Weekly newsletter

The Lea Primary School and Nursery

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MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD TEACHER

What an amazing week our Explorer (Y5) Class have had. They have thoroughly enjoyed their week of Bikeability training lead by tutors from Herts. Starting on the playground on Monday and very quickly progressing to cycling on the roads, the children have learned basic road skills and rules and know how to stay safe. The tutors have commented on how great the children have been. They have listened well and followed instructions immediately – crucial to staying safe.

Our Year 5 & Year 6 girls football team attended the Harpenden schools football tournament on Thursday. They played and won several games and reached the final against one of the larger schools. They had already won the league and can now add winners of The Small Schools' Tournament to their achievements too. They have represented the school with great 'sportswomenship', and we are incredibly proud of them all – well done.

We have managed to get outside for all breaks and lunchtimes this week but children have needed coats. Please make sure that your child has a coat for school next week so they can continue to get fresh air and movement breaks. There are already a few in lost property if you can't locate yours!

Tracey Berry



SPOTLIGHT ON GOVERNORS

Several governors have been in school meeting with staff to discuss safeguarding and food standards and meeting with the HfL (Herts) School Effectiveness Adviser & Head.

We are still looking for a governor who possibly has a finance/budgets background to join the board. If you would like to discuss the role further, please contact chair@lea-pri.herts.sch.u or head@lea-pri.herts.sch.uk

There is no expectation to prepare any finance or budgets just to be professionally curious at Governor meetings.

DATES FOR THE DIARY

November 2026

Tue 10,9:15	Reception Open Morning (for Sept 2027)
Tue 10	Y6 Remembrance LIVE event
Wed 11	Remembrance Day
Wed 11	Flu vaccinations
Wed 11	Y5/6 Cross Country at Wheathampstead Warriors
Thu 12	Y6 Basketball tournament at Oaklands College
Fri 13	Children in Need
Mon 16	Odd Socks Day
Mon 16	Anti-Bullying week
Tue 17	Y5/6 Netball v Kings (H)
Wed 18	Y2 Castle workshop
Thur 19, 9:15	Reception Open Morning (for Sept 2027)
Thur 19	Y5/6 Boys Football v Kings (H)
Thur 19	Y1 Parent Consultations (rescheduled)
Mon 23	Maths week
Tue 24	Van Cols (individual photos)
Tue 24	Y5/6 Netball v The Grove (A)
Thur 26	Y5/6 Football v The Grove (A)

December 2026

Tue 1, 14:00 & 19:00	Y3/4 Christmas concert
Tue 8, 14:30	Reception Nativity
Wed 9, 09:00	Nursery Jingle and Mingle
Tue 15, 14:00	Y1/2 Christmas play
Wed 16	Y1-Y6 Panto
Fri 18, 13:15	End of Term

January 2027

Mon 4	**INSET Day**
Tue 5	Start of Term

For a longer term view of key dates please visit our school website at **https://lea-pri.herts.sch.uk/news-dates/calendar**

SCHOOL NEWS

Lunch menu on Arbor The new menu for this half term is now available on Arbor, please make a lunch choice for your child for each day, you can do this weekly, or for the rest of this half term. Please ensure that you choose home packed lunch if they are not having a school dinner.

Poppy Appeal We will continue to sell poppies on Monday and Tuesday next week. Please send your child with a £1 coin if they wish to make a donation and choose an item from the selection.

Remembrance Day Children can wear their Guiding or Scouting uniforms (Rainbows/Brownies/Cubs) for Remembrance Day on Wednesday 11th November

Flu vaccinations Flu vaccinations are taking place on Wednesday 11th November for those children who were absent on 22nd September, including Year 3 & Year 5 (who were on their museum trips) and Year 6 (who had a History workshop)

Children in Need Friday 13th November is Children in Need, we invite children to wear their own clothes/something spotty. We are not collecting cash donations but you can make a donation through the following link Donate to BBC Children in Need

Reception school places for September 2027 Applications are open for Reception school places for September 2027. Please note that the deadline to apply is 15th January 2027. For further information please go to School admissions and transport | Hertfordshire County Council

SPORTS REPORT

Y5/6 Girls Football Tournament On Thursday, Year 5/6 girls played in a football tournament at The Grove school. We are very proud of our team and we did so well on making it to the finals. We had one nerve-racking penalty shoot out. Hannah, Ayla, Jess all scored wonderful goals. We all made a joint effort, getting so far. It was a great term of football. Only losing once out of all the games we played.

Report written Jessica and Maya.



TEAM POINTS

Ruby were the winning teams this week. Well done!

STARS OF THE WEEK

Nursery **Leo**

For a fantastic and confident start at The Lea.

Reception **Dylan**

For always being helpful.

Year 1 **Aliyaan**

For taking such care and pride in his work when doing handwriting.

Year 2 **Niamh**

For showing great resilience in Maths, focusing and working with dedication.

Rachel

For always putting herself forward during lessons and always demonstrating the school values.

Year 3 **Amelia**

For her motivation and ambition in her Maths lessons.

Year 4 **Adam**

For making a great effort to contribute in lessons this week.

Year 5 **The Whole Class**

For working hard and doing a brilliant job in Bikeability.

Year 6 **Inayah**

For settling in to our class so brilliantly, showing a positive attitude and making a fantastic start.

Esmee and Gregory

For showing a fantastic effort and determination in developing arithmetic skills.

Sports **Maya (Year 6)**

For being an excellent all round sporting person with a fantastic attitude.

Leo (Year 3)

For excellent Gymnastics skills.

OUR CLASS WORD OF THE WEEK

Nursery	Reception	Year 1
celebrate	**through**	**quests**
Year 2	Year 3	Year 4
caution	**vast**	**decrepit**
Year 5	Year 6	
celestial	**relinquish**	

THE LEA PTA

Hello from your new PTA committee!

We're really excited to have joined the PTA and are looking forward to a brilliant year ahead. We have lots of ideas for bringing our school community together, from family film nights and discos to fairs, quizzes and other fundraising activities. **But we need your help to make them happen.**

Could you help make an event happen?
We're looking for parents to lead or help with events throughout the year, with plenty of support from the PTA team. You don't have to do it alone. Whether you can lead, help plan or lend a hand on the day, we'd love to hear from you.

What would you like to see?
Have an idea for an event, activity or fundraiser? Let us know! We'd love your suggestions for ways to bring families together and raise funds for our school.

Get involved or share an idea
Email leaschoolpta@hotmail.co.uk

Order your Christmas tree and support The Lea!

Christmas Trees — Friends of Harpenden Academy **and select The Lea Primary School and Nursery**

Buy **freshly cut, locally grown Nordmann Fir Christmas trees**, known for looking great and keeping their needles well. And best of all, **£10 from every tree sold will be donated directly to The Lea PTA**.

🎄 **Choose your tree**

- **5ft+** – £50
- **6ft+** – £57
- **7ft+** – £68

🗓️ **Order by:** Monday 30 November 2026 at 12 noon

🎈 **Free collection**

Harpenden Academy, Vaughan Road

Friday 4 or Saturday 5 December, 9:30–10:30am

🚚 **Home delivery**

Available within 7 miles of Harpenden Academy:

- **AL5:** £5
- **Outside AL5:** £8, max 7 miles away (Friday delivery only)

FUNDRAISING

If you would like to support our school, donations are always gratefully received and incredibly appreciated.

We have an Amazon wishlist Amazon.co.uk

Monetary donations can be made through Kindlink (please click on the Kindlink logo below).

Donations can be a one off payment or a monthly donation.

kindlink

£

Support

OUR SCHOOL

Buy a LOCALLY GROWN *Christmas Tree*

Premium NORDMANN FIRS

Cut in early December

£10 PER TREE WILL BE DONATED TO OUR SCHOOL

Order online from www.foha.co.uk
Collection or delivery on 4th or 5th December
Prices from £50 (5ft tree)

Community Spaces
Find a warm or cool space near you with locations all across Hertfordshire
Call: 0300 123 4044
www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/communityspaces

Five Dinners
Sign up and register under Hertfordshire County Council for free personalised meal plans
Call: 0300 123 4044
www.fivedinners.com/my-community-food-hub/mycommunity

Community Supermarkets
Find a huge range of food and household itemsfor under £1
Call: 0300 123 4044
www.communityhelpherts.net/communitysupermarket

Citizens Advice
Receive free, local, confidential advice on benefits, money, credit, employment, housing and family issues
Call: 0800 144 8848
www.citizensadvice.org.uk

Mental health
Access advice and support for your mental health and wellbeing
Call: 0300 123 4044
www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/mentalhealth

Herts Fire and Rescue
As part of a home safety visit, you may be offered practical items to help support residents during overly hot or cold weather
Call: 0300 123 4046
www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/hfrsvisit

Age UK
Get advice, financial support, and more to help older people maintain independence
Call: 0300 345 3446
www.ageuk.org.uk/hertfordshire

Local food support
Find information on food support available near you including how to self-refer
Call: 0300 123 4044
www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/foodsupport

Health and Independent Living Support (HILS)
Learn more about meals on wheels and other services to support older and disabled people's independence
Call: 0330 2000 103
www.hils-uk.org

Visit hertfordshire.gov.uk**/costofliving**

Hertfordshire