

Welcome to our latest edition of the Leycroft Academy Newsletter. We look forward to sharing with you some of the wonderful things that have been happening this half term. Enjoy!

THIS HALF TERM AT LEYCROFT ...

This half term, we were delighted to welcome our new school mascot, Sunny!

Sunny has already become a familiar and friendly face, greeting the children as they arrive on the buses on Monday mornings and waving them off with a cheerful goodbye on Fridays.

The children are absolutely loving the music and interactions with Sunny, and he's adding an extra touch of joy to the start of every week, making Monday mornings feel even more special!

Sunny's friend Stella is going to join us next half term... can you find her in this newsletter?



MOTHER'S DAY WORKSHOP

This half term we held 2 Mother's Day workshops to say thanks to the wonderful Mums, Nan's and carers in our school.

The children made and decorated their own box of goodies to give to the special ones for Mother's Day.

We received really positive feedback from the event and thank you for your support.



SEA

Whales

This term, Whales class have enjoyed exploring our chocolate topic through a range of exciting chocolatey activities, with a focus on the key word mix. The children practised using spoons to mix ingredients and safely used knives to spread chocolate onto bagels, helping to develop important life skills. We have also been learning to understand the foods we like and dislike. The children especially loved eating the chocolatey treats they have been making!

**DOLPHINS**

This half term Dolphins have been learning about all the jobs and things that happen on a farm.

They have explored in a sensory way the fruit and vegetables grow, the soil and how to plant.

STARFISH

This half term in Starfish, the children have been exploring sensory tuff trays with farm animals and vegetables as we have learnt about the farm. The children have been planting vegetables and learning how to look after them. We have enjoyed our sessions of open theatre and Sherborne. We have been focusing on our sharing and taking turns skills.



ICE

PENGUINS

This term our topic was "On a Farm." The children learned about different farm animals, the sounds they make, and the food they provide for us. We explored how cows are milked, sang a variety of farm songs, and watched hens laying eggs.

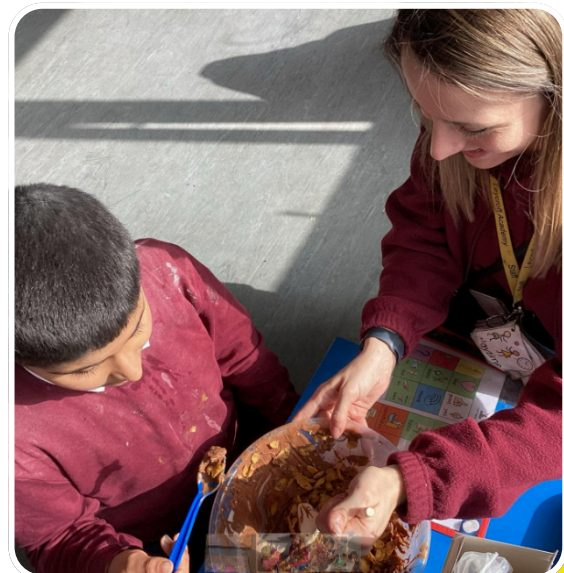
The children took part in a range of engaging activities, including matching farm animals to the sounds they make, painting farm-themed pictures, and planting. These activities helped develop their creativity, listening skills, and understanding of life on a farm.

**POLAR BEARS**

Polar bears have had a fantastic half term! We have thoroughly enjoyed our swimming sessions. Every child was so excited to swim. We also looked at chocolate cake story and had a lovely fab finish.

WOLVES

Wolves have fully immersed themselves in our chocolate-themed learning this half term! They have practised a range of skills through fun cooking activities, including making mug cakes, chocolate-covered fruit skewers and their very own chocolate bars. The children also explored where chocolate ingredients come from, showing great enthusiasm and creativity throughout!



SEALS

This half term, seals have really enjoyed learning about healthy diets. We made great use of our time in "The Flat" to prepare healthy snacks, developing our food preparation skills while practising safe techniques when chopping salad for our cheese and salad wraps.



WOODLANDS

OWLS

It has been a lovely half term for pupils in Owls class, and we had great fun learning everything about Chocolate! As part of this topic, pupils enjoyed reading Charlie and the chocolate factory story and exploring chocolate in different forms. We used chocolate to make different delicious recipes, then we used melted chocolate to make marks and patterns. We enjoyed mixing cocoa powder with other ingredients and created our own edible concoctions.

Also, this half term we learned about healthy eating and the foods we should be eating more for a healthy diet. We tasted lots of healthy foods and snacks and could say what foods we liked or not.



BUTTERFLIES

This half term, Butterflies have enjoyed going swimming. During swimming the children have loved being in the water splashing and playing. One child said 'Swimming is the best day ever'.

Our class transitioned there and back really well and were very safe during their visits.



SQUIRRELS

This half term Squirrels have been looking at the topic Chocolate!

It has delighted the children to make, bake and explore in a fun and creative way!

We have celebrated Holi, Eid and Easter which the children have enjoyed learning about different faiths celebrations.





FOXES

This half term Foxes have enjoyed swimming, experimented with chocolate, healthy foods and made Eid cards for our families and friends.

HEDGEHOGS

This term Hedgehogs had a chocolate galore from the beginning and finished with a trip to Cadbury World!!!!!! The children explored chocolate in different forms; had the opportunity to learn where chocolate comes from as well as choosing their favourite from different types of chocolate. We can say truly Hedgehogs had Charlie and the Chocolate Factory experience!!!!!!



LADYBIRDS

This half term Ladybirds have been exploring the topic of Chocolate.

We have been using the Flat to make lots of different chocolate puddings and practicing our skills of being ready to cook and how to use the tools correctly!

SAVANNAH

ZEBRAS

The children in Zebras have enjoyed their first, band-practice sessions with Rock Steady, beginning to rehearse for a concert in May by learning to play simple beats on their designated instruments: drums, guitar or keyboard. In addition, they are learning the importance of taking turns, waiting and listening carefully to Danielle, the band leader, in a real-life situation.

**ELEPHANTS**

This term Elephants took our learning outside in My Cognition. The children found some flowers that have been growing on our school grounds and we discussed what they were. One of the children could even name a daffodil! After some modelling from Mrs Dudey, the children sat and drew their own wonderful sketches of the flowers to take back into the classroom to measure. They were able to recall what colours 5e flower were once in the classroom and coloured on their pictures beautifully. What a fabulous way to celebrate the start of Spring and warmer months by taking our learning outdoors!



FAMILY SUPPORT LINKS

Coffee morning dates: every other Wednesday 9.30-10.30 – All welcome-
Come have a drink, ask advise, no judgement chat!

15 April
29th April
13th may
Half term week
10th June
24th June
8th July
22nd July



Cygnets

Friday 1st may (fresh course) If you wish to book please phone reception to add to list.

A programme for parents and carers. A support programme for parents and carers of children and young people, aged 5-18, who are autistic.

Parents of autistic children face the usual positive and difficult challenges of parenting and quite a few more. Attending a Cygnets autism support programme gives parents and carers an opportunity to develop their understanding of autism and consider ways to support their child.

It also provides the opportunity to meet other people in a similar position and hear about their experiences in an informal but supportive atmosphere.

This terms attendance winners go to Jaxon King who won £50 for the first prize and Zack Brown who won a hamper! Congratulations



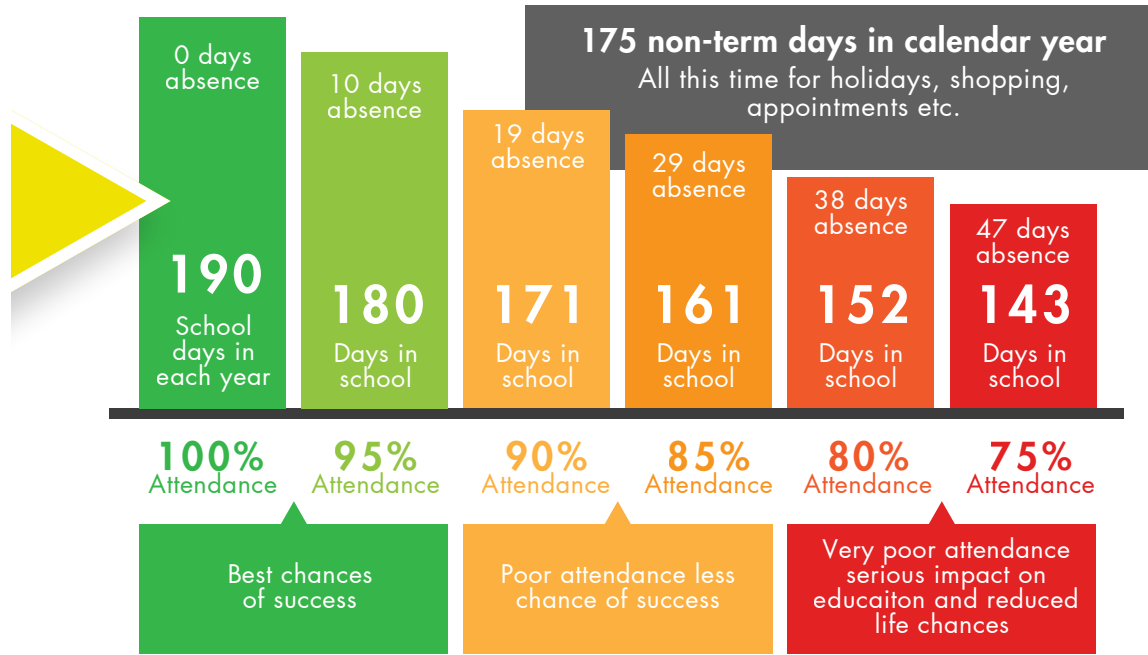
**365 DAYS IN A
CALENDAR YEAR**



Every child with **100% attendance** will receive a certificate and reward.

RAFFLE

All children with **100% attendance** will be put into a raffle per term and have the chance to win a **£50 voucher**.

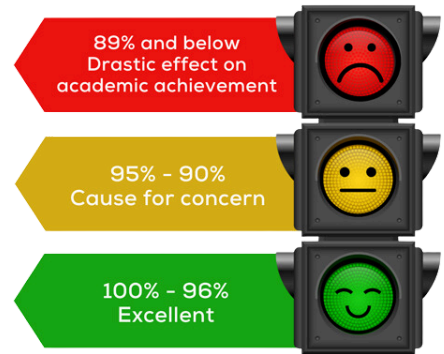


Did you know? A two week holiday in term means that the highest attendance you can achieve is 94.7%

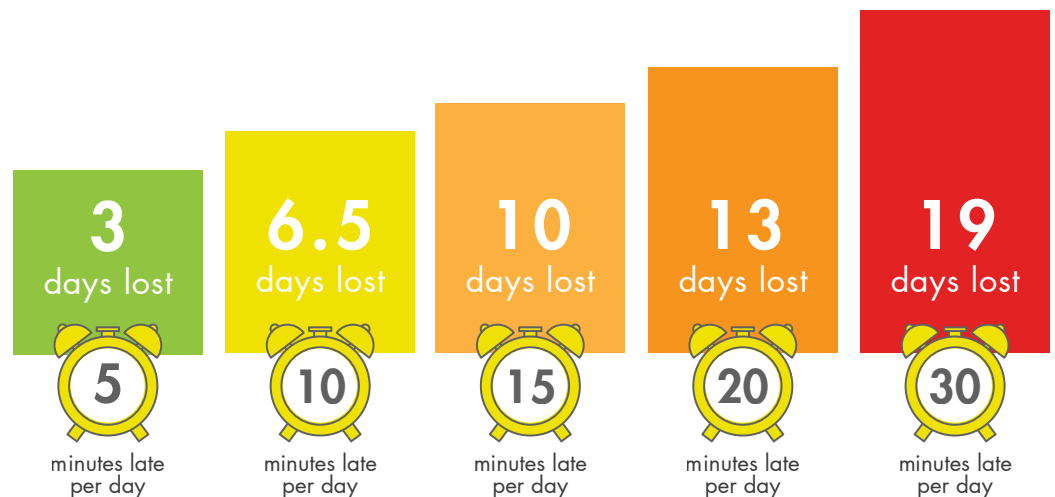
Children are required by law to attend 190 school days per year. The Government states that every pupil's attendance should be at least 95%.

How do you measure up?

Attendance	Days Absent	Weeks Absent	Lessons Missed
95%	9 Days	2 Weeks	50 Lessons
90%	19 Days	4 Weeks	100 Lessons
85%	29 Days	6 Weeks	150 Lessons
80%	38 Days	8 Weeks	200 Lessons
75%	48 Days	10 Weeks	250 Lessons
70%	57 Days	11.5 Weeks	290 Lessons
65%	67 Days	13.5 Weeks	340 Lessons



Every school day counts BUT every minute is equally important!



Thank you!

A massive thanks to all the parents who filled in the parent survey! Your comments and suggestions really help us to improve the school.



NEXT HALF TERM AT LEYCROFT

Topics for next half term:

- Seekers - Travel
- Explorer/ Unity- What A Mess!
- Connectors- What's Next?

IMPORTANT DATES

13th February 2026 - Return to School

4th May 2026 - Bank Holiday

5th May 2026 - INSET Day

20th May 2026- Rock Steady Concert

22nd May 2026- Break for half term

ATTENDANCE

Hedgehogs - 89%

Foxes - 95%

Squirrels - 91%

Owls - 89%

Elephants - 88%

Butterflies - 95%

Wolves - 93%

Zebras - 95%

Lions - 90%

Polar bears 94%

Ladybirds - 89%

Seals - 80%

Whales - 88%

Starfish - 91%

Penguins - 85%

Dolphins - 89%



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THIS SCHOOL IS
NUT FREE

