



Friday Flyer – 11th September 2026

A recent chill in the air reminds us that Autumn is well and truly on its way. As the weather becomes colder, please make sure your child has a suitable waterproof coat in school. A polite reminder too, that all clothing should be named.



Contact Details

We still have a few parents who have yet to provide two contact details on Arbor. It is essential for our safeguarding that we have at least two up-to-date contacts for every child, so that we can contact you in the case of an emergency. Please log in to your Arbor to update any changes or add any new contact details.

Arbor is the app we use to communicate with parents, add school clubs, book parents evening and record contact details so please log in to your Arbor account and check your details are all correct for your child. It is important that you complete the consent section in Arbor so that the school can update their records accordingly.

Scarecrow festival.

As a reminder, we are excited to announce the **Leire Scarecrow Festival** on **Sunday 27th September, 10am–3pm!** 🎃📖

The children will be making scarecrows, which we will position around Leire for everyone to enjoy.

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

All money raised will go towards **Ullesthorpe School**, helping provide essential resources and opportunities for our children, as well as supporting the village hall.

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

Please share with family and friends!

Best Wishes,

Ullesthorpe PTA

Secondary School Applications

It is time for parents of Year 6 pupils to apply for secondary school places, with applications needing to be made by the **31st October 2026**. Please visit the following for more information:

<https://www.leicestershire.gov.uk/education-and-children/schools-colleges-and-academies/apply-for-a-school-place/apply-for-a-secondary-school>

Admission to Reception 2027

If your child was born between 1st September 2021 and 31st August 2022, they are due to start school in September 2026.

Applying for a school place You must apply for a primary/infant school place for your child to start their Reception Year.

- Applications for Reception Year places in September 2026 open on 1 September 2025.
- The national closing date for applications is 15 January 2026.
- The national offer date for on-time Reception Year applications is 16 April 2026.

Making an application To apply for a school place please visit:

<https://www.leicestershire.gov.uk/education-and-children/schools-colleges-and-academies/apply-for-a-school-place>

EYFS Open Event

Mrs Hartley will be offering an **EYFS Open Event for prospective new EYFS** parents from 4pm until 5:45pm on **Tuesday 13th October** - please share this information with any family you think may be interested in attending.

Free School Meals

Final reminder, that 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 benefits.



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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>

Diary Dates

Wednesday 16th September	Nasal Flu Vaccines
Friday 18th September	Celebration Assembly
Thursday 24th September	NSPCC Speak out Stay Safe Assembly
Thursday 1st October	Open the Book Assembly
Friday 2nd October	Harvest Celebrations
Tuesday 13th October	EYFS Open Event for Autumn 2027 new starters 4-5:45pm
Friday 16th October	School Closed Teacher Training Day

After School Clubs

We are waiting for confirmation from outside agencies on after school sports clubs. We will endeavour to provide this information in next week's Friday Flyer. We can confirm that *Into the Spotlight's* Choir session will continue weekly each Friday. We also have Rocksteady band sessions throughout this term on Tuesday afternoons.

If you would like your child to participate in any of these clubs (which are run by external providers), please follow the link to book a session.

Here is a reminder of what we have on offer:

Choir Year 2 upwards And private singing lessons on Fridays	spotlightsinging@outlook.com
Rocksteady band small group sessions On Tuesday afternoons	info@rocksteadymusicsschool.com

Website

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

<https://www.ullesthorpe.leics.sch.uk/>

Academic Calendar 2026	
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

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:



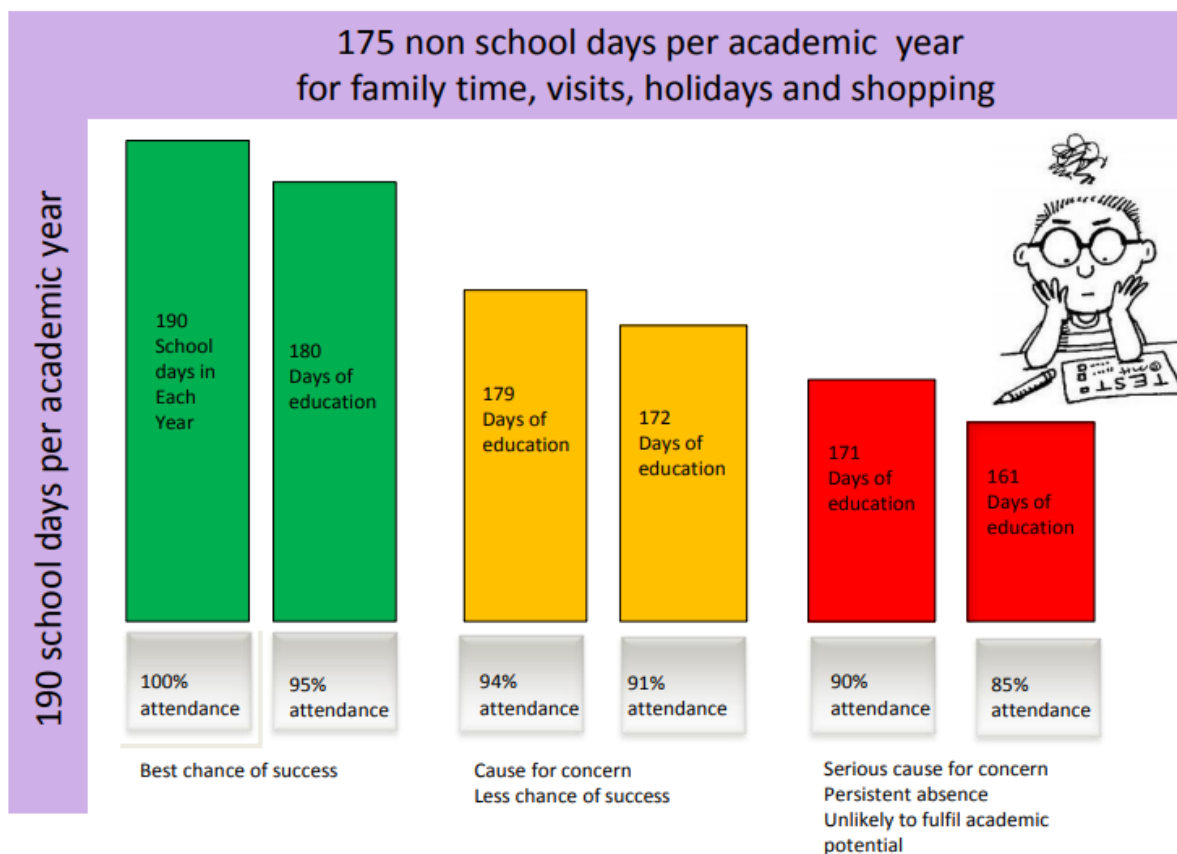
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At KS2, pupils who attend school nearly every day in year 6 (with an attendance rate of 95-100%) were 1.3 times more likely to achieve the expected standard in reading, writing and maths, compared to pupils who only attend 90-95% of the time. **This 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 McMurran or Mr Gray.

No Nuts or Sesame Seeds please -

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