



Holbrook Road, Long Lawford, Rugby, CV23 9AL.  
Tel: 01788 543332, Fax: 01788 550366, Email: admin2405@welearn365.com  
Website: www.longlawfordprimaryschool.com



## Long Lawford News...

Autumn 2

Later today the Rugby World Cup starts and this has been a focus for children's learning. During transition week, as well as the home nations, each class took a competing country to study. The result has been a wonderful display of larger than life Rugby players in the main school corridor. The Rugby World Cup has also been a feature of my assemblies.

### Leave of absence during term time 2015–16—Information for parents and carers

In September 2013 the Government introduced some significant changes to attendance regulations for pupils at school. The regulations will continue to apply during this academic year (2015–16). The most important of these is in relation to term time leave of absence. The amendments set out in the Education (Pupil Registration) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2013, govern all requests for leave within term time. When considering such requests, the school is obliged to act within the law.

The amended regulations removed references to '*holiday*' and '*extended leave*', as well as the statutory threshold of 10 school days. It is now clear that Head teachers may not grant any leave of absence during term time unless there are *exceptional circumstances*. The government has left it to Head teachers to define what he / she views as *exceptional circumstances*.

The school can only consider leave of absence requests which are made from the 'resident parent.

Each application for a leave of absence will be considered on a case by case basis and on their on merits.

Where applications for leave of absence are made in advance and refused, the child will be required to be in school on the dates set out in the application. If the child is absent during that period, it will be recorded as unauthorised absence, which may result in legal action being taken against the parent(s) by way of a **Fixed Penalty Notice**.

Failure to make an application for leave in advance can also result in a **Fixed Penalty Notice** being issued to parent(s). **CONTINUED OVERLEAF** →



Next week - Week beginning Monday, 21st September 2015 is **week FOUR** on the lunch time menu.

### STARS OF THE WEEK

**Star Workers** - Ugochi Anozie, Laiba Khares, Kobe Summerscales, Tom Gladman, Bethany Greenwood, Alfie Boswell, Rian O'Rourke, Markus Burrell, Max Jankowski, Oliver Sek, Ruben Linton, Max Beaver, Sophie Brackenridge, Meg Hewish, Jamie Greenhalgh.



**Star people** - Daniel Jayne, Jack Rigden, Dylan Jarvis, Layla Ali, Devon James, Imogen Mason, Sophie Coles, Ben Price, Bethany French, Edlyn Nkpey, Megan Rye, Bethany Guy, Heloise Richards, Owen Rimmer, Reuben Lee.

WELL DONE TO THEM ALL

## Leave of absence during term time 2015–16—Information for parents and carers - CONTINUED

It is important to note that, **Fixed Penalty Notices** are issued to each parent of each absent child (for example 2 children, 2 parents, means each parent will receive 2 invoices in the amount of £120 each, totaling £240 for both children, this is reduced to £60 per child if paid within 21 days.)

Where a **Fixed Penalty Notice** is not paid within the required timeframe as set out in the notice, the matter will be referred to Warwickshire County Council's Legal Services to consider instigating criminal proceedings under S444 Education Act 1996.

Fixed Penalty Notices are issued in accordance with Warwickshire County Council's Code of Conduct for Penalty Notices.

We would greatly appreciate parental support to reduce the total amount of days lost due to holidays. Currently Long Lawford Primary School has one of the lowest attendance rates for schools across Rugby and this is primarily due to term time holidays.

We are committed to working in partnership with you to enable your child to reach their academic targets and to support their social development. For this to happen we need to keep individual attendance as high as possible - we all need to play our part.

Your child's progress academically as well as socially is our shared priority.

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**Cake Stall** - We will be raising money for Macmillan Cancer Support by holding a cake stall on Friday, 25th September. Please help us by donating cakes to sell on the stall - all cakes will be priced at 50p and children will be able to buy them at break time. During school cakes will be limited to 1 per child. Any cakes left over will be available for parents/children to buy after school. Thank you

**Book Fair** - Just to let you know in advance, we will be holding the Book Fair from Monday, 28th September to Thursday, 1st October.

**Swimming helpers** - As you know we take the children in Foundation Stage 2 (starting October) and years 1,2 and 3 swimming each week and we rely on parent helpers to enable us to do this safely. We always welcome more volunteers and are very grateful for their help. If you would like to help out, either on Tuesday or Friday mornings, we will need to do a CRB/DBS check for you so please contact Mrs Griffiths in school office for more details. Thank you.

**PE/swimming kit** - Please would parents/carers ensure that their child has the correct kit for P.E. and swimming lessons. P.E. kit should be kept in school either in the child's locker, or on their peg in Foundation Stage 2, so that it is always available. Swimming kit is required on Tuesdays for Years 1 and 2 and Fridays for Year 3 and Foundation Stage 2. We now have 450 children in school and unfortunately do not always have time to ring parents for missing kit. Thank you for your help.