon age-inappropriate content, whether through apps, advertisements or online searches. Even recommended content algorithms can surface unsuitable material.

### BYPASSING RESTRICTIONS

Siri – Apple's voice assistant – can potentially override restrictions, especially with the newer text-based commands introduced through Apple Intelligence. Without safeguards in place, children may inadvertently access inappropriate topics simply by asking a question, bypassing certain filters previously set by adults.

### SCREEN ADDICTION

iPads can be highly immersive, and excessive screen time may affect a child's emotional and behavioural development. Signs of overuse might include mood swings, irritability, and difficulty focusing on non-digital activities.

### REDUCED ATTENTION & COGNITIVE IMPACT

Prolonged use of tablets has been linked with reduced memory, slower processing speeds and difficulties in concentrating. Research shows that children who spend excessive time gaming or consuming media on tablets may struggle with language development and executive functioning over time.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

### ENABLE FAMILY SHARING

Family Sharing allows you to create a dedicated Apple ID for your child and manage their activity. You can approve purchases, control what content they can access, and set time limits – all done remotely from your own device. It's a simple but powerful way to maintain oversight.

### FILTER APPS, WEBSITES & IN-APP PURCHASES

Parental controls in iOS let you block explicit content in Safari, restrict app downloads, and manage in-app purchase permissions. You can also filter websites automatically to prevent access to adult material and disable the installation of certain app types completely.

### USE SCREEN TIME FEATURES EFFECTIVELY

Tools like Downtime and App Limits can reduce device overuse. Downtime allows you to block access during key times – such as before bed or during homework – while App Limits sets daily time caps on specific games or apps. Alerts help children anticipate when their time is almost up.

### PREVENT UNAPPROVED SPENDING

Children can accidentally (or intentionally) make purchases within apps. Activating Ask to Buy under Family Sharing ensures you receive a notification to approve any app or in-app purchase. This stops surprise charges and allows you to discuss purchases together before they're made.

### Meet Our Expert

Carly Page is a seasoned technology journalist with over a decade of experience. Formerly a senior cybersecurity reporter at TechCrunch, Carly now writes for publications including WIRED, Forbes, TechRadar, and Tes. With a deep understanding of online safety, she brings a valuable perspective to parenting in the digital age.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

# Dates for your Diary

Please see below our main 'diary dates' so far for the academic year. We hope this will help with your diary planning.

**\*\*Please note these dates are subject to change and if this should be the case we will give as much notice as possible\*\***

## **Inset Days (school closed to children):**

Monday 28th July 2025

Tuesday 29th July 2025

Next academic year:

Monday 1<sup>st</sup> September 2025 (Admin Day)

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> October 2026

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2026

Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June 2026

Monday 27<sup>th</sup> July 2026

**Monday 14<sup>th</sup> July 2025** – Bastille Day

**Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> July 2025** – Summer Fayre – 3:15pm

**Friday 18<sup>th</sup> July 2025** – Reports home

**Monday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2025** – Talent Show in school

**Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2025** – Year 6 Leavers Presentation – 6:30pm

**Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2025** – Whole School Picnic – 11:45am-1:15pm

**Friday 25<sup>th</sup> July 2025** - LAST DAY AT SCHOOL

**Monday 28<sup>th</sup> July 2025** – Inset day - School closed to children

**Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> July 2025** – Inset Day - School closed to children

**Monday 1<sup>st</sup> September 2025** - Admin Day - School closed to children

**Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2025** – FIRST DAY BACK AT SCHOOL

