

Friday 20th September 2024

## Principal's Messages:

### This week's awards

Well done to Chimdi Ihemdu who was nominated for this week's Principal's Award for writing an excellent poem using interesting vocabulary and Jack Riley who was nominated for being focused, resilient and determined to complete challenges.

This week's 'Stronger Together' awards went to 2S and 4S for excellent examples of working hard and being kind.

Today is the closing date for pupils to apply for the Y6 Head Pupil roles and the Y5/6 Pupil Leader roles. I look forward to letting you know who the successful pupils are in the coming weeks.



### Ongoing Building Work

As you may have noticed, our extension project is now well underway. We are having our reception classes extended to include a toilet and changing facility, kitchen area and further intervention spaces. Alongside this, we are having amendments made to the outdoor space by the old Y5 classrooms which will become our SEN Unit in January 2025. We are looking forward to welcoming pupils with speech and language and cognition and learning needs to the Leighton community. Mrs Schofield will be the lead teacher in the provision and we will continue to share any updates with you when we have them. Thank you for your cooperation in changes to your normal routes into school. We will reopen these paths as soon as it is safe to do so.



### Summer Reading Challenge

Well done to those children who took part in the Summer Reading Challenge organised by Crewe Library over the summer holidays. We have received a certificate to say that an amazing 19 pupils completed this from Leighton and read 6 books or more.

Crewe Library will be holding their Awards Ceremonies after school on Monday 23rd and Wednesday 25th September, when children who have completed the challenge can go along to collect their medal and certificate. If any pupils do attend, please bring in certificates and medals for next Friday's achievement assembly so that we can share this with other pupils.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

*Mrs Thompson*



# School Meals

If your child is not entitled to a free school meal, please log onto their Arbor account to pay for their meal in advance of their order.

School meals are £2.35 per day.



Week 1	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>Red Option</b>	<b>Margherita Pizza with Baked Potato Wedges</b>	<b>Chicken Fajitas with 50/50 Rice</b>	<b>Roast Beef with Yorkshire Pudding, Roast Potato &amp; Gravy</b>	<b>Pork Meatballs with Pasta</b>	<b>Fish Fingers &amp; Chips</b>
<b>Yellow Option</b>	<b>Cheese &amp; Bean Bake with Potato Wedges</b>	<b>Meat Free Sausage Ragù with Pasta</b>	<b>Quorn Fillet with Roast Potato &amp; Gravy</b>	<b>BBQ Quorn with 50/50 Rice</b>	<b>Quorn Nuggets with Chips</b>
<b>Green Option</b>	<b>Jacket Potato</b>	<b>Jacket Potato</b>	<b>Jacket Potato</b>	<b>Jacket Potato</b>	<b>Jacket Potato</b>
<b>Orange Option</b>	<b>Sandwich Selection</b>	<b>Sandwich Selection</b>	<b>Sandwich Selection</b>	<b>Sandwich Selection</b>	<b>Sandwich Selection</b>
<b>Desserts</b>	Lemon Drizzle Cake	Shortbread	Flapjack	Jam and Coconut Sponge	Fruit in Jelly
	Fresh fruit or yoghurt	Fresh fruit or yoghurt	Fresh fruit or yoghurt	Fresh fruit or yoghurt	Fresh fruit or yoghurt
Seasonal Vegetables and Salad Bar					

## Attendance Matters

Here are our attendance figures for this week

Our school target:	96%	
Overall school attendance this week:	93.66%	
Overall school attendance this year:	94.73%	
RB – 92.08%	2S – 93.75%	5F – 99.19% ★
RD – 91.03%	3J – 93.33%	5S – 94.51%
1J – 92.9%	3P – 96.77%	6E – 94.17%
1L – 88.04%	4S – 94.89%	6H – 90.15%
2P – 92.92%	4W – 91.88%	



For more information regarding attendance and punctuality; including term time absences and our policies, please see our webpage:

<http://www.leightonacademy.com>

# What Parents & Educators Need to Know about

# YOUTUBE

Almost anyone with an internet connection knows YouTube. The Google-owned site lets anyone upload videos to be shared around the world, and as a result, it's an incredible resource with instant free access to material covering every conceivable topic. But with over 500 hours of video uploaded every minute, not all of it will be appropriate for young eyes.

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

### INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

YouTube is free and can be accessed via numerous devices, even without creating a YouTube account. Some content is flagged as 'age-restricted' (requiring the user to be logged into an account with a verified age of 18), but children can still view some mildly inappropriate content. This can include profanity and violence, which some young users may find upsetting.

### CONNECT WITH STRANGERS

YouTube recommends videos related to what the user has previously watched on their account, aiming to provide content that will interest them. This is intended to be helpful but it can also lead to binge-watching and screen addiction – especially if 'auto-play' is active. Users without an account are shown popular videos from the last 24 hours, which might not always be suitable for children.

### RADICALISATION

YouTube's algorithm tends to promote content that's getting the most traffic – a lot of which can be quite extreme. This can be fine for harmless topics, but YouTube isn't regulated like television, and that means that conspiracy theories, fake news and hateful ideologies can occasionally surface to warp impressionable minds all too easily. Remember – the more they watch, the more they'll be recommended.

### CONNECTING WITH STRANGERS

YouTube is a social media platform which allows people to interact with other (usually unknown) users. Account holders can leave comments on any video they have access to, as well as message other users directly. Connecting with strangers online can potentially lead to children being exposed to adult language, cyberbullying and – in the worst cases – online predators. If a child is creating content themselves, this can increase the likelihood of them becoming a target.

### TRENDS AND CHALLENGES

YouTube is teeming with trends and challenges, some of which are fun to watch and join in with. Children often find these immensely entertaining and might want to try them out. Most challenges tend to be safe, but many others may cause physical or emotional harm children who watch or copy them. The painful 'salt and ice challenge' – where people use these two ingredients to burn their skin – is just one of many examples.

### SNEAKY SCAMMERS

The comments sections of popular content creators regularly have scammers posing as that influencer, attempting to lure users into clicking on their phishing links. Scammers impersonate YouTubers by adopting their names and profile images, and often offer cash gifts or 'get rich quick' schemes. Children may not realise that these users aren't who they claim to be.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

### APPLY RESTRICTED MODE

For older children, Restricted Mode is an optional feature that prevents YouTube from showing inappropriate material (such as drug and alcohol abuse, graphic violence, and sexual content) to underage viewers. To prevent children from chancing across age-inappropriate content on the platform, we would recommend enabling Restricted Mode on each device that they use to access YouTube. It's worth also turning the auto-play feature off, to prevent YouTube's algorithm automatically recommending something inappropriate.



### TRY GOOGLE FAMILY

Creating a Google Family account allows parents and carers to monitor what their child is watching, uploading, and sharing with other users. It will also display their recently watched videos, searches, and recommended videos. In general, a Google Family account gives a parent or carer oversight of how their child uses sites like YouTube and helps to ensure that they are only accessing appropriate content.



### MONITOR ENGAGEMENT

YouTube is the online viewing platform of choice for billions of people, many of them under 18. Younger children will watch different content to older ones, of course. You may want to keep an eye on how children interact with this material – and, if applicable, with content creators – to understand what they're interested in. Remember that creators often share content outside of YouTube, so don't ignore their web presence elsewhere!



### CONSIDER YOUTUBE KIDS

It's possible to sidestep most inappropriate content completely via Google's own YouTube Kids app for Android handsets and iPhone. This lets you filter content by "preschool" (4 and under), "younger" (ages 5 to 8) and "older" (ages 9 to 12). This isn't a perfect substitute for personal supervision, as the app's filtering system is automated, and Google can't manually review all videos.

### CHECK PRIVACY SETTINGS

YouTube gives users the option of uploading videos as 'private' or 'unlisted' – so they could be shared exclusively with family and friends, for example. Comments on videos can also be disabled and channels that a child is subscribed to can be hidden. If the child is only uploading videos set as 'private', they are far less likely to receive direct messages from strangers.



### LIMIT SPENDING

Although YouTube is free, it does offer some in-app purchases. For example, users can rent and buy TV shows and movies to watch. If you'd like to avoid children purchasing content online, limit their access to online payment methods. Many parents have discovered the hard way that a child happily consuming a paid-for series quickly leads to an unexpected bill!



## Meet Our Expert

Alan Martin is an experienced technology journalist who has written for the likes of Wired, TechRadar, Tom's Guide, The Evening Standard and The New Statesman.



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