



Newsletter

20th March 2026



Dear Parents and Carers of Greenleas School,

We have all been enjoying the Spring Sunshine this week and making the most of our outside space at playtime and lunchtime.

Last Friday children at Derwent Road enjoyed an Easter Panto hosted by the PTA to raise funds for the school. The performance started at 4pm in the hall and was enjoyed by all.

On Wednesday I had lunch at Kestrel Way with the super well behaved Wren, Ethan, Finley, Enzo and Callie from Reception and KS1. One of the children had a beautiful Hello Kitty lunch box which I admired, which led on to the conversation about favourite lunch boxes (Minecraft) and favourite foods (not mushrooms).

Children at both sites have attended the Run4Fun at Astral Park on Thursday, the sunniest day of the week so far. This is an event where children are encouraged to improve their personal best, and all participants will receive a Finishers Medal. Across both sites 48 children have attended this event.

Kestrel Way children also enjoyed a movie night yesterday, courtesy of the PTA. Children voted in class for their choice of film to watch, which they enjoyed in their classrooms with snacks and drinks.

We are hugely grateful to all of our volunteer PTA members as well as our staff who give up their time to raise much-needed funds for the school.

Please note we will be closing slightly earlier on the last day of term at 1.15pm on Friday 27th March and Friday 17th July. We are giving advance notice so that you have time to make collection arrangements if needed, as there will be no After School Club. This change is to bring us in line with other local schools and the middle schools.

Rebecca Clarke,
Head Teacher



Greenleas' Value of the Month for March is...

Appreciation

To help deepen your child's understanding of our value this month, you could discuss these questions:

- Who do you appreciate?
- Why do we appreciate them?
- How do you show them you appreciate them?
- What do you have that you appreciate?

Star of the Week

Derwent Road:
Ethan D
Kestrel Way:
Mia D



Tidy Tortoise

Derwent Road:
Puffins
Kestrel Way:
Ospreys



Click the icon to visit our school social media channels.



Safeguarding Matters

At The National College, our [WakeUpWednesday](#) guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about

AI TOYS

This festive season, the newest toys on the shelves do not just blink or make noise; they listen. Many now come with artificial intelligence (AI), allowing them to talk, learn, and even respond to a child's emotions. These toys can be educational and engaging, but they also collect, store, and process information. This guide explains what that means for families and why it matters.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

TOYS THAT LISTEN AND LEARN

When a toy uses AI, it collects data such as voice recordings, interactions, and background sounds. This information is sent to remote servers, where it is analysed to improve responses. Your child's voice becomes training data, which may be stored indefinitely or shared with third parties.

WEAK SECURITY PROTECTIONS

Some AI toys have poor password protection or open network connections. Others may have microphones or cameras that stay on, even when the toy appears to be off. This can lead to recordings being made without your knowledge, including conversations unrelated to play.

ARTIFICIAL VOICES, REAL INFLUENCE

For very young children, an AI companion may become one of the first voices they interact with regularly. How that voice shows humour, empathy, or authority can shape how a child learns to communicate. If the model is artificial, then part of what is learned is artificial as well.

PRESSURE TO KEEP ENGAGING

Some toys reward repeated use or track engagement, encouraging children to interact more. When children compare how their toys perform, it creates pressure to play more often. This increases the amount of data collected and can make learning feel like competition.

MARKETING THROUGH PLAY

Toys that learn a child's preferences may feed that data into future advertising. A toy that knows a child's favourite colour or hobby could help a company design more targeted marketing to that child and their family.

PLAYTIME AS DATA TRAINING

The information collected from children helps train AI systems. Their voice, emotional responses, and behaviour shape how machines 'understand' people. Play becomes part of a much larger system that influences how future technologies behave.

Advice for Parents & Educators

START WITH A CONVERSATION

Talk to young people. Explain that some toys learn from what they say and do. Help them understand that even friendly technology should have boundaries, and to ask questions about it. Curiosity is healthy, blind trust is not.

SET LIMITS ON USE

Turn off Wi-Fi or Bluetooth when the toy is not in use. Check for updates regularly, as they can change privacy or safety settings. Treat connected toys like any smart device; they should be monitored, updated, and switched off when not in use.

MODEL DIGITAL AWARENESS

Children learn from adults. If they see you checking privacy settings, reading terms, and talking openly about online safety, they are more likely to do the same. Show them how to question technology in a healthy way.

RESEARCH BEFORE YOU BUY

Look for toys that work offline or store data locally. Check for a free or demo version so you can test how it behaves. Read privacy policies to understand what data is collected, where it goes, and whether it's shared with others.

REVIEW PRIVACY SETTINGS

Find out where the data is stored and who has access to it. Some companies sell or share data with advertisers. If the toy connects through an app, check what it requests access to and limit those permissions whenever possible.

BALANCE AI WITH REAL PLAY

AI toys can be fun and creative, but they are not a replacement for real human interaction. Encourage time away from technology with activities that foster emotional and social development. Use AI toys to support learning, not define it.

Meet Our Expert

Clara Hawking is Executive Director of Kompass Education. She advises governments, school trusts, and global organisations on AI governance and safeguarding, helping schools and families understand how technology shapes learning, wellbeing, and the digital future of children.



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Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 17.12.2025

If you wish to report any safeguarding concerns, please contact the below staff members in the first instance:



Designated Safeguarding Lead:
Rebecca Clarke
Kestrel/Derwent



Derwent Road:
Sarah Horne



Derwent Road:
Bindia Sexton



Derwent Road/Kestrel Way:
Alexia Cook



Kestrel Way:
Amanada Wallace

Movie Night Review

On Thursday, many of the children stayed for movie night. The children in Reception watched Sac Acton or Octonauts. In Year 1 the children watched Zootropolis 2. 'We loved it, Gary the snake was my favourite character!'

In Year 2, the children watched Bag Guys Breaking In. 'It was so funny, the best film!'

In Year 3 we watched Dog Man. 'I loved Dog Man because I enjoy the books.'

In Year 4 the children watched Zootropolis. 'I love this film as it has so many animals in, especially the hamsters in suits!'

Movie night was so much fun, it is nice to sit with our friends and have treats. Thank you to the PTA and teachers for organising it. (Sophie and James reporting on Movie Night).



Central
Bedfordshire



Learn to Ride Cycle Training Course

Cycle4Life is pleased to offer a free place on a Learn to ride cycle course to any Leighton Buzzard school Yr 4s who cannot ride a bike yet and have not taken part in a course at school (limited spaces available).

About the course

The 1 hour course seeks to instil confidence and ability in independent starting and riding, encouraging beginners to balance, then pedal. Sessions are very interactive and enjoyable, and each child is able to achieve their own best level.

The session will take place on **Saturday 28th March at Linslade Lower School, Leopold Rd, Linslade, Leighton Buzzard, LU7 2QU** (Time TBC)

Course requirements

- A well-maintained and suitable sized bike. *(Please check your child's bike using our bike check guide) Hire bikes available upon request.*
- Any stabilisers to be removed in advance.
- Dress for the weather.

HOW TO SIGN UP - LEARN TO RIDE TRAINING

To book a place use the QR/link provided below to fill in the online form.



Easter Learn
To Ride

<https://consent.bikeability.org.uk/worth-poll-tap>

Course co-ordinator: dan@cycle4life.org

LEIGHTON-LINSLADE
TOWN COUNCIL

Leighton-Linslade Town Council

NEWSLETTER

www.leightonlinslade-tc.gov.uk/council_events/

Market Event for Families Tuesday 31st March 10am - 1pm

Our next Market Event for Families is all about transport! We'll be joined by the The Play Bus, have transport themed art and craft, balloons and maybe even a fire engine! (if available). It's all FREE.

When: Tuesday 31st March, 10am - 1pm
Location: High Street, Leighton Buzzard



Guided Children's Trail Walk

Join us for a free guided walk around the Children's Trail to look for bears, kittens, frogs and giants. Everyone gets a goody bag at the end.
Meet: Library, Lake Street
When: Thurs 2nd April, 10am



Hoppy Easter

The Easter Bunny has been pinning pictures of Easter eggs to the fairy doors in Parson's Close Rec. Hop into town and see if you can spot them all.

28th March - 7th April

Town Mayor's Spring Fair

Pages Park, Leighton Buzzard
Saturday 25th April
11am - 2pm (first hour for SEND)

Join us for a day of family fun. A lively outdoor event full of community spirit and entertainment, all to raise funds for Freddie and Friends!

Free entry, with a small charge for some activities.



DERWENT ROAD PTA EASTER TRAIL HUNT

TUESDAY 24TH MARCH
3.30-4.30 IN AND AROUND THE
PLAYGROUND

THIS IS AN EVENT FOR ALL, FROM PRE-
SCHOOL TO YEAR 4!

JOIN US TO HUNT FOR EASTER CLUES HIDDEN IN
AND AROUND THE PLAYGROUND AND WIN A EASTER
TREAT! WE WILL ALSO HAVE AN ADOPT A TEDDY
STALL!

PLEASE NOTE THIS IS AN EVENT TO DO WITH YOUR
CHILD SO EVERY CHILD MUST HAVE THEIR ADULT
PRESENT.

PAY £3 FOR THE EASTER TRAIL ON
OUR APP!

THE ADOPT A TEDDY WILL BE £1 ON
THE DAY, CASH OR CARD ACCEPTED

Thank you for your support

DERWENT ROAD PTA NON UNIFORM DAY FRIDAY 27TH MARCH



Support the school PTA with a £1 donation

Children are invited to come to school in their own clothes. Payment
is on the app. No make up please

Funds raised by the PTA are donated to the school to help with
school projects, including the playground improvements.

Thank you so much!

Session 1:
Mini Tennis
Age 4-11 years
12-2pm
£48 4 day week

EASTER TENNIS CAMP 2026

Session 2:
Yellow Ball
Age 12-18 years
2-5pm
£72 4 day week

Week 1
30th MARCH - 2nd APRIL

Week 2
7th APRIL - 10th APRIL

10% Discount AVAILABLE for SIBLINGS and Members

Includes:

- Fun Tennis Games
- Tennis Coaching Drills
- LTA qualified coaches
- Tuck Shop available
- Age 4-18 years old
- All abilities welcome

To book visit:

www.clubspark.pta.org.uk/linslade/tennisclub/Coaching/Camps

Linslade Tennis Club
Mentmore Road, LU7 2NY

For more information contact Head Coach Sara Bamford 07561-571578



Happy Easter!
25th of March

MAIN MENU

Spring Roast Chicken
Served with Sage
& Onion Stuffing
& Gravy

or

Shepherdess Pie (Ve)

or

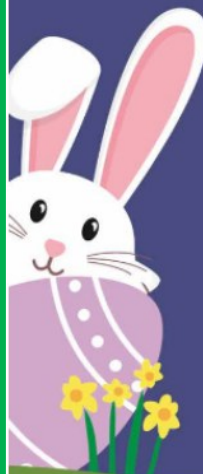
Veggie Bangers
& Gravy (Free From*)

SERVED WITH

New Potatoes
Honey Roasted Vegetables
Steamed Cabbage

DESSERT

Carrot Cake
or
Shortbread



Nutrition & Hydration Week

16 - 22 March

Is your body getting enough water?

Not drinking enough water doesn't just cause thirst, it can affect kidney health and lead to toileting problems and infections in children and adults.



<https://www.nutrition.org.uk/nutritional-information/hydration/>

Feeling tired, grumpy or headachey?

It might be dehydration. Hydration supports physical health, concentration and wellbeing.



Did you know?

Even mild dehydration can affect memory, attention, mood and energy in children. Encourage regular sips throughout the school day!



facebook.com/bedscyp/



@bedscyp



Nutrition & Hydration Week

Why hydration matters

Hydration is essential for:

- Brain function
- Energy levels
- Learning and concentration
- Physical performance
- Emotional regulation
- Overall wellbeing

Because children have higher fluid needs relative to body weight and may not recognise thirst early, they are more vulnerable to dehydration – especially during active play, warm weather, sports, and busy school days.

Cognitive impacts of dehydration

Even mild dehydration can cause:

- Reduced concentration
- Poor memory retention
- Slower thinking
- Difficulty solving problems
- Lower alertness and reaction time
- Increased confusion and irritability

Your brain is 75% water! Keep it topped up to stay alert.

Physical health impacts of dehydration

1. Low energy and fatigue
2. Headaches and migraines
3. Dizziness and light-headedness
4. Overheating and poor temperature regulation
5. Muscle cramps and weakness
6. Dry lips, skin and eyes
7. Digestive problems
8. Increased heart rate
9. UTIs and kidney strain
10. Reduced immunity and wellbeing

Water helps your body work, move, think and feel good!

Key messages

Children and young people:

- Water helps your brain learn faster
- Sip throughout the day
- Bring your water bottle everywhere

Parents and carers:

- Encourage water with meals and before bed
- Promote water and limit sugary drinks

School staff:

- Allow and encourage water bottles on desks
- Build hydration breaks into daily routines
- Observe signs of dehydration in tired, irritable or unfocused pupils



Summer term 2026



Bonjour!



March 2026

Would you like to give your child a head start in a Foreign language?

Research shows that learning a new language at a young age is effective. It also improves children's cognitive ability, which has a positive impact on other areas of the curriculum.

As a qualified teacher and native speaker, I am delighted to run the after school French club at Greenleas Lower School, Derwent Road on Mondays.

In these small 30-minute classes, pupils enjoy learning the language and much more through stories, songs, games and role-plays.



Next term, classes will run from **20th April** through to **6th July 2026 (10 weeks)**.

Classes remain at £5.80 a week and the children are required to have an activity book that comes with a media app. The book lasts at least one full school year.

I send regular emails to tell you what we have been doing in class and what the children could practise at home.

If you would like your child to join, please register them online using:
www.clubrollement.com/AllLaughton - select Greenleas Lower School Derwent Road

When making payment, please put your child's name and GR as a reference.

Please don't hesitate to contact me or visit www.lajolieronde.co.uk if you would like any further information or if you have any questions.

I leave you with two of my favourite quotes:

- To have another language is to possess another soul - Charlenagre
- Knowledge of languages is the doorway to wisdom - Roger Bacon

Merci beaucoup,

Aurélie Laughton

Email: ab.laughton@gmail.com

MONDAY MORNING MINI TENNIS CLUB (School Hall)

GREENLEAS KESTREL WAY

Summer Term- 20th April to Mon. 13th July 2026 (exc. Half-Term)

Day/Time	School year	No. of weeks	Cost	Tick box
Mon. 8-8.45am	All Years	11	£77	

Child's Name..... D.O.B. School Year

Medical Conditions (if any) Contact Tel. No.

Parents Name and Address

E-mail address.....

Please e-mail or text Debbie and attach completed form to either
paulhobday@tiscali.co.uk or 07956048006

Payment to Mrs D. Hobday by bank transfer, Lloyds TSB, 30-14-71, 14488160.

Please add GREENLEAS plus your child's name/s as the reference.

All equipment provided, please arrive wearing sports clothing or PE kit and bring a water bottle.

Greenleas Kestrel Way

MINI TENNIS CLUB SUMMER TERM

Monday mornings in the hall

Come along and join in with the **FUN!**



Coach Debbie Hobday

(LTA Accredited Level 4 Coach – Linslade Tennis Club)

Starts Monday 20th April 2026

(Application on reverse)



EASTER CAMP

5-13 YEAR OLDS!

3 COURSES

50+ ACTIVITIES

CHOOSE FROM

1. FUTURE FOOTBALL
2. FUTURE SPORTS (MULTI SPORT)
3. FUTURE STARZ

Week 1
MON 30TH MARCH - THURSDAY 2ND APRIL

Week 2
TUES 7TH APRIL - FRIDAY 10TH APRIL

Times
8.30AM TO 4PM

Day pass
£27.50

8am drop £3
5.30pm stay £6

TFG10 for 10% off!
(exp 20/3/26)

Activities

- ✓ 3G Pitch
- ✓ Sports Halls
- ✓ Qualified Coaches
- ✓ Ofsted registered
- ✓ Established 15 years

Cedars Upper School
Mentmore Road, Leighton Buzzard, LU7 2AE

Book online
www.tfgcamps.com



SCAN ME

More Information www.tfgcamps.com hello@tfgcamps.com



OVER 10,000 CHILDREN ATTENDED!

CHOOSE FROM

FUTURE FOOTBALL
IMPROVE YOUR SKILLS WITH OUR FA COACHES; PLAYERS WILL FOCUS ON SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND FUN SMALL SIDED MATCHES AND TEAM CHALLENGES WITH TOP EQUIPMENT LIKE TARGET NETS, SPEED RADAR, REBOUND WALLS, REBOUND NETS, FOOTBALL MANNEQUINS AND MORE! ALL ON A 3G FOOTBALL PITCH! ALSO CHANCE TO HAVE A GO ON OUR FOOTBALL INFLATABLES - DARTS, POOL, TARGET AND BOWLING!

FUTURE SPORTS
FUN, SAFE ACTIVITIES INCLUDING; 60FT INFLATABLE OBSTACLE COURSE, INFLATABLE WRECKING BALL CHALLENGE, LASER TAG, QUIDDITCH, SCOOTERS, STREET SURFING, GO-KARTS, ARCHERY, NERF WARS, BALL GAMES, INDOOR CURLING, TENNIS, TRI GOLF, KWIK CRICKET, ROUNDERS, ATHLETICS, OUTDOOR & ADVENTURE AND MORE! WITH USE OF A LARGE FIELD, PLAYGROUND, 3G AND SPORTS HALL!

FUTURE STARZ
CREATIVE, FUN ACTIVITIES INCLUDING; STREET DANCE, CHEER DANCE, DISCO DANCE, MUSICAL DANCE, DRAMA, DAILY ENRICHMENT ACTIVITY, ARTS & CRAFTS, OUTDOOR NATURE EXPLORERS AND OUTDOOR YOGA. WITH THE USE OF A LARGE HALL AND LARGE FIELD!

Certificates TFG branded prizes
Sports Star Awards **50+ ACTIVITIES** **Daily prizes**

- Please book online before your child's first day.
- Packed lunch, snacks and drinks are required.
- **Please note: all TFG Camps are nut-free zones**
- Sessions that are not attended are still charged unless 10 days notice is given.
- Booking is acceptance of our full terms and conditions found at www.tfgcamps.com

More Information www.tfgcamps.com hello@tfgcamps.com



EASTER MULTISPORT 4 DAY CAMP!

JOIN US FOR EASTER ACTIVITIES & SPORTS!

Dates & Locations:

- Monday 30th March - Rufus Centre, Flitwick
- Tuesday 31st March - The Hub, Flitwick
- Wednesday 1st April - The Hub, Flitwick
- Thursday 2nd April - The Hub, Flitwick

Drop off time: 10am
Pick up time: 3pm

Ages: 6 - 12 years old

Cost: £15 per day, or **FREE** if you qualify for Free School Meals.

FREE childs ticket to watch Bedford Blues for all participants!
Hot food options for attendees (pre book only)

Supported and part funded by Bedford Blues Foundation and Central Bedfordshire Council

Egg Hunt

SCAN TO BOOK



Book now: www.bluesfoundation.org.uk/holiday-provision



LLSSP EASTER HAF ACTIVITY CAMP

Central Bedfordshire

7TH APRIL
8TH APRIL
9TH APRIL
10TH APRIL

10am - 3.00pm
VANDYKE UPPER SCHOOL
Vandyke Road
LU7 3DY

Activity Programme
Action packed sports and enrichment activities including:
Trampolining, Cooking, Glow Sports, plus many more delivered by our qualified staff.

SCHOOL YEARS 4 - 10

BOOK USING YOUR CHILDS UNIQUE HAF CODE



ALL CHILDREN TO BE PROVIDED WITH A HOT MEAL

School Nursing Newsletter

[Click here for the Spring Term School Nursing Newsletter.](#)

