



Little Ealing
PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

Autumn Term | Friday 25th September 2026

Dear all

It has been another busy and positive week at Little Ealing and it has been particularly lovely to have so many parents and carers through our doors.

This week we have welcomed families for our Prospective Parent Tours, Year Ahead Meeting and PTFA Freshers' Night. Thank you to everyone who came along. These opportunities to meet, talk and spend time together are such an important part of building our school community.

Thank you in particular to those who joined me and our Governors for the **Year Ahead Meeting** on Wednesday evening. It was a chance to reflect on some of the successes of last year, share our priorities for the year ahead and talk about how we can continue to work together to make LEPS the very best it can be for our children.

For those who were unable to attend, you will find the **Year Ahead Meeting PowerPoint** presentation on ClassDojo, posted today.

Assemblies at LEPS

Over the last two weeks, our assemblies have given us opportunities to think about two important themes: helping others and asking for help ourselves.

Harvest at LEPS

Our children have been learning about Harvest – thinking about where our food comes from, the people who help bring it to our plates and how we can share what we have with families who need some extra support.

As part of this, we are collecting donations for **Ealing Foodbank**. They have particularly asked for:

- Vegetarian meals, such as veggie chilli, ready-made dhal or veggie curry
- Crackers
- Tinned sardines
- Tinned fruit
- Peanut butter

Other tinned, jarred or packet foods, as well as sanitary products, are also very welcome.

Children can bring donations into their classrooms on any day. There is absolutely no pressure to make a

special trip – if you would like to contribute, perhaps simply add one extra item to your basket when you are next shopping.

The final day for bringing donations into school is Thursday 8th October.

I will be taking all our donations to Ealing Foodbank on **Friday 9th October** and could do with a little help! If you have a car and are available at around 10am to help transport our collection, please email information@leps.org.uk and I will be in touch.

Thank you for helping our children see how something small can make a difference and, importantly, put our value of **kindness into action.**

The Space – It's Good to Talk

We were also joined by **Elita from our School Counselling Service**, who came to speak to the children about **The Space.**

Elita read *The Huge Bag of Worries*, a lovely story which reminds children that worries can become bigger when we carry them around on our own and that talking to someone can really help.

She reminded the children that **The Space is open every Wednesday lunchtime.** Any child who would like to visit simply needs to fill in a slip and put it into one of Elita's post boxes around the school.

One of the most important messages we can give our children is that **it is always good to talk.** Whether something feels big or small, there are adults at school and at home who are ready to listen.

Beginning of the School Day

We only introduced parents and carers coming onto the school site in the mornings last year. This was intended to ease congestion outside the school and support children with their transition into the school day.

As the year has started, however, the number of people remaining on site is becoming a little unmanageable and is making it harder for us to begin the school day as swiftly as we need to.

If your child is happy and confident to walk into school independently, we are very happy for them to do so. You do not need to come onto the school site with them.

If you are walking your child onto the site, please help us by **moving through promptly, saying a short goodbye and continuing around the one-way system.** Parents and carers **should not walk across the main playground.**

Children in **Year 2 and above should say goodbye by the play equipment and then walk independently to their classroom.**

We are also very mindful that our **Nursery children and their parents are waiting patiently for the site to clear so that we can welcome our Nursery children in at 8.40am safely.** Keeping the site moving in the morning will help us to be ready for them promptly and give them a calm start to their day.

From next week, members of staff will be positioned around the site to remind everyone of these routines and help keep people moving. Please support them by following their directions.

End of the School Day

This year, we have brought our end-of-day collection times closer together to allow for a swifter exit from the school site. Most evenings, teaching staff then move straight into meetings and professional development, often beginning at **3.20pm.**

At **3.15pm each day,** we will ring a bell at the back gate. This is the signal that the gate is closing and everyone should have left the school site.

Please help us by **collecting your children at their designated finish time and leaving the site promptly.** Our latest finish time is **3.05pm,** which gives families ten minutes to make their way out before the gate closes.

None of these routines are in place to be difficult or unwelcoming. With nearly **700 children,** as well as their families and around 90 members of staff, we have a lot of people to move safely through the site in a very short space of time. Clear routines help us keep everyone safe, reduce congestion and, importantly, allow the children and staff to begin and end the school day calmly and efficiently.

Thank you for helping us make this work.

A Reminder About Our School Street

A quick reminder that our **School Street means low traffic, not no traffic.** Residents are still entitled to drive along their road at any time, so please continue to encourage your children to follow the **Green Cross Code,** look carefully and never assume that the road is clear simply because the School Street restrictions are in operation.

I received a call from a very upset neighbour this week following an incident at drop-off. Thankfully, an accident was avoided, but it is a useful reminder for all of us about both road safety and how we respond to one another.

If we accidentally step out in front of a car, or there is a misunderstanding between a pedestrian and driver, please remember that our children are watching us. A simple **"sorry"** and moving on calmly can make all the difference.

We spend a great deal of time in school talking to the children about being **kind and respectful,** even when we are frustrated or something goes wrong. I hope that, as the adults in

their lives, we can all model those same values in the way we treat our neighbours and one another. Thank you for helping us keep our children safe and maintain positive relationships with the community around our school.

Coming Up Next Week

Thursday 1st October – 9.15am – Prospective Parent Tour – we will once again be welcoming prospective parents and carers whose children are due to start **Nursery or Reception in September 2027**. If you, or anyone you know locally, is considering Little Ealing for their child next year, please contact the school office to book a place.

Friday 2nd October – 9.00am – Radbourne Class Assembly – We are looking forward to welcoming Radbourne parents and carers to their class assembly.

This year, parents and carers attending class assemblies should come to the Hereford Road gate, where a member of staff will be there to welcome you onto the school site at 9.00am.

Ealing Mini and Half Marathon

Finally, a huge **good luck** to everyone taking part in the **Ealing Mini Mile and Ealing Half Marathon** this weekend.

We know that lots of members of our LEPS community will be running, supporting and volunteering across the weekend. Whether you are tackling the Mini Mile or the full 13.1 miles, enjoy the experience – **we know you will do yourselves and LEPS proud!**

Have a wonderful weekend and good luck to all our runners.

Emily Caldwell

Headteacher

SCHOOL VACANCIES

We currently have the following vacancies for 2 temporary maternity cover teachers
– Nursery & Year 1 year groups

Important Changes to Free School Meals

All parents **must** re-apply.



From September 2026, free school meals eligibility is changing.

If you think your child may qualify, please apply so their entitlement can be checked, and your school can receive Pupil Premium funding where applicable.

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What is changing?

From September 2026, free school meals will be available to all children in households receiving Universal Credit. The current transitional protection arrangements will end, and eligibility will need to be checked under the new national rules for the 2026/27 school year.

All parents must re-apply for free school meals for September 2026. Previous eligibility will not automatically continue under the new rules.

(This does not apply to children who receive UIFSM; Universal Infant Free School Meals, which are provided to all eligible age groups regardless of application.)

Why apply?

- You could be eligible for Free, healthy meals for your child.
- Applying helps the school identify children who may attract additional funding.
- This funding will be invested in your child's school to improve educational outcomes.
- annual eligibility checks will now take place.
- Applying now helps make sure your child's entitlement is correctly recorded for September 2026.



There will be two types of eligibility:

Targeted free school meals

- Children in households receiving Universal Credit with earnings of £7,400 a year or less.
- Children from households in receipt of Universal Credit with annual household earnings of £7,400 or less.
- Households qualifying for free meals because they are in receipt of support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999.
- Households in receipt of Income-related Employment and Support Allowance or the guarantee element of Pension Credit or families with no recourse to public funds (NRPF).

This gives entitlement to free school meals and may help schools receive additional pupil premium funding.

Expanded free school meals

- Children in households receiving Universal Credit with earnings above £7,400 a year.

This gives entitlement to free school meals only.

Fundraiser



Amelia helped raise £100 for Ealing Hedgehog Friends recently. Here she is with her certificate. Well done Amelia!

BREAKFAST CLUB

The breakfast club gate will close at **8.20am** daily. Children arriving after this time must come via the main school office.

Also just a quick reminder that children need to be registered with the breakfast club in order to attend. If you require a space, please contact the office for a registration form.

Thank you

SCHOOL VACANCIES

We currently have the following vacancies for 2 temporary maternity cover teachers – Nursery & Year 1 year groups

upcoming **EVENTS NEXT WEEK**

For full details of the Autumn term diary dates, please click here

Thursday 1st October 2026 - 9.15am - Prospective Parent Tour

Prospective Parent Tours – for parents/carers of pupils due to start Nursery or Reception in Sept 2027. Book a place through the school office

Friday 2nd October 2026 - Radbourne Class Assembly

Parents and carers invited to watch and stay for a cup of tea or coffee in the Canteen afterwards

Monday 5th October 2026 - Flu Vaccinations

Reception – Year 6