



Friday Flyer – 28th August 2026

Welcome back to all in our school community - we hope you had a relaxing summer break, and a huge welcome especially to our new Early Years children who have settled into Willow Class very well indeed. We hope you are as excited as we are for the new school year ahead!

Arbor

As you are aware, our main school portal to book school meals, trips and clubs is Arbor.

Our new parents who are not familiar with Arbor should have received their log in details for their child. Please can you set your child's account up as soon as possible.

School lunches can be booked weekly or termly on Arbor and if a child has not been booked for a school lunch and does not have a packed lunch we will have no alternative but to contact the parent to provide a lunch for them.

If anyone is struggling with Arbor please let the office know as soon as possible. Thank you.

Free School Meals

From September 2026, all children in England from households receiving Universal Credit will qualify for free school meals, removing the previous £7,400 earning cap.

The free school meals new categories are:

- **Targeted FSM:** For pupils in households receiving Universal Credit with annual net earnings of **£7,400 or less**. This group remains linked to additional support like Pupil Premium.
- **Expanded FSM:** A new category for pupils in families receiving Universal Credit who earn **above £7,400**.
- **Universal Infant Free School Meals:** Continues as normal for all children in **Reception, Year 1, and Year 2** regardless of income or benefits.

If you have previously been receiving Free School Meals prior to the change, it will still be **necessary for you to re apply for your child to continue** to be eligible. To apply please follow the link:

<https://www.leicestershire.gov.uk/education-and-children/social-care-and-supporting-families/free-school-meals>

Scarecrow festival.

We're very excited to announce the **Leire Scarecrow Festival** which is on **Sunday 27th September, 10am–3pm!** 🎃 📖

First stop: Leire Village Hall – pick up your route map and enjoy **refreshments, homemade cakes and activities** before heading off around the village.

Money raised will go towards the **Ullesthorpe CE Primary School PTA**, helping to provide essential resources and opportunities for our children, as well as supporting the village hall.

Ullesthorpe school children will be taking part in creating a scarecrow for this fantastic festival, helping to raise valuable funds to further enrich our school.

Everyone is welcome – we can't wait to see you there ❤️

Please share with family and friends and help us to make the Leire Scarecrow festival a great success!

JustGiving PTA Fundraising Page

Our fabulous PTA team have set up an online fundraising page with JustGiving, to make it even easier to support their fundraising for our school and its children. If you are able to support in any way, please use the following link or QR code:

<https://www.justgiving.com/charity/ULLESTHORPE-PTA>



In recent years, the PTA has been vital in its fundraising efforts for our school, for example: refurbishing our school library; funding new KS2 banded reading books; adding colourful new markings to the side playground. Mrs Allen will be meeting with the PTA soon to discuss the next fundraising goals for our school community!



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Many thanks for your donations which help us greatly with providing more enriching experiences and resources for all of our children to benefit from.

HomeSchool Diaries & Homework

Your child should have received a new home school diary for quick daily communications - these are checked over each day in class by one of our staff team. Serious or highly confidential communications are best sent via email to the school office or class emails, or delivered face-to-face with relevant staff as appropriate.

Homework has not been set this week, but we intend to begin setting homework activities again from next week; these tasks are carefully considered by the class teacher in order to develop and support each child's learning. For our older children in Birch and Oak classes, there will now be a lunchtime homework club staffed by one of the teachers each week; any child who has struggled to complete their homework at home can be supported with their homework in this lunchtime slot instead. Attendance at this homework club will be by invitation.

Diary Dates

Wednesday 2nd September 2026	Year 1 - 6 Meet the teacher event 5.30 - 6.30pm
Friday 4th September 2026	Celebration Assembly - all welcome
Thursday 10th September	Open the Book Assembly

Latest Vacancies within our trust

Here are the latest vacancies within our trust, if you are interested in any of these vacancies, please click on the link to access the application form. All school vacancies are on MY New Term.

<https://mynewterm.com/jobs/144110/EDV-2026-SCEPS-64330>

After School Clubs

We are waiting for confirmation from outside agencies on after school clubs. We will endeavour to provide this information in next week's Friday Flyer. However, Choir sessions with 'Into the Spotlight' will continue from next Friday.

If you would like your child to participate in any of the clubs, please follow the link to book a session. Here is a reminder of what we have on offer:

Choir Year 2 upwards	spotlightsinging@outlook.com

Website

Please remember to visit our website which contains all the latest information. Here is the link:

<https://ullesthorpeprimary.web12.juniperwebsites.co.uk/>

Please note that the last day of school in the Summer term 2027 will be Thursday 8th July. School will be closed on Friday 9th July.

Academic Calendar 2026-27	
Monday 24th August - Thursday 15th October 2026 (School closed to pupils on Friday 16th October)	Autumn Term
Friday 16th October - Friday 23rd October 2026	Half Term
Monday 26th October - Friday 18th December 2026.	End of Autumn Term
Monday 21st December - Monday 4th January 2026	Christmas Holiday
Tuesday 5th January - Friday 12th February 2027	Spring Term

Attendance

Can we remind parents to contact the school office before 9.30am if your child is going to be absent so that we can mark the register accordingly.

If we do not know the reason why a pupil is absent, then this will be marked as an unauthorised absence and we may have to raise a safeguarding concern also. Please contact school via phone or email at:

ullesthorpe@ipat.uk



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GOOD ATTENDANCE MEANS BEING IN SCHOOL AT LEAST 95% OF THE TIME (180 – 190 DAYS).

There are 175 non-school days per academic year for family time, visits, holidays and shopping.

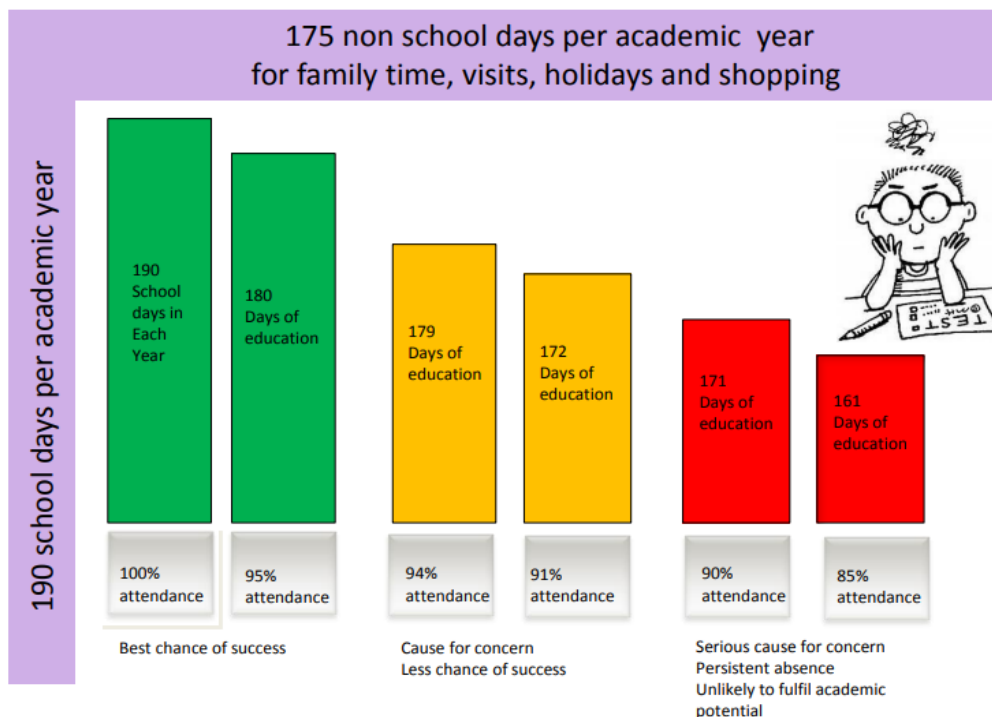
What the government says about school attendance:

At KS2, pupils who attend school nearly every day in year 6 (with an attendance rate of 95-100%) were 1.3 times more likely to achieve the expected standard in reading, writing and maths, compared to pupils who only attend 90-95% of the time. **This means missing just 10 days of year 6 reduces the likelihood of reaching the expected standard by around 25%.**

Pupils who attend everyday are 1.8 times more likely to achieve the standard than persistently absent pupils who only attend 80 – 90% of the time (relating to 4-6 weeks more time in school).

DFR Report. Link between attendance and attainment:

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/link-between-attendance-and-attainment?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications-topic&utm_source=e6e8cd73-0c3d-4532-b222-35984e1d594f&utm_content=daily



Safeguarding

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility. If you have concerns about the welfare of any child, then you have a responsibility to call the First Response Children's Duty Team on 0116 305 0005.

Further advice/ support on this can be obtained from our Designated Safeguarding Leads: Mrs Allen, Mrs McMurrin or Mr Gray.

No Nuts or Sesame Seeds please -

Thank you for helping us to keep all of our children safe and well