

Welcome Back

Start of Term 1 Newsletter

We hope you had a fantastic summer filled with fun and cherished memories with your loved ones. As we transition back into our school routine, we are excited to see our students return with renewed energy and enthusiasm.

I would like to welcome our new Rainbow parents. Every term I will send a New Term letter with dates and then every **Thursday** you will receive a Weekly Bulletin which gives you dates for the up and coming year. We then end each term with a Term Newsletter which has photos to celebrate the learning which has taken place.

Please do join X (Twitter) as we share lots of photos and learning on there.

School Plan

As we embark on a new academic year, we are excited to share with you one focus from this year's school plan. A significant emphasis will be placed on the "E" in our PRIDE values—**Equality and Friendship**.

This year, we are committed to enriching our students' understanding of these crucial concepts. To achieve this, we will be visiting various places of worship and refreshing our Religious Education (RE) curriculum, along with the content of our assemblies. These initiatives are designed to broaden our children's perspectives and reinforce the importance of embracing the diverse world they are growing up in. We believe that by fostering an environment of equality and celebrating diversity, we are preparing our students to be compassionate, informed, and respectful global citizens.

You can find the full School Plan on our website: <https://lenham.kent.sch.uk/welcome/vision-and-values/>

Staffing

I am pleased to welcome Miss Binder and Mrs Hopcroft to the Lenham family. Miss Binder will be working across the school and Mrs Hopcroft will be completing her induction before starting her permanent role.



Up and coming dates for Term 1

12.9.24 PESE Kent Test

3.10.24 Yr5 &6 Trip-

information to follow (no cost)

8.10.24 Yr4 trip-

Information to follow (no cost)

10.10.24 Harvest (in school event)

22.10.24 Parent Consultation

24.10.24 Parent Consultation

Further ahead dates:

16.6.25 Sports Day

17.6.25 INSET

23.06.25 INSET





School Opening

The school gate will be open in time for Zumba/daily mile to start at 8:35. Please remember that many children find dancing in front of the parents very hard, so we politely ask that you drop your child off into their line or let them go onto the field and leave promptly. **Rainbow children will go straight into class- no Zumba/daily mile yet!**

Attendance

Just a reminder about the changes to attendance.

What are the changes?

There will be a new national threshold of 10 unauthorised sessions for any reason - including holidays (equivalent to 5 school days) within a rolling 10-week period.

The first time this threshold is met, a penalty notice will be issued. The amount of the fine will be £80 (currently £60) per parent, per child if paid within 21 days. If the fine is not paid by the first 21 days, it will rise to £160 (currently £120) if paid within 28 days of being issued. Any non-payment of the Penalty Notice may be referred to the Magistrates Court.

If within 3 years, the threshold is met for a second time, the fine will automatically be triggered at the higher rate of £160 per parent, per child. There will be no option to pay the lower rate of £80.

If the threshold is met for a third time in a 3-year rolling period, a Penalty Notice will not be issued. Instead, the case will be presented straight to the Magistrates Court under section 444 of the Education Act (1996) where fines up to £2500 per parent, per child can be ordered.

Morning Snack for Key Stage 2 children

Please keep an eye out for a email tomorrow regarding morning snack for children in Years 3-6.



