

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 Sunny and Stella have been a big part of welcoming the children into school on a Monday and saying goodbye to them on a Friday.

With the music playing and all staff dancing it had brought many smiles to all!



ROCK STEADY CONCERT

This half term children in Zebras, Elephants and Lions have been having weekly music lessons from Rock Steady where they have all learnt an instrument or vocal and formed their own band!

Parents then joined us for a concert where the children showcased what they have been learning.

Well done!!



SEA

Whales

Whales have loved exploring our topic, 'What a Mess!' this half term. The children enjoyed a local walk to the stream to collect natural materials such as grass, twigs, flowers and mud. Back in class we used these in our messy mud kitchen, where the children explored through sensory and messy play.

**DOLPHINS**

This half term Dolphins have been working on the topic of Travel - they have enjoyed looking at different ways to travel including car, bus and boat!

They enjoyed their Fabulous Finish by playing with different modes of travel in the sports hall!

STARFISH

Starfish Class have been doing some fantastic work around the topic Travel. Each week we have learned about a different way of travelling including trains, planes, boats, buses and cars. During my world/my creativity sessions, the children have cooperated with their peers and familiar adults to explore various travel destinations, transport and items for holidays. Starfish children have enjoyed packing a suitcase, recalling their holiday memories using our smelly jars and moving in different directions using their pretend transport. Alongside this topic, the children have had a brilliant time playing with trains at the train party this half-term!



ICE

PENGUINS

This term for topic, children explored 'travel'. Children have investigated different places for holidays and different mediums of travel. They had an amazing time with fabulous finish, they explored trains linking to our topic travelling this term. The children played with trains connecting them together making links, pressing then the sounds/buttons on the trains as they placed them on the track. The children explored the train construction station with trains of their choice and using the different mechanisms on the garage.

The children also rode Thomas train around the track themselves, following the track around or going on the train rollercoaster, making train noises and using symbols more/train.



POLAR BEARS

Polar bears have had a great time this half term. We have been taking part in Sherborne, PE sessions, and library sessions.

WOLVES

Wolves have had a great half term and have enjoyed some fabulous learning through our topic What A Mess! The children have shown fantastic creativity while building a variety of things from recycled materials, including robots, musical instruments, vehicles, cars and houses. We are so proud of their imaginative ideas throughout the topic. They have also enjoyed visits from Open Theatre this half term.



SEALS

This half term Seals have enjoyed going swimming on Monday mornings. They have gained confidence in the water and have had lots of fun.



WOODLANDS

OWLS

This half term, we focused our My world activities around the topic of recycling materials. We used our empty boxes and bottles to create different structures such as boats, rockets, houses then we put them to the test to see if they can float, fly or stand. We continued to work hard to improve our reading and writing skills during Phonics activities and used various communication aids to communicate with adults and peers. In Math we explored activities related to numbers such as addition and subtraction, and comparing mass and capacity for measure activities.



BUTTERFLIES

This half term we have loved doing out music sessions outside in the sun. The children have grown their skills at turn taking with their instruments and one day even formed a small band.

Some of the children sang while the others played their instruments giving us a lovely calm session.

SQUIRRELS

This half term in Squirrels class we have had the joy of working with Open Theatre and Sarah the Music lady! The children have enjoyed their drama and music lessons weekly and have shown great improvement in their turn taking skills, waiting skills and being involved with new experiences.





FOXES

Foxes started Music and Drama this half term, and our students have engaged really well with the different activities during Drama and playing the different instruments during Music. We have also worked really hard on our number and shape recognition, used different methods to measure different toys and sensory items (like rice). And we have enjoyed experimenting with recycling materials.

HEDGEHOGS

What a Mess, we have had this term in Hedgehogs!

The children enjoyed listening to the fable The Lion and the Mouse, where they explored the importance of kindness and learned how to identify and name different emotions experienced by characters. They also developed their understanding of the environment through activities focused on recycling. The children had lots of fun making mud pies, while introducing the concept of time through hands-on, practical experiences.



LADYBIRDS

This half term in Ladybirds we have been looking at what to do if we are hurt in PHSE.

We have been exploring different bandages, plasters and have read social stories to help us when we are hurt and need help.

SAVANNAH

ZEBRAS

This half term the children in Zebras have engaged in some outdoor learning. This has taken the form of a 'Boy Who Cried Wolf'-themed Sherborne session, featuring a flock of sheep, and the children reading aloud the descriptions of story settings, which they had composed, at the 'top of the grassy hill as the cool wind blew the fluffy, white clouds'.



LIONS

In Lions we have been designing merchandise for our recent Rock Steady Choir performance. Children researched instruments, made informative powerpoints and designed their bags. These will be available for Lions parents to purchase when we return in Summer 2!

ELEPHANTS

This term in Elephants we have been preparing ourselves for our trip to Lidl next term. As part of this work we have been role playing shops and have been learning about what we will see when we visit!



FAMILY SUPPORT LINKS

This half term, a group of children from Zebra Class were invited to visit the Birmingham City Foundation, where they took part in an engaging discussion about the importance of attending school regularly. The children also explored a range of positive coping strategies to help them manage situations when they may feel reluctant to come to school.



PLEASE SEE NEW GUIDANCE ON RESTRICTIVE INTERVENTIONS AND REASONABLE FORCE IN SCHOOLS

[HTTPS://ASSETS.PUBLISHING.SERVICE.GOV.UK/MEDIA/6943DAD6501CDD438F4CF5AA/RESTRICTIVE_INTERVENTIONS_INCLUDING_USE_OF_REASONABLE_FORCE_IN_SCHOOLS.PDF](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/6943DAD6501CDD438F4CF5AA/RESTRICTIVE_INTERVENTIONS_INCLUDING_USE_OF_REASONABLE_FORCE_IN_SCHOOLS.PDF)

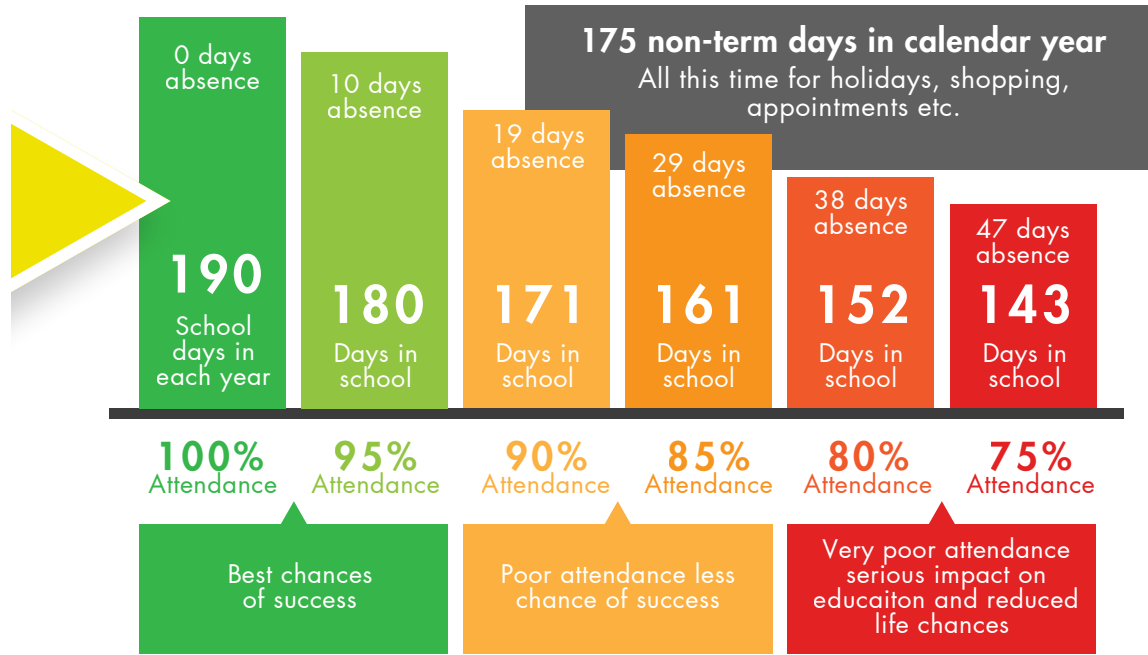
**365 DAYS IN A
CALENDAR YEAR**



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.

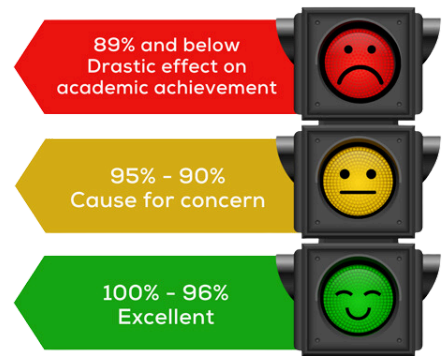


Did you know? A two week holiday in term means that the highest attendance you can achieve is 94.7%

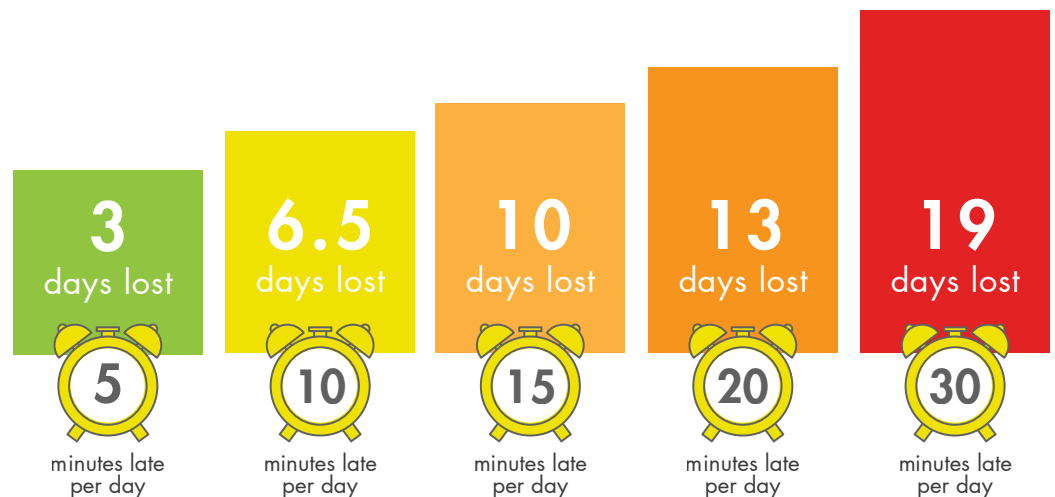
Children are required by law to attend 190 school days per year. The Government states that every pupil's attendance should be at least 95%.

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!



YOUR VOICE MATTERS: BECOME A PARENT GOVERNOR.

Exciting opportunity to join the Leycroft governing body! We're looking for a dedicated parent governor. Contact the Head Teacher at enquiry@leycroft.fet.ac



NEXT HALF TERM AT LEYCROFT

Topics for next half term:

- Next half term all phases will be looking at the topic of Competiton looking at different strands.

IMPORTANT DATES

- 1st June 2026 - Return to school
- 3rd July - Summer Fayre 3:30-5:50
- 7th & 8th July - Sports Day (Classes TBC)
- 15th July - Year 6 leavers picnic
- 17th July - Break up for summer

ATTENDANCE

Hedgehogs	- 97.1%
Foxes	- 96.7%
Squirrels	- 88%
Owls	- 95.2%
Elephants	- 96.3%
Butterflies	- 93.9%
Wolves	- 100%
Zebras	- 98.2%
Lions	- 97%
Polar bears	93.4%
Ladybirds	- 91.6%
Seals	- 98.7%
Whales	- 93.4%
Starfish	- 95%
Penguins	- 97%
Dolphins	- 93.9%



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NUT FREE



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 **LEYCROFT
ACADEMY**