



Newsletter from St Leonard's CE Primary Academy

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to our latest school newsletter.

It has certainly been a very busy term, and I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our pupils, staff and families for their continued hard work and support. The children have been working incredibly hard across the school and we are very proud of all they have achieved.

A special well done must go to our Year 6 pupils, who completed their SATs this term with great maturity, determination and resilience. They approached the week positively and they should be very proud of themselves.

Below you will find updates on things that have been happening across the school and key dates for your diary so please read through the whole newsletter to stay informed.

Thank you once again for your ongoing support, and we hope you enjoy reading about the many activities and achievements taking place across the school.

Kind regards,

Mrs Johnson

New Mural

We are delighted that our school mural has now been completed. It is a wonderful addition to our environment and reflects the creativity and spirit of our school community. Thank you to the PTA who helped contribute towards this from the fundraising they have been doing across the school. We look forward to everyone enjoying it for years to come.



We also have some exciting news regarding one of our spare classrooms. Julie, who created the beautiful murals above, is going to be coming back after the summer to help us create a beautiful, nurturing SEND hub which will support our children who need a quieter environment or time to regulate their emotions. This will be a work in process but keep your eyes peeled for exciting updates.

Key Date:

Please be aware that we have a training day on Monday 1st June. We will also be having an additional training day on Monday 6th July. This was shared in the last newsletter. I apologise that this was not a date shared with you at the start of the year – it is an additional date we have planned in with the trust to support the changes to our curriculum based on mixed age classes.

Lighthouse Support

As part of The Blue Kite Academy Trust, we have access to the services of Lighthouse. Lighthouse offers drops in for parents once a month to support parents with a range of things. I have included the poster below. If this is something you are interested in, please contact the school office so we can arrange.



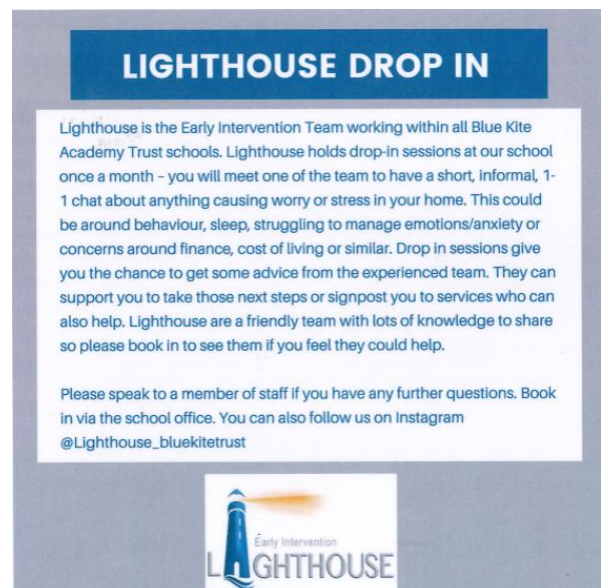
The poster features a lighthouse logo at the top with the text 'Early Intervention LIGHTHOUSE'. Below the logo are four white boxes with blue borders, each containing text about the service. The boxes are titled: 'Who we are', 'Our Team', 'What we offer', and 'Work with children'.

Who we are
We are an Early Intervention service supporting the schools within the Blue Kite Academy Trust. We work with schools, families and children, offering a whole family approach to manage a variety of issues to support long term change.

Our Team
We are an experienced, multi-disciplinary team made up of
• Inclusion Workers
• Family Support Workers
• Educational Psychologist
• Educational Welfare Officer
• Therapeutic Play Practitioner

What we offer
Our work takes a wide range of approaches. We can offer direct work with children, family support within school and within the home. This may be through:
*Behaviour support *Signposting to relevant services *Supporting in meetings
* Practical help such as budgeting or completing paperwork.
We also run regular parenting programmes.

Work with children
Our work with children may be through collaborating with your child's school to create a support plan, one to one or group work around a wide range of areas such as social and emotional skills, behaviour, relationships or school attendance. We also offer 'Drawing and Talking' sessions.



The poster has a blue header with the text 'LIGHTHOUSE DROP IN'. Below the header is a white box with blue text. At the bottom of the poster is the lighthouse logo.

LIGHTHOUSE DROP IN

Lighthouse is the Early Intervention Team working within all Blue Kite Academy Trust schools. Lighthouse holds drop-in sessions at our school once a month – you will meet one of the team to have a short, informal, 1-1 chat about anything causing worry or stress in your home. This could be around behaviour, sleep, struggling to manage emotions/anxiety or concerns around finance, cost of living or similar. Drop in sessions give you the chance to get some advice from the experienced team. They can support you to take those next steps or signpost you to services who can also help. Lighthouse are a friendly team with lots of knowledge to share so please book in to see them if you feel they could help.

Please speak to a member of staff if you have any further questions. Book in via the school office. You can also follow us on Instagram @Lighthouse_bluekitetrust

Staffing

It is with great sadness that at the end of Term 6 we will be saying goodbye to Mr Hope. Mr Hope has had a huge impact not only on the children he has taught but also the school. Mr Hope has accepted a new job much closer to where he lives so he can spend more quality time with his young family. We wish him the best of luck for the future.

Miss Chan will also be leaving us at the end of this year as a Teaching Assistant. However, we are fortunate that she will be remaining with us as a MDSA supporting us at lunch times. We would like to thank Miss Chan for her commitment to the children she has supported and wish her the best of luck for the future.

Miss Taxali also be leaving us at the end of this academic year as her contract comes to an end. Although Miss Taxali has not been with us long, she has fitted into the team with ease. She has worked incredibly hard building relationships with the children and she will be greatly missed.

Finally, I would like to share with you that we have appointed Mr Drake who will be starting with us in September. Mr Drake impressed us on interview day with his enthusiasm and manner with the children. All the children involved in the interviews were very enthusiastic after their interactions with Mr Drake and we think he will be an excellent addition to the team and we can't wait for him to start.

Classes 2026-2027

We are pleased to share our class structure for the next academic year. Children will be taught in the following mixed-age classes:

Owl Class - Reception/Year 1

Hedgehog Class - Year 1/Year 2

Foxes Class - Year 3/Year 4

Badgers Class - Year 4/Year 5

Deer Class Year 5/Year 6

When organising classes, a range of factors will be considered to ensure the best possible learning environment for every child. These will include emotional readiness, friendships (where possible), and creating balanced classes in terms of gender and ability. Decisions will therefore not be based purely on academic ability, but on what will best support children's overall development, wellbeing, and success in school. More information on which class you child will be in will follow next term in time for the transition day. Unfortunately, we are unable to take parental requests of who children go with.

Our curriculum will be carefully planned to ensure full coverage of the National Curriculum for each year group, with learning sequenced progressively so that all children continue to build knowledge and skills effectively within their mixed-age classes. This cycle will then run over multiple years to ensure no child repeats learning but covers everything in the National Curriculum. Our English and Reading curriculum is now ready for September and we are currently redesigning our maths and foundation curriculum to ensure the very best coverage and progression across all year groups within this structure.

To help parents understand how the curriculum will meet the needs of all year groups, we will be holding a parent meeting after school on **Tuesday 14th July at 5pm**, where we will explain how the curriculum is being designed and how mixed-age teaching will support children's learning and progress. We look forward to another exciting and successful year ahead for all of our children. Please note this date has changed since the last newsletter.

Nursery

I just wanted to give you an update on our upcoming Nursery project. We have now confirmed that we will be opening the doors to our brand new nursery in April 2027 after the Easter break. This is to allow all necessary works to be completed safely. Work will start internally during the summer holidays and then move to the outside area and pod in the Autumn term. Once completed, we will have a lovely spacious nursery which will offer 24 spaces. If you are interested in registering your child for the provision now, please contact Miss Williams in the admin office who will take your details and keep you updated.

Lunchtimes

From Term 6, we will be introducing staggered lunch times across the school. EYFS and KS1 pupils will have lunch and playtime from 11:30am–12:30pm, while KS2 pupils will have lunch and playtime from 12:00pm–1:00pm. This change has been carefully planned to support positive behaviour during unstructured times and to provide children with more space to play, socialise and enjoy their lunchtime experience. We are looking forward to seeing the positive impact this will have across the school.

Key Dates

- Wednesday 20th May – Friday 22nd May Y6 Residential
- Friday 22nd May – Last day of term

- Monday 1st June – TD Day
- Wednesday 3rd June – New Reception Starters Parent Induction
- WC 8th June – Phonics Screening
- Monday 8th June – Blue Kite Games (More information to follow in due course)
- Wednesday 17th June – New Reception Starters Stay and Play
- Wednesday 17th June – Class Photos
- Friday 26th June – Summer Fete save the date!
- Wednesday 1st July – Swimming Gala
- Monday 6th July – TD Day
- Friday 10th July – Sports Day) More information to follow)
- Tuesday 14th July – Parent meeting to go over the curriculum changes
- Thursday 16th July – Transition morning for all classes
- Friday 17th July – Reports out to parents
- Tuesday 21st July – Y6 Leavers Assembly
- Wednesday 22nd July – Last day of term 1pm finish

Thank you for reading and for your ongoing support.