

4th September 2026



A very warm welcome back to a new school year! It has been absolutely lovely to welcome the children back into school and to see so many happy faces as they explored their new classrooms, reconnected with friends and began to settle into their new routines.

Our return to school on Tuesday certainly wasn't quite the start we had planned; we were greeted by a flood! Following the amazing storm, our store cupboard and kitchen were unfortunately inundated with water. I would like to say a huge thank you to our wonderful cleaning and kitchen teams, who have worked incredibly hard to deep clean and thoroughly sterilise the affected areas. Thanks to their dedication and hard work, everything was ready for us to safely reopen the kitchen on Thursday.

Mrs Irwin

Birthdays

We love celebrating birthdays in school and have a tradition that we have enjoyed for many years. When your child has a birthday, we encourage them to come to school in non-school uniform on the day of their birthday. If their birthday falls at the weekend or during a school holiday, they can choose another school day to celebrate instead. This is a lovely way for us to recognise their special day. It also means that everyone in school can easily identify whose birthday it is and make a little fuss of them!

Smart Watches

A small reminder regarding watches in school: if your child would like to wear a watch, please ensure that it is a traditional watch rather than a smartwatch. Smartwatches can be expensive and are easily lost or damaged, particularly as children are required to remove them for PE. Please be aware that the school cannot take responsibility for watches that are lost or damaged.

There is also an important safeguarding and privacy consideration. Many modern smartwatches have built-in microphones and some have cameras, meaning they can potentially be used to record other children or members of staff without their knowledge or consent. This can create concerns around privacy, inappropriate recording and cyberbullying. For these reasons, we ask that children leave smartwatches at home. A simple watch is absolutely fine and is a great way for children to practise telling the time and managing their own time during the school day.

New Parent Appointments

For our families who are joining us for the first time, we offer New Starter Parents' Appointments during the second week of September. During this week, the children will be in school until 1:30pm, giving parents and carers the opportunity to come in during the afternoon and meet their child's teacher. These sessions are a really valuable opportunity to tell us anything that you feel would be helpful for us to know about

your child. Our staff particularly value these meetings as they help us to build positive relationships with families from the very beginning and can help to reassure and settle any worries or concerns you may have.

Appointments are available on:

Monday 7th September and Tuesday 8th September

1:40pm – 4:30pm

If you would like an appointment, please contact the school office by either popping in, telephoning or sending an email:

0115 913 7730

office@larkfieldsinfant.org

If you are unable to make either of these dates or times, please contact us and we will do our best to find an alternative.

The School Office

On Thursday afternoon from 2pm and all-day Friday we now only have one member of staff covering the school office. We would really appreciate your patience and understanding if we are not immediately available to answer the phone or greet you at the front desk.

If no one is available to answer the phone, **please leave us a message or email the school office** and someone will get back to you as soon as possible.

If the front desk appears to be unattended, please don't worry — **someone will be there!** They may simply have stepped away briefly to carry out an errand around school.

Thank you for your patience and understanding.