LEYBOURNE SS PETER & PAUL C E PRIMARY ACADEMY

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Headteacher: Tina Holditch

October 9th 2026

Dear Parents,

The term is progressing quickly and it is lovely seeing how much the children are learning, and how well they are behaving. Our new staff and children are settling in well and there is a real sense of purpose in school.

Attendance and Punctuality
Thank you so much to all of you who have taken on board the earlier start time this term. The playground gates now open at 8:35am and close at 8:45am. If you miss the school gate, please note that ***any children arriving at school through the office after 8:45am must be signed in by an adult***. It is not acceptable for them to be sent in on their own. It is very disruptive to the rest of the class when children arrive late, and it can be upsetting to them as they are missing important early morning work.

Christmas Cards
It does seem a little strange to be mentioning Christmas in October, however, the children have produced beautiful Christmas designs which can be printed on a range of cards and gifts for you to purchase.

Extra Curricular Clubs
As you know, in recent years we have had to reduce the number of extra-curricular clubs that we are able to offer to the children. Sadly, we simply do not have the number of staff available to run clubs, or to support teachers in other ways to allow them the time to offer a club. I am conscious, however, that we have a very talented and skilled parent body, and wonder if any of you might be able to spare some time to run a lunchtime or after school extra-curricular club, please? We would love to increase the range of clubs open to the children and would be very pleased to hear from anyone who might be able to support us in this way. Thank you for your support.

Harvest Festival
We have been overwhelmed by your wonderful donations for our Harvest Festival. Your generosity is very much appreciated and will make a huge difference to many people who are finding things difficult at the moment.

The children sang beautifully on Wednesday and our Harvest Festival really was a very special occasion. Well done to all of the children and staff for their hard work!

Leybourne Ss Peter & Paul CEP School is part of The Tenax School Trust which is an exempt charity and a company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales with company number 07542155. The registered office is at Culverden Down, Tunbridge Wells, TN4 9SH. 01892 521595

Miss Albani
I am delighted to share with you the wonderful news that Miss Albani is expecting a baby! As a result, Miss Albani will be leaving us at the end of Term 2. Miss Dale will return in February, as planned. This does obviously mean that we are in a very unusual situation, needing maternity cover for the maternity cover for the maternity cover!!

I am, therefore, incredibly grateful to Mrs Mitchell who has very kindly agreed to step up and teach the class for the beginning part of Term 3, until Miss Dale returns. As you know, Mrs Mitchell is an exceptional teaching assistant and I have no doubt that the class will continue to thrive under her expert care and guidance. I firmly believe that this arrangement is in the best interests of the children, and will give them the continuity and stability they need. We will obviously have additional TA support in place for this period and will confirm this in due course.

We are all thrilled for Miss Albani and wish her all the best for the safe arrival of her little one in the New Year.

PTFA
A reminder of the forthcoming PTFA events – the school discos and Fireworks Night. Full details can be found on the PTFA noticeboard, or on the class WhatsApp group messages. Thank you in advance for your support.

School Photographs
It was lovely seeing the children looking so smart last week for their photographs. They brought home a leaflet with information as to how you can order their photographs – please do check the children's school bags if you have not seen it!

SHINE
To support our high expectations for behaviour across the school, we have introduced SHINE, our set of attributes that ensure our pupils SHINE during their time in school. SHINE stands for: Safe choices, Hands up, Include others, Nice manners and lastly, Enjoy and respect others and the school resources. Each week, children will be celebrated for demonstrating one or more of these values. Every child has the opportunity to achieve these standards and have their success celebrated when everyone works together to achieve them. We would encourage you to remind your child of these expectations for behaviour in school and we look forward to supporting them with this.

TENAX Schools Trust – Proposed Merger
A reminder that you still have the opportunity to find out more, or comment on, the proposed merger between our Trust and the Endeavour MAT. The listening period lasts from 4th September to 27th October 2026. If you wish to find out more, the link to the consultation website is: https://tst-emat-consultation.co.uk

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards,

Tina Holditch