



2nd October 2026

Laleham Lea

A Catholic Independent School for boys and girls aged 3 to 11

29 Peaks Hill, Purley, Surrey, CR8 3JJ

Tel: 0208 660 3351 Email: secretary@lalehamlea.co.uk Web: www.lalehamlea.co.uk

Dear Parents,

We have enjoyed another action-packed week at Laleham Lea.

On Wednesday I accompanied a group of our Year 6 and Year 4 students to the Good Shepherd school for the annual Croydon Catholic Schools' RE Day. Students took part in a variety of RE based activities and crafts.

Today, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 students have had a great time being Superheroes in a fun drama workshop with Perform for schools.

School photos took place yesterday. Order forms were sent home in bookbags/rucksacks if you would like to buy any pictures (which make great Christmas presents for family!)

On Thursday I joined many of our staff at the Diocesan Mass for Catholic School Staff at John the Baptist in Purley. It was lovely to join colleagues from Catholic Schools across Croydon for this special mass.

Our Parent consultations take place on the final week of this half term. Slots will be **available to book via Compass from 5pm today**.

Next week we are looking forward to welcoming Primary Workshops for Schools for some African drumming workshops to celebrate Black History Month.

Wishing you a lovely, sunny, weekend

Mrs Reece

Headteacher

Attendance

Following on from Mrs. Reece's letter earlier this week, here is a quick, reminder about school attendance.

We love seeing our classrooms full of energy and eager minds every morning. Here is a brief recap of government guidance on absences:

Term-Time Holidays: As mentioned in Mrs. Reece's update, Headteachers are unable to approve family holidays during term time and will have to be marked as unauthorised under DfE rules.

Exams & Key Assessments: Being in school during test and exam periods is crucial so students can showcase all their hard work without extra stress. Whilst the exam dates are authorised, time of to prepare cannot be.

Acting, Modelling & Auditions: We have some amazingly talented pupils! If your child is heading off to an acting or modelling audition/performance, please remember to send us formal email evidence from the agency or casting company showing the time and date so we can authorise the absence correctly.

Thank you so much for your continued support and partnership in making every school day count!

PTA

Thank you to Mrs Hobson who has volunteered to be Class Rep for Reception this year.

We have had a small handful of other volunteers offer to help with some events this year, but still need more!

Please Let Mrs Sponder know if you can spare some time to help with PTA events this year.

Dates for your Diary

- 8th October—Swimming (Y6&Y5)
- 9th October – Black History Month Drumming Workshops
- 12th October — Parent Consultation Meetings (3.30—5.30pm)
- 16th October—Year 6 Class assembly
- 19th—30th October—Half Term
- 2nd November—Return to school winter Uniform
- 11th November—Year 1 Pizza Express Trip
- 13th November—Catholic Schools' Cross Country



The Catholic life of the school



Celebration of The Word

On Monday our Celebration of The Word assembly focused on how actions speak louder than words. We listened to a story about two people whose words didn't match their actions. We learnt about why, what we do is much more important than what we say, and checked if our own choices look like the choices Jesus would make.



What do you think? There was a man who had two sons. He went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work today in the vineyard.' 'I will not,' he answered, but later he changed his mind and went. "Then the father went to the other son and said the same thing. He answered, 'I will, sir,' but he did not go. "Which of the two did what his father wanted?" "The first," they answered. Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are entering the kingdom of God ahead of you. For John came to you to show you the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes did. And even after you saw this, you did not repent and believe him. (Matthew 21: 28-32).

Month of the Holy Rosary

OCTOBER: THE MONTH OF THE HOLY ROSARY
CELEBRATE & PRAY WITH US

HOW TO PRAY THE HOLY ROSARY

1. Sign of the Cross & Apostles' Creed (Crucifix)
2. Our Father (Single Bead)
3. Three Hail Marys (Three Beads)
4. Glory Be
5. O My Jesus (First Large Bead)
6. First Decade (10 Hail Marys, Large Bead, First Mystery)
13. Glorious Be (Single Bead) BEADS

HAIL MARY BEADS
OUR FATHER BEADS
MYSTERIES

CELEBRATING THE HOLY ROSARY

October is dedicated to the Holy Rosary. Join us in this beautiful devotion to Our Blessed Mother. Let us pray the rosary daily for peace, faith, and and our community.

OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY
FAITH • COMMUNITY • PRAYER

Gospel Values

Well done to this week's Gospel Values award winners for showing our values of **Compassion, Gentleness, Justice, Love, Forgiveness** and **Hope**.



RE Day

Year 4 and Year 6 students enjoyed a great day at The Good Shepherd School on Wednesday for their annual RE Day, taking part in a variety of RE based activities.



Nursery

This week Nursery have been exploring 'Hibernation'. Some of the activities included:

- Viewing a video clip about animals that hibernate and then completing a short quiz to reinforce our understanding.
- Listening to the story of 'Don't Hog the Hedge' and discussing the different characters.
- Categorising the animals into their correct hibernation groups.
- Sponge painting our own hedgehogs.
- Working as a team and using the large foam bricks and leaves to build our own hibernating place to sleep through the Winter. We also enjoyed having a pretend Teddy bears Picnic in the garden.



Reception

This week in Reception, the children have explored the meaning of the Harvest Festival and the importance of helping others. We discussed how our school community supports those in need by collecting donations for the Purley Food Hub, a wonderful local charity we are proud to continue supporting.

In mathematics, we have been learning about symmetry, and searched for examples all around us in nature. From the spotted wings of ladybirds and intricate spider webs to flowers and leaves, the children loved discovering natural patterns. Using mirrors to explore reflections, they created some truly fantastic symmetrical work of their own!



Year 1

This week in English, Year one have enjoyed role playing the story of Little Red Riding Hood. They took turns enacting characters and exploring the genre of Fairy tales through freeze frames.



Year 2

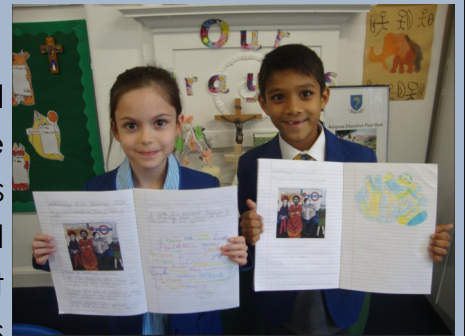


This week Year 2 have been learning about the place values in Maths, knowing 100s, 10s and 1s and even 1000s! Great job everyone!

Year 3

This week Year 3 have been exploring the Catholic Social Teaching principles of equality and human dignity. We have discussed how every person is made in God's image and is precious and valued. Through stories and discussion, the children have considered how we can treat everyone with fairness, kindness, respect and love. It has been lovely to see their understanding of this important idea!

Our young poets stepped back in time to celebrate National Poetry Day! The children had a fantastic time rehearsing and performing Michael Rosen's 'I Was Born in the Stone Age'.



Year 4

It has been another great week in Year 4!

In Science, pupils explored living things by classifying vertebrates and invertebrates, followed by a habitat survey in our nature trail. In English, the children focused on using inverted commas correctly as they started drafting formal newspaper reports on the arrival of HMT Empire Windrush.



Year 5

Year 5 have created these amazing posters celebrating important figures for Black History Month.

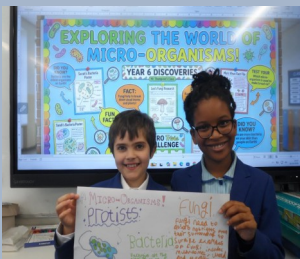


Year 6

This week, Year 6 stepped into the shoes of microbiologists to explore the microscopic world.

From beneficial bacteria in yogurt to decomposers in soil, pupils investigated how tiny organisms affect our health and environment.

To share their research, students created eye-catching posters packed with detailed diagrams, scientific vocabulary, and key facts.



Music Lessons—Spaces Available



Mrs Corrigan plays the harp and is considering offering lessons at Laleham Lea to pupils from Year 2 upwards. These lessons will be taught on a lever harp (folk harp) as opposed to a classical pedal harp.

The lever harp is ideal for beginners and usually comes with 34 strings or smaller ones with 17 strings.

Pupils can use Mrs Corrigan's harp in school for their first few lessons before deciding on whether to buy or hire a harp from an outside company. Small harps of about 17 strings are adequate for beginners and cost between £300-£500. Hiring a small harp costs between £25-£30 per month.

Please let us know before half term if you are interested in your child taking up harp lessons so Mrs Corrigan can decide whether there is sufficient interest in lessons taking place.

There is also availability for Guitar, Piano, Violin and woodwind instruments—do let Mrs Corrigan know if your child is interested in having lessons.

Drama 4 All Workshops

Well done to our little superheroes in Reception, Y1 and Y2 who enjoyed a fun Superhero workshop this morning.



Stars of the week





HELP YOUR COMMUNITY! DONATE TO PURLEY FOOD HUB



Long life whole milk



Tins of corned beef, chicken and ham



Pasta sauce in cartons



Boxes of packet soup



500g bags of sugar



Tinned rice pudding and packet custard



Baby wipes



Toilet rolls

EVERY CONTRIBUTION MAKES A DIFFERENCE!

DROP-OFF POINT: The Long Room

Deadline: Oct 12th

TRY A FULL
CLASS FOR
FREE



Confidence Building **FUN**

Drama, dance & singing classes
designed to help 4-12 year olds shine

**“My daughter’s confidence grows with every session,
she comes out taller and so proud every time.”**

- Laurie Stewart



Perform Purley

St David's Preparatory School, Woodcote Valley Road, CR8 3AL
Saturdays at 9.30am (4-7s), 11.15am (7-12s)

LEAP211

To book a free class visit perform.org.uk/try

