



Leigh Academy
RAINHAM

Issue 5

October 2020

Principal's Newsletter

Term 1 of this new academic year has passed us by so quickly with the new systems and procedures schools have been working so hard to implement to meet our continually updating Government guidance. I imagine it has been a strange term for year 6 pupils settling into these routines, alongside trying to make decisions about secondary schools that they are unable to visit! Meanwhile the development of the new Leigh Academy Rainham building has been progressing well in the background, with the steel frame nearly complete and floors and walls taking shape.



We have received a flurry of applications for the Academy already and I would like to take this opportunity to remind all prospective pupils and their parents of the key deadlines involved with the admissions process.

Admissions Procedure	Date
Secondary school applications open	Monday 7 September 2020
Secondary school applications close	Monday 30 November 2020
Secondary offers sent to parents and carers	Monday 1 March 2021
Secondary places accepted/refused. Requests to go on a waiting list / appeals must be submitted	Wednesday 31 March 2021

All of our admissions information and more can be found on our brand new website which we launched last week, www.leighacademyrainham.org.uk. I am meeting the Leigh Academies Trust web design team this week to discuss how this website will evolve over time as further decisions are made about the academy. We want it to become a useful platform for families to navigate and learn all about academy life so please 'watch this space!'

In addition to launching our new website, the last couple of weeks have seen some other exciting developments. I met with our interior designers and Bowmer + Kirkland to discuss the colours of the interior paints, carpets and wall art themed around the LAR logo. In addition we can now share with you samples of the compulsory Academy Bag, of which there will be two designs to choose from depending on pupil preference. I will be meeting with Brigade this week to organise final samples of the uniform ready to share term 2.



I also met with 'The Eco-Hub Rainham' to discuss how we will work in partnership on our journey to becoming an Eco School. This fantastic team is already working hard in the community to bring together like minded people who wish to reduce their impact on the environment and they shared so many wonderful ideas of how we, as an academy, can also get involved. If you do not already follow them on social media please look for them and join the movement!

Lastly I know there has been a lot of interest in our lovely Dog Mentor, Brandy! She is making excellent progress in her training at Hundred of Hoo Academy supporting pupils. In the last couple of weeks she has supported pupils with ASD in our specialist provision, relieved the anxiety of individuals at the gate who have struggled to find the confidence to come onto the school site and she has brought comfort to pupils who have received upsetting news and experienced trauma at home. She absolutely adores the pupils at Hundred of Hoo and while she often stages a 'sit down protest' when raining, usually enjoys roaming the site to share her unconditional love with anyone that needs it!



I hope that you all manage to enjoy a restful October half term and quality time with your loved ones. I know Brandy is looking forward to the opportunity for late mornings in bed!



Mrs A Millward
Principal, Leigh Academy Rainham



Cobbler Elf Shoe Repairs

15% discount for both staff and pupils on:

- Keys
- Shoe repairs
- Leather work
- Watch batteries
- Engravings

ASCOT FLOWERS

Ascot Flowers

10% discount for all staff with free delivery in the Rainham area.

Hyundai

Working in partnership with LAR:

- Collection and delivery for service, MOT's and repairs for all staff
- Sponsorship of Environmentally sustainable resources
- Discount on brand new cars for all staff.



Rainham Eco-Hub

The Eco Hub Rainham is a community group that runs from St Margaret's Church, their aim is to be a vessel for coordinating and championing community events taking place to make our town into a greener, more sustainable place to live. This is growing in a very organic way, using the community relationships they already have and building new ones with local schools, businesses, organisations and local residents to coordinate the green projects that they are each running. They want to celebrate and promote all of the green Initiatives that are currently running in Rainham as there are already so many great things happening, for example the 'Friends of Rainham Recreation Ground', the litter picks and the coastline cleans.

LAR shares the same aim with the Eco-Hub which is to care for our planet, educate ourselves and others and to take action in order to make a local and potentially global difference. Their work in schools is crucial to the success of these projects, with the next generation playing an integral role to shaping the future of their town for generations to come. They are thrilled to be working in partnership with LAR and to support us in driving the creative community initiatives.