



Heathwood Lower School
Leighton Buzzard

Heathwood Newsletter

"Our vision is for every child to develop a love of learning, to be curious about the world around them, and to feel a true sense of belonging. We nurture kindness, encourage children to be courteous and respectful, and celebrate the differences that make each individual unique. Through the development of essential life skills, we prepare our children to be confident, successful learners, ready for the next steps in their lives."

December 2025

Diary Dates



December

- 1st Awe & Wonder Day
- 2nd Yr 1 Christmas Experience at Pulfords School
- 5th Yr 4 British Museum Trip
- 6th PTA Santa's Grotto & Christmas Fair 12-3pm
- 9th Preschool open classroom 2-3pm
- 10th Whole school Christmas dinner day.
- 10th Open classrooms 3-3.45pm
- 11th Yr4 Lower Schools Concert 2-3pm
- 12th Outside Achievement Assembly
- 12th Preschool open classroom 2-3pm
- 15th Preschool Christmas carols and mince pies 2-3pm
- 16th Yrs 1-4 Christmas Performance 2pm
- 17th Mufti Day for winning House & Hot chocolate with the Headteacher
- 17th Class R Nativity 2.45pm
- 18th Yrs 1-4 Christmas Performance 2pm
- 19th Christmas Jumper Day
- 19th Church Service at St Leonards (all welcome)

End of Term

January

- 5th INSET Day for Staff
- 6th Children back to School



Welcome

Christmas arrives at Heathwood today! We start the festive season with our fantastic Awe and Wonder Day! Every class will spend the day using a whole multitude of creative skills as they begin to prepare for Christmas at Heathwood. The glitter, the glue, the tinsel and lots of singing make it a very special day of Christmas activities! The day ends with a whole school assembly, the singing of Christmas songs and with every child in school hanging their own purposefully made decoration on the tree in the hall. It is a very special day as together we celebrate the start of Christmas!

We will be totalling all House Points, Value Stars and Merits for the term on the 15th December. The house with the winning number of points will be invited to wear Mufti on Wednesday 17th December and children with the winning number of Value Stars and Merits will receive an invitation to have Hot Chocolate with the Headteacher.

We look forward to seeing lots of you at our upcoming events including the PTA Christmas Fair, Open Classrooms, and the Christmas performances. Please check the diary dates for details.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your support this term, and wish you all a very safe and festive Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Very best wishes,
Jackie Wright



Preschool News



Preschool have had a busy month exploring the wonderful world of fairy tales. We have built the three little pigs homes, and blown them all down. We have explored the woods and run from the big bad wolf.

The children have also been creating their own stories and we have something special to share with you soon. Watch this space.

To kick off our celebrations for christmas the children enjoyed making melting snowman biscuits. We will also be teaching the children about Hanukkah, and other celebrations from around the world.

We are looking forward to welcoming the parents in for our open class room, please save the date. Mince pies and carols is almost upon us. The children have been busy learning songs and warming up their vocal cords, ready to serenade you. There will be bells, and they will be coming home with you.

Reminders: We go out in all weather conditions, and we have free flow play. Please ensure to send your children in with appropriate **Labelled** clothing.

Show and tell focus for this month will be 'Family Celebrations'

We hope you all have a fantastic Christmas and a Happy New Year



Governors News

Governors were in school on the 27th November and enjoyed a lunch with the children and then after lunch performed a learning walk looking at PE across the school.

Governors observed a PE lesson with Class 1 and a sports leadership lesson with Class 4.

Throughout the learning walk behaviour was excellent and children were very focussed. We would like to thank the Staff for the opportunity to look at PE throughout the school.

We then held our Governing Body meeting, where we discussed curriculum, Health & Safety, School Census and Safeguarding. We also approved several school policies that needed updating and ratifying.

Lastly I would like to thank Mrs Wright and all her Staff for all their hard work this term. Also well done to all the children. We know you have all worked very hard this term.

The Governors wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year !!



Open Classrooms

We look forward to welcoming Parents into school on **Wednesday 10th December from 3 - 3.45pm.**

Please come along and take the opportunity to see all the exciting work that your children have completed this term.



Class Christmas Gifts

Every child has made a Christmas Gift which will be available to collect at the Christmas Fair on Saturday 6th December. The gifts will cost £2.50 each and you can either pay cash on the day or make payment using School Money up until 3pm on Friday 5th December.

Council News

The School Council would like to say a big

THANK YOU to everyone who donated on Children in Need day.



You helped us raise a whopping total of £273.45 for Children in Need.

Eco Council

Here is a link to some useful energy savings tips for the winter months.

<https://tinyurl.com/y2yd6m7s>

Christmas at Heathwood

Christmas is a very busy time here and we'd like to take this opportunity to outline some of the events that take place for those of you who are new to Heathwood.

Monday 1st December is Awe and Wonder Day

This is the day we make decorations and gifts for the Heathwood Christmas Tree and sing carols. The day finishes with all the children bringing a decoration to place on the Christmas tree.



Christmas Post Boxes - Post Boxes for the children to post their Christmas cards in, will also arrive in each class on this day.

These will be emptied every 2-3 days. Please write the Class, as well as the name, on the envelope to help with delivery. Last collection will be Wednesday 17th December.

Christmas Dinner - Wednesday 10th December.

All staff will join their class of children to enjoy a super traditional Christmas Dinner which is prepared and cooked on-site by our lovely kitchen staff. A letter has already been sent out for ordering.

Friday 12th is outside achievement assembly. We celebrate all certificates, trophies and medals that children have achieved over the term. Please make sure all items are brought into school by **Wednesday 10th December.**

Friday 19th is Christmas Jumper

day. For a donation to Save the Children, come to school in a festive top or jumper with your normal school uniform. Please do not buy especially, anything festive will be lovely. Please donate using the link.



<https://donate.justgiving.com/fundraising/cjd250001235/donation-amount>

We end the term with a Carol Service at St Leonards Church on Friday 19th. The whole school will walk to the church for the service at 2pm. All are welcome to join us at the church.



PTA Events



Santa's Grotto
is coming to Heathwood
6th December 2025
12pm - 3pm

Calling all good girls and boys to come and meet Santa and his elves at Heathwood Lower School.



Scan the QR code to book your slot!



Heathwood Lower School
CHRISTMAS FAIR
6 DEC
12-3PM

- Heathwood Christmas Crafts
- Games & Prizes
- Teddy Tombola
- School Choir
- Santa's Grotto
- Mulled wine

Free Entry

Volunteers wanted
heathwoodpta@gmail.com



Did you spot the Heathwood Bear?

Congratulations to the following children who found the Heathwood Bear hiding in the November Newsletter and spelt the word 'Caring' 100 house points were awarded, well done!

Class R - Rosie, Sara & Clara
Class 2- Autumn, Willow & Etta
Class 4- Gwen & Amelia



This month the Heathwood bear is hiding 7 times and each time they are holding a letter. Can you find the bear and put the letters together to spell a word? Clue: He's partial to carrots!

The first 10 children to find the bear and tell me what the word is will receive 100 house points. You will need to come and find Mrs Siddon from 9am Tuesday 2nd December in the office and tell her what the word is.

Good Luck and happy hunting!

Our Value in December is Patience



"Wait your turn." "Wait 'til you're bigger." We often ask children to be patient, but developing this value takes time.

It's hard to wait for things! Many children find it hard to be PATIENT. Patience is the ability to endure a difficult situation without complaining. It means showing self-control and staying calm in the face of frustration or boredom.

When you're patient, you understand that some things are worth waiting for. But patience isn't only passive waiting - it means persevering when things get tough. Adults as well as children often get frustrated if they don't see immediate results. But at any age it's important to wait for the right time to speak or act.

The question we ask when we explore any of our focus values in assembly is, **How will developing this value in my life change my thinking and behaviour?**

Patience is a value which can have a hugely positive effect on ourselves and those around us.



WOW

Let us know how your child has demonstrated this month's Value of Patience at home.





Heathwood Giving Tree 2025

KidsOut's Giving Tree initiative invites you to buy a toy for a child in a local refuge home. Many of the recipients are children who have escaped domestic violence, being forced to flee their homes quickly and leave their possessions behind. Without a Giving Tree, these children may not otherwise receive a gift at Christmas. If you would like to help, please scan the QR code and it will take you to our [The Fun and Happiness Shop | KidsOut](#).

Our Giving Tree shop displays a selection of categories, simply click on the category tile to view a full description and add your choice to the basket. The money donated will be used to purchase a toy from that category to go into a child's Christmas Toy Box.

You can also use it to browse our Giving Tree shop Giving Tree Shop for ideas and then purchase a physical toy and take it to your nearest collection points [Collection Point | KidsOut](#).

KidsOut
THE FUN & HAPPINESS CHARITY

#TheOriginalGivingTree
ELECTRONIC TAG

Either

- Scan the QR code below
- Choose a category
- Place your order
- A Toy matching the Category will be added to a Christmas Toy Box

Or

- Look at the Santa's Wish List
- Choose a Category
- Buy a physical Toy
- Drop it to your Local Collection Point

www.kidsout.org.uk
01923 385252
@KidsOut
#TheOriginalGivingTree!

Message from the Family Wellbeing Team at CHUMS

We just wanted to update you with details of forthcoming virtual psychoeducation workshops which we will be offering over the Autumn/Winter term to families and young people. The referral form for these workshops can be found on the link included below.

Dates/times and workshop details can be found at:

<https://chums.uk.com/emotional-wellbeing-service/#workshops> - Please note you will need to scroll to the bottom of the page to see the dates/times as well as the referral form. Families will need to clearly identify which workshop(s) they would like to sign up to within the referral form.

These workshops are designed as a starting point for families with children who have low level difficulties and may not have accessed support from mental health services. If parents are concerned that their child's problem is causing a moderate/severe impact on their life, in this is the case we would recommend making a CHUMS referral on our website; <https://chums.uk.com/emotional-wellbeing-service/#referral> for further support.



CHUMS
Mental Health & Emotional Wellbeing Service

Gifts to avoid this Christmas

Please follow the link from the Child accident prevention trust to safer shopping at this time of year:

<https://capt.org.uk/8-dangerous-gifts-to-avoid-this-christmas/>



OFF ROAD OFF LIMITS E-SCOOTERS & E-BIKES



Bedfordshire Police is taking firm action against the illegal use of e-scooters and other e-vehicles in public places.

THINK BEFORE YOU BUY

These vehicles are not road legal unless part of an approved rental scheme - **there is currently no such scheme active in Bedfordshire.**

Privately owned e-scooters and e-bikes cannot be insured, making their use in public spaces illegal.

If you are caught riding an e-scooter, e-bike or any other offroad vehicle in a public road or any other public space, **your vehicle may be seized and destroyed.**

FOR MORE INFORMATION, OR TO REPORT
NUISANCE VEHICLES, VISIT OUR WEBSITE:

WWW.BEDS.POLICE.UK



Sun 7th December
10am - 4pm
Cedars Upper School,
Mentmore Road, LU7 2AE



Great Fun
for all
the family

Prices

Kids 2 - 16 - £5
Adults - £8
Family of 4 - £20
Available from
Eventbrite or
on the door

Scan QR for tickets



In aid of Culture Co LB



**St. Leonard's Church
Heath and Reach**

Toy Service

Sunday 7 December 2025

11.00am

Please bring a new and unwrapped toy for children aged from 0 to 16 years old. Donated toys will be distributed through the Salvation Army and given to local children who would not otherwise receive gifts.

Please note that we are unable to take any wrapped, second-hand or opened toys.



www.saintleonardschurch.com

St. Leonard's Church
Heath and Reach
Christingle and Crib
Service

Christmas Eve

Wednesday 24 December 2025

3.00pm



FREE TASTER SESSIONS
AVAILABLE!

AS SEEN ON
Cbeebies
3000



MAKE YOUR CHILD'S DEVELOPMENT MORE FUN!

TRY RUGBYTOTS

Our dynamic weekly play sessions enable **boys and girls** aged 2-7 to develop their social and physical skills in a fun, positive environment. For more details, just call or email.

0345 313 6717

adriaan@rugbytots.co.uk



rugbytots.co.uk

The world's favourite rugby play programme



CREATE YOUR OWN LANTERN

for the

LANTERN PARADE

Supported by
Leighton Linlade Rotary Club
Wednesday 24th December
6.15pm



Join us for the lantern procession leaving All Saints Church
followed by traditional carols on the High Street

**Registration Required For Lantern Making Workshops
Being Held At
All Saints Church, Church Square**

Workshop Dates

Sat 29 November - 10.30 - 4.30 pm

Sat 06 December - 10.30 - 4.30 pm

Sat 13 December - 10.30 - 2.30 pm

Alternatively


Make your lantern at home

Register for a kit

For full details and to register for workshops or for a kit visit :

[wegottickets.com/f/13981/](https://www.wegotickets.com/f/13981/)

Lantern Kits £8.50 each



Open to all, but children under the age of 16 must be accompanied by an
adult for the workshops and parade

Happenings in the Parishes in December 2025

Parish Office Opening Hours

The Office is open on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 10.00am to 12.00 noon. For further information, please contact: 07502 320025 or stleonardheath@gmail.com

Event	Date	Time	Venue
Advent Group	Tuesday 2 December	10.15am	17 Byford Way, Leighton Buzzard
Elevenes in the church	Wednesday 3 December	11.00am to Noon	St. Michael's, Eggington
Little Fishes Group	Thursday 4 December	10.00am to Noon	St. Leonard's Church Hall
Christmas Party	Friday 5 December	7.30pm	St. Leonard's Church Hall
St. Nicholas' Supper	Saturday 6 December	7.30pm	Hockliffe Grange, Hockliffe
Advent Group	Tuesday 9 December	10.15am	17 Byford Way, Leighton Buzzard
Coffee Morning	Thursday 11 December	10.00am to Noon	St. Leonard's Church Hall
Advent Group	Tuesday 16 December	10.15am	17 Byford Way, Leighton Buzzard
Little Fishes Group	Thursday 18 December	10.00am to Noon	St. Leonard's Church Hall



2025 Christmas Services
in the Churches

Date	Time	Service
St. Leonard's, Heath and Reach		
Sunday 7 December	11.00am	Toy Service and Family Service
Sunday 21 December	5.00pm	Carols by Candlelight
Wednesday 24 December	3.00pm	Christingle and Crib Service
Wednesday 24 December	11.15pm	Midnight Communion
Thursday 25 December	10.00am	Christmas Day Family Communion
Sunday 28 December	11.00am	First Sunday after Christmas
St. Nicholas', Hockliffe		
Saturday 20 December	7.00pm	Carol Service
Sunday 28 December	9.30am	First Sunday after Christmas
St. Michael's, Eggington		
Wednesday 10 December	7.00pm	Carol Service
Wednesday 24 December	3.00pm	Christingle Service
Wednesday 24 December	11.15pm	Lay-led Christmas Service



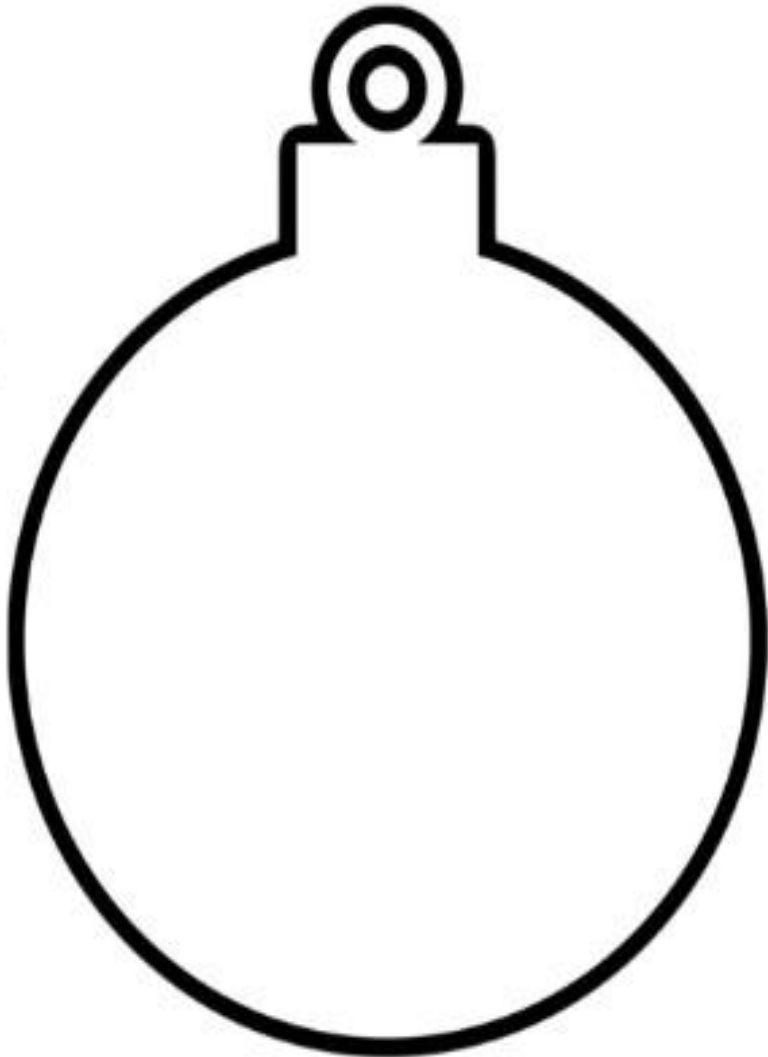
Michael Anthony Aylesbury Limited
54 Kingsbury, Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire HP20 2JE
Telephone: 01296 433666
Michael Anthony Leighton Buzzard Limited
5 Market Court, Hockliffe St, Leighton Buzzard LU7 1HG
Telephone: 01525 301401

Bauble COMPETITION

Design an Christmas Bauble Colouring competition.

Hand this into our office by 12th December 2025.

1st 2nd and 3rd Prizes. The winner's school will also receive book vouchers.



..... School:

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via social media YES No

photo of the winner. No use of you child's names
rom the winning school to use any photography.
at the school.