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We have
been
learning...

Curriculum

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A career
with
Lumen

Co-Headteachers' Message

Welcome back to the start of a brand-new school year. We hope you all had a wonderful, relaxing summer holiday filled with fun and special memories, especially with the weather delivering such fantastic sunshine. The children have settled into their new classes brilliantly, and it is wonderful to see our corridors filled with smiling faces, smart uniforms, and buzzing energy once again. A particularly warm welcome goes to all the families joining our school community for the very first time.

We want to extend a massive thank you to our dedicated staff team, who have worked tirelessly over the summer break and throughout this week to create inspiring learning environments. As well as fresh new classrooms for the children, there have been a few operational changes. The new timings for the start of the school day are now in place, and everyone did fantastically well to arrive promptly by 8:45 am. We hope we can maintain this brilliant momentum. Our new catering provider, Dolce, also began serving our lunches this week. As with any transition, it can take a little time to adjust to new systems, but we have been thoroughly impressed by how quickly and smoothly the children have adapted in just two days.

During our staff training on our INSET days this week, we reviewed our approach to helping children develop a strong understanding of positive behaviour for learning. As part of this, we looked closely at our current Stay on Green system. Guided by feedback from both pupils and staff, alongside current educational pedagogy and best practice, we have made a few gentle tweaks that we will be trialling over the coming weeks. Once we have evaluated these trial adjustments, we will update our behaviour policy accordingly and share the full details with you all.

Mrs . Bugembe & Miss Oakley



Inclusion Insights



It can be an anxious time for parents and carers of neurodivergent children when they return to school. Here are some tips for making the first weeks easier for you and your children:

1. Talk through what each day will look like for your child - your child's class teacher can provide a visual timetable if this will help at home.
2. If goodbyes have historically been difficult, a short, consistent goodbye routine, the same phrase, the same small gesture, repeated every day, can help regulate that moment for both of you.
3. Communicate with your child's class teacher - talk through any small, helpful adjustments that you think may help.
4. After school, keep post-school time quiet. Spending a few minutes identifying positive events in their day can nurture self-esteem.

Remember, some resistance, big feelings, or wobbles in the early weeks are normal as your child readjusts, not a sign that something has gone wrong.

Support for parents and carers

The Autism Outreach Service in Surrey have shared their programme of support for parents and carers of children with autism or suspected autism. Each programme includes six sessions of 2½ hours, delivered by experienced professionals through a mix of in-person and online formats. The programmes running include:

The National Autistic Society Early Bird Programme for parents of children aged 5 years and under, which covers:

- Understanding autism
- Communication
- Understanding autistic experiences
- Supporting daily living
- Health and wellbeing

Barnardo's Cygnet Programme for parents of children aged 5-18 years old which covers:

- Overview of autism with parent and carer experience
- Thinking & sensory
- Social interaction & communication
- Understanding & supporting behaviour

To book on one of these programmes, you can [register your interest here](#) to sign up to the mailing list. You will then be emailed each time a new set of courses are added and available for booking.



Penalty Notices to Address Poor Attendance at School

Just to remind parents/carers that if they take their children out of school without authority for 5 or more days (which do not have to be consecutive), then the following will apply:

1. If you have not incurred a penalty notice relating to this child/children in a rolling 3 year period since 19 August 2024, then the penalty notice will be charged at the rate of £160.00, **per parent/carer per child**, if paid within 28 days. This will be reduced to £80.00 if paid within 21 days of receipt of the notice. Failure to pay the Penalty Notice will result in Surrey County Council considering legal proceedings against you in the Magistrates Court.
2. If you have incurred a penalty notice relating to this child/children since 19 August 2024, the rolling 3 year period will be activated from the date of the first penalty notice and the second penalty notice will be charged at the flat rate of £160.00, per parent/carer per child, if paid within 28 days. There will be no reduction for payment within 21 days. Failure to pay the Penalty Notice will result in Surrey County Council considering legal proceedings against you in the Magistrates Court.
3. If you have incurred 2 penalty notices relating to this child/children in the rolling 3 year period since the first penalty notice was issued, then you will not receive a third penalty notice, however, where there is a third occurrence within the 3 year period, Surrey County Council will have no option but to consider a prosecution, per parent/carer per child, in the Magistrates Court under s 444 Education Act 1996.

Advice and support is available from an Inclusion Office by contacting your local Education office as follows:

North West – Tel: 01483 518130

South West – Tel: 01483 517179

North East – Tel: 01372 833588

South East – Tel: 01737 737777

Pupil Data Collection

We are no longer sending home the pupil data sheet for parents to check and amend. If there are any changes to your contact details, medical or dietary requirements for your child etc., please ensure you inform the school office.

Healthy Snack for Break Time

All children are welcome to bring a healthy snack to school to eat during their break time. These should be in as little packaging as possible because we're also keen to reduce our use of plastics (e.g. no bear yoyo's or fruit winders).

These snacks are limited to:

- Fresh Fruit
- Fresh Vegetables
- Dried Fruit
- Plain rice cakes
- Bread sticks
- Yoghurt tube
- Plain crackers
- Pitta bread or Wraps (with no filling)

If children come into school with something that is not on the list it will be sent back home. No cutlery should be brought in. A reminder that only Reception and Key Stage 1 children are provided daily fruit or vegetables as part of the Government scheme.



We are a No Nut School

We would like to remind you that Echelford is a no nut school therefore we do not allow any food containing nuts to be consumed anywhere on the school grounds. Please do not give your child any food that contains nuts. This includes Nutella, pesto, cereal bars, peanut butter, chicken satay etc. If you are unsure, we would be grateful if you could check the ingredients before you pack their lunches, this will be hi-lighted in bold on the ingredient list. This is very important as there are children that have a severe nut allergy and we all need to adhere to this rule to keep everyone safe.

Privacy Notice for Pupils, Parents and Carers

Under data protection law, individuals have a right to be informed about how the school uses any personal data that we hold about them. We comply with this right by providing 'privacy notices' (sometimes called 'fair processing notices') to individuals where we are processing their personal data. Our Lumen Learning Trust privacy notice for pupils, parents and carers explains how we collect, store and use pupil & parent/carer personal data. This document can be found via this link: <https://www.lumenlearningtrust.co.uk/about-us/lumen-learning-trust-policies/general-data-protection-regulation-gdpr>.

Your child's profile name within Google Classroom

Your child will automatically be provided with their own personalised profile to enable them to access Google Classroom as part of their educational experience at our school. This is a fantastic online tool that allows a virtual learning environment to connect teachers and classmates from any location. Additionally, both in certain and uncertain times it ensures that we can provide a safe, secure and reliable way to continuously deliver education. You can read more about our remote learning offer, how and why we use Google Classroom and the security of your child's data by visiting our school website and navigating to Curriculum > Online Learning.

Each child has a unique profile which represents them in the online classroom, this is comprised of a name tag. Only the individuals in the virtual class can view this profile and all members of a Classroom are bound by the Lumen Family Acceptable Use of ICT Agreement and E-Safety Rules. For clarity purposes their name tag is comprised of their forename and surname. However, if you would like your child's profile name to show only the first initial of their forename and full surname please do contact our school office who can action this for you.

Sharing data and information with NHS Surrey to support children to access local health and wellbeing services

Surrey Children's Community Health Provider, Children and Family Health Surrey request regular information from us about our children to support planning and delivery of school-based health screening at different points of a child's life. Information provided to them by the school is Name, Gender, Address and DOB. Assurances have been received from the Service that this request is in accordance with Government guidelines and adheres to the required Data Protection standards. If you would like further information, please refer to <http://childrenshealthsurrey.nhs.uk>. <https://childrenshealthsurrey.nhs.uk/about-us/privacy-policy>



Achievements outside of School

If your child would like to celebrate success within the school community, please inform your class teacher or the office staff of your news. Along with the Newsletter, we will display any sports achievement photos and information on our 'Sports Shout Outs' board in the gym.

Inaaya – 4H & Isha - 2A

Congratulations to Inaaya in 4H and Isha in 2A who have achieved the next level in their swimming lessons. Inaaya has successfully completed Level 3, and Isha has been awarded her Stage 1 achievement certificate. Well done girls on these amazing achievements.

Important Dates

A full list of this year's dates can be found on the school website

September		
Wednesday 16th	9.00am	6W Class Assembly
Thursday 17th	3.00pm	Year 6 PTFA Bake Sale
Monday 21st-Sunday 27th		Recycling Week
Wednesday 23rd		Flu vaccinations & measurements
Wednesday 23rd	9.00am	5B Class Assembly
Wednesday 30th	9.00am	6GB Class Assembly
October		
		Black History Month & Walk to School Month
Thursday 1st		National Poetry Day
Friday 2nd		INSET Day 3
Mon 5th - Fri 9th Oct		Feeling Good Week
Mon 5th - Fri 9th Oct		Book fair
Wednesday 7th	9.00am	5C Class Assembly
Friday 9th		Harvest Festival
Friday 9th	3.30pm	PTFA Autumn Discos
Friday 9th		Hello Yellow Day/World Mental Health Day
Tuesday 13th	4.00-7.00pm	Parent Teacher Consultations
Wednesday 14th	3.30-6.00pm	Parent Teacher Consultations
Wednesday 14th	9.00am	6R Class Assembly
Thursday 15th	3.00pm	Year R PTFA Bake Sale
Friday 16th		Show Racism the Red Card Day
Friday 16th		End of Half Term
Monday 19th – Friday 30th Half Term		
November		
Monday 2nd		Children return to school
Monday 2nd - Friday 6th		PTFA Clothing Collection
Wednesday 11th		4H Class Assembly
Thursday 12th	3.00pm	Year 1 PTFA Bake Sale
Friday 13th		World Kindness Day
Friday 13th		BBC Children in Need



Monday 16th – Friday 20th		Anti-Bullying Week
Monday 16th		Odd Socks Day – Anti Bullying Alliance
Wednesday 18th	9.00am	4L Class Assembly
Wednesday 25th		Individual and Sibling Photo Day
Friday 27th		Santa Fun Run
Friday 27th		PTFA Mufti for Christmas Fair
December		
Wednesday 2nd	2.00pm	Reception Nativity
Thursday 3rd	9.15am	Reception Nativity
Friday 4th		PTFA Christmas Fair
Wednesday 9th	2.00pm	KS1 Nativity
Thursday 10th	9.15am	KS1 Nativity
Tuesday 15th	9.15am & 2.30pm	UKS2 Christmas Performance
Thursday 17th	9.15am & 2.30pm	LKS2 Christmas Performance
Friday 18th	1.45pm	End of Term

LEARNING SPACE WEBINARS

AUTISM AND ADHD WEBINAR

Book a place on our two-hour live webinar for parents/carers of children who may have neurodivergent traits and are curious to learn more; your child does not need to have a diagnosis.

Please sign up at least a day in advance to guarantee a place.

For dates and to register please [CLICK HERE](#)



PARENT EMPOWERMENT WEBINAR

Book a place on our two hour live webinar to support parents and carers of children who struggle with anxiety.

Please sign up at least a day in advance to guarantee a place.

For dates and to register please [CLICK HERE](#)



nct

NEARLY NEW SALE

Sell preloved maternity, baby and items for children age 0 to 11+ including clothes, toys, books and much more

Seller registration £3 for 100 items
£3 per additional 100 items
Register to sell at linktr.ee/nctsae

Sunday 15th November 2026
2pm - 3.30pm
The Echelford Primary School, Ashford

Sponsored by:  STAINES PREPARATORY SCHOOL
Educating today's children for the challenges of tomorrow



DISCOVER SUNBURY MANOR THIS AUTUMN

Sunbury Manor School warmly invites prospective parents and students to our Open Events, where you can experience life at our school firsthand.



SCHOOL TOURS

21ST SEPTEMBER
28TH SEPTEMBER
5TH OCTOBER
12TH OCTOBER

8:45AM - 10:15AM



OPEN EVENING

THURSDAY
17TH SEPTEMBER

5-7PM

BOOKING REQUIRED VIA OUR WEBSITE OR BY SCANNING THE QR CODE
WWW.SUNBURYMANOR.SURREY.SCH.UK



COMMITMENT • COMMUNITY • RESPONSIBILITY • KINDNESS • RESPECT



The Matthew Arnold School Open Events



OPEN EVENING
TUESDAY 6 OCTOBER
5.30PM - 8.00PM
HEADTEACHER TALKS:
6.00PM AND 7.00PM

OPEN MORNINGS
7, 8, 9, 12, 13 OCTOBER
9.00AM - 10.00AM
BOOK VIA OUR WEBSITE



www.matthew-arnold.surrey.sch.uk
01784 457275



Spelthorne Sports FC | Saturday Morning

FOOTBALL

FIRST SESSION FREE **9AM - 10AM**
AGES 3.5 - 6 YEARS



MORE INFORMATION
WWW.JASPORTS.CO.UK



FREE Online Courses and Workshops for Parents and Carers in Surrey

Supporting Families Across Surrey

Surrey Family Learning, part of Surrey County Council, offers a range of [Family learning adult learning courses - Surrey County Council](#) for parents and carers. Signing up is quick and easy through our website. Our courses are designed to help families support their children's learning, wellbeing and development at every stage of their education.

The new Autumn Programme is now available and includes practical advice, guidance and support on a variety of topics for families with children of all ages.

Parents and carers can enrol free of charge with just a few clicks.
To find out more and book your place, visit the Surrey Family Learning website.
Helping parents support learning, confidence and wellbeing at home.

Surrey Family Learning: ESOL Support for Parents

New ESOL Family Learning Courses Coming This Autumn

Our free online ESOL Family Learning courses can help you understand the UK education system, build confidence in your English, and support your child's learning at home. Delivered by friendly, experienced tutors, our sessions are relaxed, practical and designed to fit around family life. All courses are free to Surrey residents.

- Understand how the UK education system works
- Support your child with phonics, reading, grammar and maths vocabulary
- Develop strategies for raising bilingual children
- Improve your confidence in speaking and understanding English
- Communicate more effectively with your child's school and teachers