

LIMEHURST TIMES

AUTUMN TERM 2015



Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome to our end-of-term newsletter. It's hard to believe that there have already been fifteen weeks of school this year; in many ways, it feels like we've only just come back after the summer!

When we look back at 2015, it will be regarded as one of the most important years in Limehurst's history. To have our own students taking their GCSE exams here at Limehurst gave everyone connected with school a sense of pride at what we have achieved together. I remember being appointed as Headteacher back in 2009, and listening to countless parents telling me how fond they were of the school, and how they would much prefer for their children to stay at Limehurst up to the age of 16, so it is fantastic that we have been able to deliver this.

Throughout the last two years, a period of exceptional growth, we have maintained our inclusive, positive ethos and the school motto of Achievement in a Caring Environment is as true now as it ever was. We remain very popular in terms of applications to join the school, and it is still an enormous privilege to work in this happy, vibrant learning environment.

The next challenge for us, following that period of growth, is to consolidate and deliver outstanding outcomes for our students. Teachers and other staff at the school are relentless in their pursuit of these outstanding outcomes, and the skill and tenacity they show in working with youngsters is commendable. As you know, we have maintained the emphasis on attendance, punctuality and uniform this year. This emphasis is having an extremely positive impact, with attendance and punctuality rates much improved from this time last year. We will continue to work with all students who have an attendance rate of less than 96% in order to improve their attendance, which will of course have a direct impact on achievement.

Finally, a reminder that we finish at 1.15 pm on Friday 18th December. I wish all staff, students and their families a peaceful and relaxing holiday, and I look forward to seeing you on the first day of term, Tuesday 5th January.

Yours sincerely

Jonathan Mellor
Headteacher

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TWYXCROSS ZOO VISIT

This year all of Y8 were taken on a trip by the Mrs Mallick in the Science Department to Twycross Zoo.

There were two reasons for this trip. The first was that it complemented the work studied in Y8 on the classification of animals. Students were able to see real life examples of the animals that we had previously discussed in class, therefore giving them a more concrete understanding of the topic.

The second reason is that taking students on these trips broadens their general knowledge and life experiences that are key when studying GCSE as many of the questions that are now asked require students to use real life experience to help them answer them.

Above all students had fun and everyone learnt something new!!!



DUKE OF EDINBURGH

The Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme has been restarted this year. We have a group of 20 students taking part who will complete the Skill, Physical, Volunteering and Expedition sections over the course of this year.

Students will complete the expedition section, an independent 2 day journey in which they have to fend for themselves at all times, in June this year.

Wish them luck!!!

Mr Chamberlain



SKILLS SHOW – NEC BIRMINGHAM

A party of 13 students visited the National Skills Show at the NEC Birmingham. They watched demonstrations, met employers, 'had a go' at some practical things and found out about different employment sectors.

Student Quotes

"I would recommend this visit because there are so many useful things to help my future as a result of the trip".

"I am going to try to improve my attendance, concentrate more and try to improve my performances in Maths and English".

Mr A Grimley

MINISTRY OF SCIENCE TRIP

Key Stage 3 students had the opportunity to attend the Ministry of Science Live show at Loughborough Town Hall in October. The show was packed full of fascinating demonstrations and looked at the inventors and engineers who have shaped and inspired the modern world that we live in.

Students had the opportunity to see a variety of demonstrations, including building a hovercraft on stage and even a human cannon. The highlights included experiments with liquid nitrogen and flammable gases. I was also treated to a surprise when students got me up on stage to make my own pedal-powered fruit smoothie. Delicious! Students quickly made the link between the topics they have been covering in the curriculum and the broader impact they have on society.

This is a trip that the Science Department hope to run in the future. For more information about the production please visit: <http://ministryofscience.org.uk/>

Mrs Mark
Science Teacher



UNIVERSITY OF LEICESTER BOTANICAL GARDENS

A group of girls, with a particular interest in Science, enjoyed an excellent morning of Biology related activities at the University.

After a fascinating and quite scary talk about birds of prey, the group took part in workshops about ant colonies, the evolution of small fish and the way in which carnivorous plants operate.

A fascinating and interesting morning will hopefully have inspired some of the girls to understand how an interest in Science can develop into further study and job possibility.

Mr A Grimley



OXBRIDGE TALK

A small group of Y10 students attended a briefing by representatives of Oxford and Cambridge University, where they learned more about entry requirements, the college system and the social life of two of our great Universities.

Mr A Grimley

VISIT TO 3M - LOUGHBOROUGH

A group of young people with an interest in Science attended a morning at 3M's Derby Road factory, where they found out about the processes involved in the manufacture of their products. A factory tour, led by 3M STEM ambassadors, led to many questions about work in the sector, the qualifications and personal qualities companies are looking for in their workforce.

Many thanks to 3M for taking the time to organise such a key event.

Mr A Grimley



Y9 VISUAL CV

A group of Y9 students visited De Montfort University for a day called 'Visual CV', which focussed on student awareness of their own personal qualities. As well as a campus tour and lunch in the student centre, the students considered GCSE option choices, were involved in a teamwork exercise and discovered what kind of learner they were.

Following the day, those attending will be working with tutor groups to help other students consider their qualities and future pathways during Y9.

Mr A Grimley

CITIZENSHIP

As part of Citizenship GCSE, students visited the Galleries of Justice in Nottingham to aid their studies on the Criminal Justice System. Students re-enacted a court case in the old Victorian Court Rooms as well as visiting the gallows and discussing Crime and Punishment in the 21st Century.



SEND MY FRIEND TO SCHOOL COMPETITION

We would like to say a huge well done to Jess and Samina in Y10 who have got through to the second round of a competition where the prize is to visit Kenya! They are off to London to present to the CEO of the 'Send my Friend to School' charity to explain why they think they would make good young ambassadors in the campaign to get all children round the world an education.

Best of luck Jess and Samina!

Miss E Bloodworth
Citizenship

BATTLEFIELDS TRIP 2015

In September, two Y9 students visited the World War I Battlefields of France and Belgium. The trip, part of a Government initiative to mark the centenary of WWI, involved students from a range of schools in Nottinghamshire, Leicestershire and Northamptonshire. With Ypres, in Belgium, as our base for the trip, we visited the cemeteries of soldiers from both sides, as well as the “In Flanders Fields” and Passchendaele museums.

In the Somme, we visited the site of one of the most infamous and costly battles in British military history. We had the chance to explore restored trenches that serving British soldiers would have been stationed in, and visit memorials to the fallen.

Accompanying us throughout the trip were serving members of the British Armed Forces, who related their own experiences of life and battle to help students understand how and why events in the World War I played out like they did.

The trip was a truly moving experience, which put into perspective the momentous scale of the war, and shined a light on the lives of many ordinary people who found themselves in extraordinary circumstances.

Mr D Neary



STEMNET

As a result of the great work involving our Students in STEM (Science Technology Engineering Maths) Limehurst was recommended to be included in a national survey conducted by the University of Sussex.

Following interviews with students and teachers and a completed survey, it was clear to the researcher that Limehurst offered a unique and effective programme of activities.

Mr A Grimley

LIMEHURST BUDDIES

Our Buddy System, set up primarily to enable a smoother transition for new students starting at Limehurst Academy is a great success. We would like to thank the following students for their fantastic work this term in helping new students to integrate quickly into the new school environment:

Gabriela Niedzwiecka (8NY)
Nahida Bibi (9ME)
Kieran Martin (9TA)
Filip Mort (9MC)

Mrs R Chauhan
Head of EAL



CELEBRATING READING AND WRITING IN ENGLISH

In the last week of October, Loughborough hosted its first-ever 'Loogabarooga Festival' of children's illustrated literature. Lucky Y8 students were invited to join award-winning local author, Bali Rai, in an event to inspire reading at Loughborough Town Hall. The morning was thoroughly enjoyed by all and Bali's books are now flying off our library shelves.

Y6 students from Cobden and Rendell primary schools had a sample of Limehurst English lessons this term when Miss Statham paid them a visit to write some snazzy short stories. The Y6 students then visited Limehurst to use our ICT suites and publish their books like professionals.

In the final week of term, the English department are launching a 100-word creative writing competition. Students have the chance to win fantastic prizes and even become published authors by writing a spine chilling story.

Miss Statham
English teacher

BOOKBUZZ

As you are aware we strongly promote a love of reading at Limehurst. Bookbuzz is a reading programme from Book Trust to encourage reading for pleasure.

In September, each student in Y7 was lucky enough to be offered the opportunity to choose a book of their choice from an amazing selection. The Bookbuzz list is chosen by an independent panel of experts, which always includes a librarian, a teacher, an author and other children's book experts.

Students were shown the collection of books in assembly and discussed them during form time before they made their choice. All students were extremely excited when the books were delivered in November and are busily reading them. In January we hope to organise book swaps and discussions about the books that were chosen.

The Bookbuzz website has lots of information and activities for both parents and pupils.

www.bookbuzz.org.uk

Mrs Gavriel



FRESH START

This year we have started a new intervention called Fresh Start which is aimed at improving students' reading and writing skills. All students have completed the first six modules of the programme and have worked incredibly hard over the last half term. Their commitment and focus has meant that they have made a huge amount of progress and we would like to take this opportunity to say a massive well done to them.

Miss Bassford and Miss Cattle.



THE FRIENDSHIP PROGRAMME

This term 'The Friendship Programme' has been a great success for a group of Y8 students. The programme aims to build confidence and self-esteem, develop social communication and promote the building of positive friendships. The group of students who have been involved have been absolutely amazing! They have totally thrown themselves into the activities, games and challenges in the weekly sessions and it has been fantastic to watch them grow in confidence and self-esteem. It's been an absolute pleasure to work with this group of pupils, who have made us smile and laugh every week!

A special well done goes to Sam Kenny who won the 'Star Friend' award for being an awesome friend to everyone!

Mrs Bassford & Miss Barnsdale



HOMEWORK CLUB

The team in room 10 offer a homework club from 3-4pm on a Monday, Wednesday and Friday. The sessions offer support to those that need a bit of extra help completing their studying out of the classroom. We have now introduced a loyalty scheme whereby students collect stamps each time they attend and once a student has gained 10 stamps they receive a reward.

Miss Mauger
SENCO

GO FOR READING

At Limehurst Academy we are lucky enough to be involved with a reading intervention called Go For Reading. Employees from local industries volunteer their time to provide literacy support for six of our year seven students. Our dedicated volunteers listen to students read, developing their confidence and self-esteem, as well as passing on their passion and interest for books.

At the end of this term there will be a celebration event where the group of students will get an opportunity to showcase their reading to a group of adults including their parents, families and the volunteers. We are really grateful to Tanuja, Kussum and Geoff for their time and support and look forward to working with them for the rest of the year.

Miss A Mauger
SENCO



DESIGN DEPARTMENT

KS3 took part in a Winter scene illustration competition the winners were:

Ishrat Chowdhury 8IA
Anya Hulley 8BY
Jed Leafe 8IA
Razwana Nasrin 9MA
Saima Rahman 9LT



A big welcome to our new textiles teacher, Miss Morton and technician, Mr Bulsara.

TEXTILES

Y9 Textiles students have been working on an exciting new project which is aimed at developing their textiles skills and their artistic response to a given theme. The themes are 'Elements' and 'Geometric', and some of the skills they have been learning include screen printing, hand embroidery, machine stitching, applique, felting and fabric painting.



FOOD

Y9s have begun an exciting new project this year focusing on sustainability. They create their own meals from scratch and we have seen some highly professional creations.

The Y11s continue to make us proud with the near completion of their controlled assessment and some gorgeous practicals this term!

3D DESIGN

The current level of work for the Y9 Clock Project has been exceptional. From the research to the final idea these students have included all the details required to prepare themselves to make excellent final products. Students are now transferring their designs to 2D Design so their final products can be cut out by the laser cutter.

ART

Y8s have been producing exciting work based on culture throughout the first term, learning about cultural differences and their impact on traditional art forms. They have investigated a variety of cultures creating several pieces using mixed media techniques.



GCSE Art course work is almost ready for submission, promising another exciting end of year exhibition.

FRIDAY 18 DECEMBER 2015

On the last day of term, all staff and students are invited to wear Christmas jumpers and bring a donation to help these three charities:

Save the Children, Make a Wish and We Are Macmillan



SOLVE THIS CHRISTMAS PUZZLE

How old is Santa?

Santa says "I started work when I was 15. I spent $\frac{1}{4}$ of my working life in a factory, then $\frac{1}{5}$ of my working life in an office, and then $\frac{1}{3}$ of my working life as a school caretaker. For the last 13 years I've been working as Santa Claus. How old am I?"



(You can find the answer of the back page)

CAREERS EDUCATION AT LIMEHURST

Excellent careers advice for all young people is a vital way of raising aspirations, improving motivation and overcoming barriers to success. Our young people at Limehurst are given high quality advice and guidance and we ensure access to a range of opportunities and skills in both KS3 and KS4.

We provide a full programme of widening participation opportunities with our local universities, STEM activities, work with local employers and provide face to face professional careers guidance for all our Year 9, 10 and 11 students through Prospects (our Careers service provider).

This term our younger pupils have been involved in a project with Charnwood Borough Council looking at the future of Southfields Park, a group have visited Loughborough University to look at 'What Maths and English can do for You', taken part in a Visual CV day at De Montfort University, worked with 3M and we have set up a mentoring scheme for our most-able pupils with Loughborough University students.

Our Y9 students will shortly be choosing their options for GCSE and will have interviews with Michael Shooter from Prospects, to help them navigate their way through the choices on offer. Appointments for parents and their children will be available with Michael, at the Year 9 Parents' evening on the 25th January 2016.

Our Y10 and Y11 students have focused careers advice and guidance in their Personal Development sessions, with use of the Careers Library. They have also had access to many opportunities to inform and inspire them for the future. These have included a visit to the Skills show at the NEC in Birmingham, a science visit to the Botanical Gardens with Leicester University, a visit to 3M with a Design, ICT and Science focus, the launch of The Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award Scheme, visits to the Galleries of Justice and Houses of Parliament, work with the Royal Bank of Scotland, an Oxbridge session meeting Oxford and Cambridge admissions tutors and a range of assemblies with local Sixth Form providers and Loughborough College.

All Y11 students will have interviews with Michael Shooter from Prospects in the New Year to help them with Post 16 choices and Michael will be available at the Year 11 Parents' evening on January 14th 2016.

Miss Fisher
Deputy Headteacher

KS4 NEWS

Y11 students are starting to apply to their post 16 destination choices. They have had information sessions in their assembly time from Charnwood College, Rawlins Academy and Loughborough College with more visits to come. Some students are very focused on what route they want to pursue whilst others are less sure, but there is plenty of advice and guidance given from school and our local Prospects career advisor.

Y10s are getting to grips with their GCSE curriculum and settling down to their controlled assessments. They have just completed their Science mock exam and conducted themselves very well.

All the KS4 students and staff will be enjoying a film day in school on Friday 18th with popcorn and ice-cream treats.

Miss Armstrong

SENTENCE COMPETITION AUTUMN 2015

This term we continued with our weekly writing competition between tutor groups in each year. Each week on a Monday a sentence is distributed to all the tutor groups. Their task as a form was to improve the sentence by adding ambitious adjectives, adverbs or connectives. All members of the winning tutor groups received an extra point. Winning sentence examples based on the word 'illumination' have been:

- 7JO The devil's day lurked upon us and the flickering candles glimmered in amber pumpkins.
- 8AL A blood-curdling atmosphere dispersed across the house daunting children, lighting their spine chilling pumpkins.
- 9LT Illuminating the streets, pumpkins exuded a soft glow shrouding cadaverous figures crouched in the shadows.
- 10KD Pumpkins illuminated the cobbled streets as the small children ran from the decaying, eerie mansion.
- 11MK The pumpkins glowed in a haunted manor outside the eerily decorated estate.

We encourage your child to read extensively as this will inevitably improve their writing skills.

Mrs R Chauhan
Head of EAL

STUDENT SUPPORT

Continued support for our students has proved to be of great benefit this term. We have received a large amount of positive feedback from students and parents who have said that they have found these services very helpful.

We have been using a combination of support from our Pastoral team and the use of our on-going interventions such as, weekly School Nurse appointments and drop-in sessions, counselling appointments, 1-1 Mentors with Mountfields Youth Workers, "Twenty/Twenty" and "Worth It". We also have a Young Carers Champion within school and a trained member of staff who oversees the Smoking Cessation Programme.

Several students work with staff from Mountfields Youth Services on a 1-1 basis. They have taken part in confidence raising, life skills and personal and social development. The feedback from the students has been very positive.

In addition to the on-going support available at Limehurst Academy we have also provided opportunities which allow our students to take part in specialised interventions. Several of them have recently taken part in a Music intervention held at Castle Donington College. Others have taken part in Hair and Beauty programmes and more recently there has been a Horse Care Course in Kegworth.

We have built up very strong relationships with support agencies within the community and we are continually making the best use of the opportunities made available to us.

Mrs K Brierley, Mrs Featonby, Ms T Durrands, Mrs K Angell

BARNARDO'S

Our appointed Barnardo's Young Carers Champion, Ms Durrands, is organising a meet-and-greet coffee morning at the beginning of the new academic year for family and friends of the school's Young Carers, as well as those who would like to know more about the resources available.

This will be a very informal opportunity to meet with her, Mrs Biswas and a community-based representative from Barnardo's.

For information on Barnardo's Carefree Young Carers services please visit their website:

www.barnardos.org.uk/carefree or telephone 0116 2867182 or contact school to speak with Ms Durrands.



COUNSELLING SERVICE

Limehurst offers a free and completely confidential counselling service for any of its students who feel they would benefit from such a service. The counsellors used are fully trained, and not school staff, so confidentiality is assured.

If you would like any further information, please contact the school and speak with the Student Support Team.

Mrs K Brierley
Student Support Manager

BEHAVIOUR TO/FROM SCHOOL

Behaviour in school has been judged as Outstanding by OFSTED in their last two visits, and visitors to the school routinely comment on the calm, learning atmosphere.

We are very proud of this, and also of our community relations, so I am disappointed to have to report that we still, very occasionally, receive some complaints of anti-social behaviour by our students on the way to and from school. So far, in each case, I have been able to identify those responsible and they have apologised to those reporting the incidents.

Please remind your child of their responsibilities while travelling to and from school, particularly if they are using public transport.

Mr J Mellor
Headteacher

MISUSE OF MOBILE PHONES AND SOCIAL NETWORKING

I am very pleased to report a substantial fall in the number of incidents that you have been referring to us which revolve around cyber-bullying, which allows us to spend more time focusing on your child's education.

We speak to all students regularly about the issues and problems associated with social networking sites and explain to them the dangers and the traps they can fall into and the problems that can arise. I would be grateful if you could continue to do the same to try to help make the message stick. I should point out to you that Facebook lists the following in its terms of use: You will not use Facebook if you are under 13.

Finally, the school policy on mobile phones is quite clear. We very much appreciate that, for safety purposes, many of you wish your child to carry a mobile phone on their way to and from school. We would not wish to prevent this, but ask that students hand their phone in at Reception at the beginning of the school day and collect it at the end. This prevents the misuse of phones throughout the school day, and also protects you and your child against the loss, theft or damage of the phone. If there is an urgent need for your child to contact you during the school day, the correct means of doing this is via Reception.

Mr J Mellor
Headteacher

POLICY ON DETENTIONS

I am sure most of you are aware that the Department for Education has removed the need for schools to give parents 24-hours notice of after-school detentions.

As has always been the case, we reserve the right to keep students for up to 15 minutes at the end of school to discuss minor breaches of the school behaviour policy. Please rest assured that, where a longer detention of up to one hour may be appropriate, we would always contact you first to let you know.

Mr J Mellor
Headteacher

SCHOOL FUNDING – IS YOUR CHILD ELIGIBLE FOR FREE SCHOOL MEALS?

As I know you are aware, funding for schools is much lower now than it has been in recent years. Clearly, we still hope to be able to preserve and build upon as many of the excellent things we offer as possible. However, several of the grants that have supported these activities over the years have ceased, meaning some difficult decisions had to be made.

One potential source of income that you may have heard of is the Pupil Premium. This is where schools receive a fixed amount of funding according to how many of its pupils are eligible for Free School Meals. This income can make a huge difference to a school such as Limehurst, where around 25% of our students are currently registered as eligible.

Elsewhere in this newsletter, you can read about eligibility criteria. It is easy to register. If you think you meet the eligibility criteria, I would urge you to register – even if you do not wish your child to claim a free school meal. By doing so, you could be making a big difference to school funding and helping to preserve some important services.

Mr J Mellor
Headteacher

BREAKFAST AT LIMEHURST

We are delighted with the success of the Limehurst Breakfast Club this term, with over 60 young people enjoying a range of breakfast treats first thing in the morning.

As you are aware, we have an important focus on attendance and punctuality and the breakfast club has really helped many of our young people to improve their attendance and to get here on time.

We will continue to offer a Breakfast Club for all students between 8:00 and 8:30 each morning before school begins and feel it has made a noticeable difference to how quickly students settle into the school day.

We regularly find that many students skip breakfast or choose to eat unhealthy snacks on the way to school. This, together with a big push to get all students' attendance to 100%, has persuaded us that the Breakfast Club is an excellent idea.

It is free of charge and offers a selection of cereals, toast, fruit and drinks. Students are supervised by our Student Support team and they are clear that it is helping our young people to face the school day much better prepared for the learning to come.

All research shows that student concentration, behaviour, attendance, punctuality and therefore attainment improves when they have a healthy breakfast.

Please support us in encouraging students to come along and enjoy a positive start to the day.

Miss S Fisher
Deputy Headteacher

SCHOOL LUNCHES AT LIMEHURST

Our Cook Supervisor, Mrs S Moore and her team work very hard every day preparing and serving excellent wholesome meals. These meals ensure that students eat a well-balanced, healthy meal in the middle of the school day.

If your child has not tried any of our school dinners yet, do encourage them to "give it a go". There is something available daily to suit every taste.

CASHLESS CATERING

In February, Limehurst will start to operate a cashless catering system – each student will have an account which can be accessed by biometric recognition (fingerprint or PIN). The accounts will be able to be 'topped up' with either cash put into a machine in the dining room or by parents using the Schoolcomms system which is available by using the website or an App.

CCTV

We are having a new CCTV system installed in school over the next two weeks. This will cover all areas, inside and outside the school building and also the car parks and perimeters. It will reduce risks and make our school a safer place.



COLD WEATHER PROCEDURES

During severe weather, the first place that you will hear any news about the school is on BBC Radio Leicester (104.9 FM). Their website (www.bbc.co.uk/leicester) also has a constantly updated list of school closures. Other radio stations will also be informed, but may not announce any news as quickly.

You can also check the school website, where any news will be posted – www.limehurst.org.uk and also on Twitter - @LimehurstAc

Should the school close, we will send a text message to all parents. To ensure that you receive such messages we need to have up to date mobile telephone numbers. If you change your number, please could you ensure that you let us know so that we can amend our records?

Mr J Mellor
Headteacher



SCHOOL UNIFORM SHOP

Students are able to purchase School Uniform from the Uniform shop on Tuesday and Thursday mornings during breaktime.

FOOD BANK

Three of our Y10 students have set up a food bank and are asking for donations of any non-perishable foods. These will be taken to a homeless shelter on Friday 18th December on behalf of the school. If you would like to donate any goods you can find the box in reception.



SCHOOL DRESS CODE 2015/16

Students are required to wear our distinctive school uniform. This consists of the following:

CARDIGAN, JUMPER or BLAZER	One to be worn at all times
SCHOOL TIE	Black and green striped school tie to be worn at all times
TROUSERS	Black full length trousers of a school style which should be totally plain, without any type of adornment label etc. and cannot be excessively tight (NOT PERMITTED – jeans or ‘jean-type’ trousers, skin tight trousers / leggings ‘combat’ style, cropped or dropped waist)
SKIRT	Black skirts should be of a modest knee-length, which should be totally plain, without any type of adornment label etc. (NOT PERMITTED – very short and/or tight stretchy skirts, jean-style skirts)
SHIRT	Plain white school shirts
FOOTWEAR	Plain black school shoes (NOT PERMITTED – Trainers or trainer-style shoes)
JEWELLERY/ ACCESSORIES	Students may only wear a watch and stud earrings, one stud in each ear No other jewellery may be worn including piercing jewellery (e.g. nose studs, facial piercing, tongue studs)
MAKE-UP	No make-up should be worn in school
HAIRSTYLES	No extreme hairstyles or colours
RELIGIOUS HEADWEAR	Plain black or white
PE KIT	Royal blue polo shirt with embroidered school logo Royal blue/white reversible long-sleeved top with embroidered school logo Black PE shorts or black tracksuit trousers

For Health & Safety reasons all jewellery to be removed

CONTACT DETAILS

It is very important that you inform school of any new contact telephone numbers or addresses. These details need to include a primary and secondary contact.

In the event of your child suffering an accident or not feeling well we may need to contact you urgently.



FREE SCHOOL MEALS

Qualifying benefits:

If you get any of the following support payments your child may be entitled to receive free school meals:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseekers Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit

Students who receive a qualifying benefit in their own right are also allowed to receive free school meals.

Students under the compulsory school age who are in full time education may also be entitled to receive free school meals.

NO OTHER BENEFITS QUALIFY FOR FREE SCHOOL MEALS

How do I apply?

E-mail: freeschoolmeals@leics.gov.uk

Apply via telephone: 0116 3056588 or 0116 3057093

Fax: 0116 3055785 or contact Limehurst Academy on 01509 263444

TEACHER TRAINING 2016/17 - SCHOOL DIRECT



We are delighted that we have recruited 5 candidates to train with our Partnership in 2016/17. We are now seeking to recruit to ENGLISH, MATHS, HISTORY, CHEMISTRY, BIOLOGY, PHYSICS and MFL If you would like to find out more or know someone who may be thinking about a career change or is graduating this year and considering teaching then please contact Debbie Shatford at schooldirect@limehurst.org.uk

TEACHER TASTER SESSIONS:

Wednesday 20th January

Monday 8th February

Wednesday 16th March

Join us at Limehurst Academy (lead school for NCLP School Direct) for a Teaching Taster Session where you will have the opportunity to find out more about the School Direct route into teaching, meet other students, spend time in lessons and get help with the application process.

ATTENDANCE MATTERS – MISS SCHOOL MISS OUT

At Limehurst we are continually striving to raise the achievements of all of our students to ensure that they can take full advantage of future opportunities and lead a successful and fulfilling life. One of the key factors to future success is a good education. In order to gain a good education and achieve their full academic potential, young people need to be in school on a regular basis. Students with good attendance are those who make the most progress and achieve the best results at the end of their school career.

Research shows that relatively little absence can have a significant impact on a student's progress. A day absent from school is a missed learning opportunity. Much of the work missed when a student is absent is never made up and gaps in learning puts them at a great disadvantage compared to their peers who are in school all of the time.

We closely monitor the attendance of all our students to maximise their chances of achieving success; students should be aiming in excess of 96% attendance. From September we will be alerting parents when their child's attendance falls below this figure. You will be offered the opportunity to discuss with a member of staff any issues affecting your child's attendance at school. We know that some absence due to illness is unavoidable and we would ask that you inform school at the earliest opportunity if your child is ill. Do not keep your child off school for minor ailments. If you are unsure whether to send your child to school, please contact school and discuss the matter with a member of staff. Avoid where possible making routine medical or dental appointments during the school day.

The biggest cause of absence from school is parentally condoned absence. Schools have a duty to question frequent absence and if your child has more than an average amount of illness, we will require some form of medical evidence in order to authorise absence. We will contact you and invite you to meet with a member of staff if we become concerned about your child's level of absence.

If you need to take your child out of school, please discuss the reason with school at the earliest opportunity. In line with recent changes in legislation, we cannot authorise absence for the purpose of a holiday in term time. Headteachers can now only grant permission for leave of absence in the most exceptional circumstance.

We hope that we will have your understanding and co-operation and that we can work together to ensure success for all students.

Miss N Turner
Attendance Officer



TERM DATES 2015/16

SPRING TERM

School opens: Tuesday 5th January 2016
Mid Term Break: Monday 15th – Friday 19th February 2016
School closes: Thursday 24th March 2016

SUMMER TERM

School opens: Monday 11th April 2016
May Day Holiday: Monday 2nd May 2016
Mid Term Break: Monday 30th May – Friday 3rd June 2016
School closes: Friday 15th July 2016

TERM DATES 2016 /17

AUTUMN TERM

School opens: Thursday 25 August 2016
August Bank Holiday: Monday 29 August 2016
Mid Term Break: Monday 17 October to Friday 21 October 2016
School closes: Friday 16 December 2016

SPRING TERM

School opens: Wednesday 4 January 2017
Half term break: Monday 13 February to Friday 17 February 2017
School close: Friday 7 April 2017

SUMMER TERM

School open: Monday 24 April 2017
May Day Bank Holiday: Monday 1 May 2017
Half term break: Monday 29 May to Friday 2 June 2017
School close: Friday 14 July 2017

STAY IN TOUCH

It's now easy for parents/carers to have access to all current news/information from Limehurst via our Weekly Newsletter, e-mailed out to parents (please ensure that we have your up-to-date email address), our website (www.limehurst.org.uk) and on Twitter (@LimehurstAc)



LIMEHURST ACADEMY GOVERNING BODY

Hi, I'm Lindsey Preston, the new Chair of Governors at Limehurst Academy. Prior to my new appointment, I served as a Parent Governor for a year. I have two children at Limehurst and so have an avid interest in school matters and as an ex-student, I also have a strong attachment to the school and its continuing development. I am currently self-employed, running two small businesses and before this I worked as a Play Specialist for a local charity. I worked with families in supporting their children and young adults with life limiting illnesses.

We have recently had a Support Staff Governor Election here at Limehurst and Lisa Kilner has been duly elected for this role.

I am now looking forward to my term as the new Chair of the Board of Governors. I hope to be a familiar face in school for students, staff and parents alike.

Lindsey Preston
Chair of Governors

CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES – AUTUMN TERM 2015

MONDAY

Science Catch Up	All Years	1:15 – 2:00 pm
Table Tennis	Year 7, 8, 9	1:15 – 2:00 pm
Basketball Coaching	All Years	3:00 – 4:00 pm
Homework Club	All Years	3:00 – 4:00 pm

TUESDAY

Homework Club	Year 7, 8, 9	1:15 – 2:00 pm
Maths Homework Club	All Years	1:15 – 2:00 pm
Table Tennis	Year 10 & 11	1:15 – 2:00 pm
Badminton Coaching	All Years	3:00 – 4:00 pm
Boys Football	Year 7, 8, 9	3:00 – 4:00 pm
Drama Club	All Years	3:00 – 4:00 pm
English Controlled Assessment Catch Up	Year 11	3:00 – 4:00 pm
Area Orchestra	See Mr.Simpson	4:00 – 5:15 pm

WEDNESDAY

Art Session	Year 11	1:15 – 2:00 pm
Badminton (Mixed)	All Years	1:15 – 2:00 pm
Film Club	All Years	1:15 – 2:00 pm
Homework Club	Year 10 & 11	1:15 – 2:00 pm
Art Session	Year 11	3:00 – 4:00 pm
English Controlled Assessment Catch Up	Year 11	3:00 – 4:00 pm
Homework Club	All Years	3:00 – 4:00 pm
Netball (Girls)	Year 7, 8, 9	3:00 – 4:00 pm
Spanish Grammar	All Years	3:00 – 4:00 pm

THURSDAY

Badminton (Boys)	All Years	1:15 – 2:00 pm
Film Club	All Years	1:15 – 2:00 pm
French Speaking Practice	Year 9, 10, 11	3:00 – 4:00 pm
GCSE Food Catch Up	Year 11	3:00 – 4:00 pm
GCSE Textiles Catch Up	Year 11	3:00 – 4:00 pm
Music Revision/Catch Up	Year 10 & 11	3:00 – 4:00 pm

FRIDAY

Badminton (Girls)	All Girls	1:15 – 2:00 pm
GCSE Food Catch Up	Year 11	3:00 – 4:00 pm



GOVERNORS REQUIRED

Limehurst Academy is a successful, vibrant 11-16 school in the centre of Loughborough. The overall effectiveness of the school, according to Ofsted, is Good. Governors have an important part to play in raising school standards. The role of the governing board is absolutely key to the effectiveness of a school. We currently have vacancies for Parent and Community Governors, and are particularly keen to recruit people who have skills/experience in the following areas:

Risk Management
Quality Assurance
HR/Legal
Handling Complaints, Allegations and Appeals
Financial Management/Accountancy
Pay & Appeals
Safer Recruitment
Secondary School Leadership

If you are interested in finding out more about being a governor at Limehurst, we would love to hear from you! Please email the Chair of Governors, Lindsey Preston, at governors@limehurst.org.uk with your details and we will get back to you.

These posts are subject to an enhanced DBS clearance and safeguarding check

www.limehurst.org.uk
Bridge Street, Loughborough, Leics LE11 1NH

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

School Closes	18 December 2015
Y11 Parents' Evening	11 January 2016
Y9 Parents' Evening	25 January 2016
Y7 Reports issued	25 January 2016
Y8 & Y9 Interim Reports	7 March 2016
Y11 Reports issued	7 March 2016
Y10 Reports issued	25 April 2016
Y8 Reports issued	16 May 2016
London Theatre Trip	19 May 2016
Multi Activity Centre (PGL)	7 -9 March 2016
Barcelona Trip	11 - 13 July 2016



The answer to the Santa quiz
Santa is 75 years old