



# Friday Post

Friday 4th November 2022

## Our School Value: Trust

*You keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on you, because he trusts in you. Isaiah 26.3*

Dear Families,

We have had a wonderful first week back in school. It was a pleasure to welcome the children on Tuesday and we have loved hearing about their exciting half-term adventures!

This week we began our Forest School sessions with the Wildlife Trust. Our Year 4's had a great afternoon exploring the outdoor environment. As we saw on Tuesday, the sessions will go ahead whatever the weather, so please make sure your child comes dressed appropriately on their day.

We also launched a new strategy to support positive behaviour in school this week - the Champion Chart! A full explanation is attached. I am looking forward to sending post-cards home to celebrate the excellent behaviour in school!

Our Christian value for this half-term is trust - no doubt you will have heard the children singing 'My Lighthouse' which reminds us to trust in the promises of God when things get tough. We will be exploring stories from the Bible and the promises of God over the coming weeks.

It has been a pleasure to welcome Mr Atkins into school this week. He will be joining for the Reception and Year One phonics meeting which is taking place next Thursday.

As you may be aware, cases of Covid are on the rise. Our advise is to self-isolate wherever possible. Please keep us updated as you would with any illness. We would ask that you remind your children of good personal hygiene to help stop the spread.

Have a wonderful weekend.

Miss Phillips



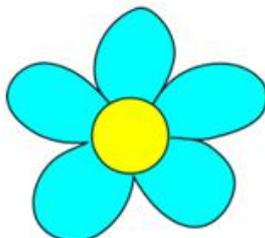
A reminder that in the morning the school gate opens at 8:45am and closes promptly at 8:55am Children who arrive after 8:55am will be marked as late.



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St Leonard's First School & Nursery,  
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 **Staffordshire  
University  
Academies  
Trust**

# Champion Chart



## St Leonard's Champion!

Children reach the sunshine for something over and above or exceptional.

Once they have been on the sunshine three times, they will receive a postcard to take home from Miss Phillips which celebrates their success.

## Well done!

Children are moved here when excellent behaviour for learning has been spotted. Teachers may choose for children to 'creep' up this section, getting closer and closer to the sunshine throughout the day.

All children's names start here at the beginning of the day. This way the Champion Chart is reset daily.

Where possible no consequences are left from the day before.

## Warning

Children are moved here when their behaviour or attitude does not meet the teacher's expectations. They will have been given a verbal warning and chance to right their behaviour before being moved.

## Consequence

Children are moved here when their behaviour or attitude has not improved despite a verbal and visual warning (previous step).

An age appropriate and proportionate consequence is enforced by the class teacher.



Please see the timetable below. On your child's day, please send them to school dressed in old clothing they do not mind getting dirty. Please also ensure they have wellies to change into if they are not kept at school. Layers and waterproofs are advised because of the winter weather.

### Forest schools timetable

08.11.22	Foxes Y3
15.11.22	Owls Y2
22.11.22	Owls Y1
29.11.22	Hedgehogs Reception
13.12.22	Hedgehogs Nursery



This week in Forest School, Year 4 discussed the importance of health and safety within our school grounds. Children explored the area to identify hazards, marked them using strands of wool and explained to the rest of the group why they were a hazard. Then they explored the facilities within the area, had fun on the rope swing, created recipes in the mud kitchen and picked apples.

Even though we had heavy rain, Year 4 had lots of fun





In their final art lesson based around the work of Andy Goldsworthy, Class Owls have been pressing leaves into clay to make some lovely leaf print tiles.

In Design and Technology, Class Owls are learning all about mechanisms to make moving pictures. This week we linked our work to the story of The Bog Baby and used sliders to make moving pictures of the Bog Baby floating across the pond.



# stars of the week



*After School Clubs*

&

*After School Care*



Payment for After School Clubs and After School Care is now due via your ParentPay accounts - payment date is tonight.

## Weekly House Point Tally



**Sycamore**

142

**Oak**

99

**Holly**

92

Each week the team with the most tokens gains 3 leaves on their tree, 2nd gets 2 leaves and 3rd gets 1 leaf. At the end of the term the team with the most leaves will earn a reward.



We look forward to seeing all the children at the school disco, on **Monday 7th November** please return all consent forms and fee to the PTA Box in the office or a member of the PTA as soon as you can so we can make the necessary arrangements for catering.



Its time to get your thinking caps on again as we will be running our Eco Christmas decoration competition again this year. Children are invited to make an eco friendly Christmas Tree Decoration to be placed on the school Christmas tree. There will be a prize for the best in each Year group. The School Christmas Tree is kindly being donated to school again this year by Mr & Mrs Williams so lets make it the best decorated tree in Dunston! All entries will need to be in school by 01/12 and the entry fee is £2.

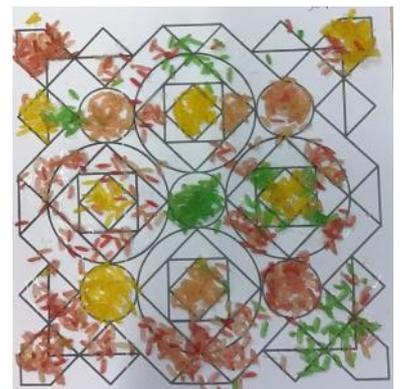
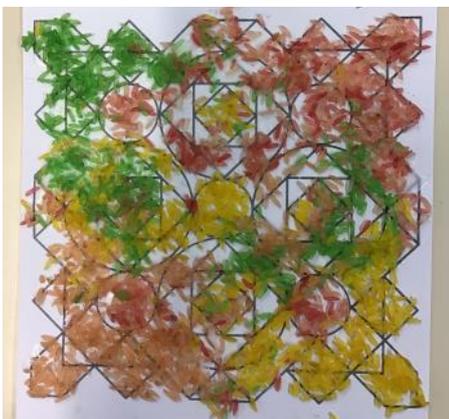
Plans are still ongoing for the Christmas Tree light switch on which will take place on Friday 2nd December so please save this date in your diaries.

Thanks for your support



We are supporting the British Legion Poppy Appeal with items available for sale on the gate at home time.

Today in RE Foxes learnt all about the Hindu celebration of Diwali. We listened to the story of Rama and Sita and had a look at what different families do to celebrate this festival of light. We created our own Rangoli Patterns using different coloured rice.





# Lunchtime Menu ~ 7/11/2022



WEEK 2 MENU		W/C: 07/11 28/11 19/12 09/01 30/01 20/02 13/03 03/04		Chartwells So much more than just a school food			
		HOT SPECIALS...	DAILY FAVES...	PACKED LUNCH...	JACKET POTATOES...	PICK A PUDI!	
AUTUMN/WINTER 2022	MONDAY	<b>Cheese and Tomato Pizza</b> 🌱 Served with Potato Wedges	<b>Mixed Bean Pasta</b> 🌱 🌱 Served with Tomato Pizza Bread	<b>Tomato Pasta</b> 🌱 Fresh, homemade tomato and basil sauce with penne pasta	<b>Packed Lunch</b> See below for details	<b>Jacket Potatoes</b> 🌱 with a choice of hot and cold fillings	<b>Jam Sponge with Fruit Slices</b> 🌱
	TUESDAY	<b>Pork Sausages</b> Served with Mashed Potato, Two Vegetables and Gravy	<b>Vegetable Lasagne</b> 🌱 Served with Garlic and Herb Bread Wedge	<b>Tomato Pasta</b> 🌱 Fresh, homemade tomato and basil sauce with penne pasta	<b>Packed Lunch</b> See below for details	<b>Jacket Potatoes</b> 🌱 with a choice of hot and cold fillings	<b>Banana and Apricot Flapjack served with Fresh Fruit</b> 🌱
	WEDNESDAY	<b>Roast Gammon</b> Served with Mashed Potato, Two Vegetables, Yorkshire Pudding and Gravy	<b>Vegetable Pie</b> 🌱 Served with Mashed Potato, Two Vegetables and Gravy	<b>Tomato Pasta</b> 🌱 Fresh, homemade tomato and basil sauce with penne pasta	<b>Packed Lunch</b> See below for details	<b>Jacket Potatoes</b> 🌱 with a choice of hot and cold fillings	<b>Chocolate Ice Cream with Fruit Slices</b> 🌱
	THURSDAY	<b>Beef Lasagne</b> Served with Garlic and Herb Bread Wedge	<b>Cauliflower and Sweet Potato Masala</b> 🌱 Served with Wholegrain Rice and Two Vegetables	<b>Tomato Pasta</b> 🌱 Fresh, homemade tomato and basil sauce with penne pasta	<b>Packed Lunch</b> See below for details	<b>Jacket Potatoes</b> 🌱 with a choice of hot and cold fillings	<b>Apple and Berry Crumble served with Custard</b> 🌱 🌱
	FRIDAY	<b>Breaded Fish</b> Served with Chips and Three Vegetables	<b>Quorn Dippers</b> 🌱 Served with Chips and Three Vegetables	<b>Tomato Pasta</b> 🌱 Fresh, homemade tomato and basil sauce with penne pasta	<b>Packed Lunch</b> See below for details	<b>Jacket Potatoes</b> 🌱 with a choice of hot and cold fillings	<b>Chocolate Shortbread with Fruit Slices</b> 🌱

**PACKED LUNCH - AVAILABLE DAILY**  
HAM OR CHEESE SANDWICH OR DAILY SPECIAL, VEGETABLES, FRESH FRUIT AND DESSERT OF THE DAY

**AVAILABLE EVERY DAY**  
WATER, SALAD, FRESHLY BAKED BREAD, YOGHURT & FRESH FRUIT  
**ALL MAIN MEALS SERVED WITH TWO VEGETABLES**

🌱 Vegetarian 🐟 Oily Fish 🌾 Wholegrain  
🍏 Fruity! 🍷 Nutritionist's Choice 🍴 Halal Available

**STOP** *No nuts please*  
Please note due to children in school with allergies please do not send any products containing nuts into school for break or lunch times. Thank you for your co-operation.



Remember,  
remember the  
5th November

The children in Hedgehogs welcomed Mr Atkins to the school on Thursday!



We have some  
budding  
footballers in  
class  
Hedgehogs!



## Before School Club



A reminder that Miss King runs our Before School Club from 8am until school starts. To use the club you must be in Reception to Year 4 arrive before 8:30am and there is a cost of £3:50 with siblings being £2:50 each, payment via ParentPay. There is no need to pre-book this facility just turn up - you must however remember to keep your ParentPay account topped up.

## Reception 2023



Do you have a child born between 1/09/2018 to 31/08/2019? If so you will be able to apply online for a place in our Reception class from Friday 1st November 2021 the closing date is 15th January 2023. Applications should be made directly at <https://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/Education/Admissions-primary/Apply/Overview.aspx>

**Please note that an application must be made for EVERY child regardless of whether or not they are already in our Nursery class.**

Phonics  
ee ur ow  
wh y au

To parents of Reception and Year 1 children

You are invited to a Phonics and Early Reading workshop at school on Thursday 10th November at 3.15pm

This will be an extremely valuable opportunity for you to find out more about early reading, what we teach in phonics and the strategies we use to teach it. The information will help you to further support your child at home when reading together. You will also be able to find out more about the national phonics screening check which all Year 1 children take in June each year. If you would like to book your child a place in The Ark, at a cost of £3.80 to enable you to attend the meeting, please contact the school office.

We look forward to seeing you there.

Miss S. Laing

# DATES TO REMEMBER

Monday 7th November	School Disco 3pm - 4pm
Thursday 10th November - 3.15pm	Reception & Year 1 Parent Phonics Workshop
Monday 14th November	Reception School Nurses - heights & weights
Wednesday 14th December - morning	Whole School Nativity - <i>more info to follow</i>
Thursday 15th December - afternoon	Whole School Nativity - <i>more info to follow</i>
Friday 16th December	<b>School closes at 1:30pm</b> - <i>no after school care</i>
Monday 19th December - Monday 2nd January	Christmas holidays
Tuesday 3rd January 2023	Inset Day - school closed to children
Friday 17th February	Inset Day - school closed to children
Monday 20th February - Friday 24th February	Half Term
Monday 3rd April - Friday 14th April	Easter Holidays

This week during worship we are learning:

'My Lighthouse'

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?app=desktop&v=IFBZJGSgyVQ>

Please follow the link above to hear the music



## What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

# AMIGO

Amigo is a social platform which purports to connect strangers from around the world – and, with built-in translation software, it reduces the expected language barriers. Focusing heavily on one-to-one chat, video calls and live streams, Amigo encourages its users to build up online relationships and unlock exclusive features such as private video and audio calls; essentially, the more that people chat, the more functions become available to them. This is an app designed with mature users very much in mind and is therefore definitely not recommended for children.

AGE RATING

18

### WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

#### ONE-TO-ONE COMMUNICATION

While online chats and livestreaming are a great way to communicate with people that children can trust (such as friends and family), Amigo encourages users to connect with complete strangers and develop a friendship through private chats, calls and videos. This will be a clear red flag for most parents, due to the possibility of a child encountering inappropriate content or an online predator.

#### INAPPROPRIATE CONTACT

Within minutes of signing up for our trial of Amigo (and without using a profile photo), users of the opposite sex were messaging with suggestive statements such as "You're just my type" and "Let's have fun". While the app's stated intent is to help people build friendships, some users obviously seek to take these relationships in a more mature and amorous direction.

#### MEMBERSHIP COSTS

Like many apps that are free to download, Amigo's business model is centred on in-app purchases. Users are encouraged to pay for VIP membership – enabling them to send more messages each day and boosting their profile's visibility. People can also buy coins (again, for real money) which allow them to send virtual gifts and further increase the number of messages they can send daily.

#### LACK OF AGE VERIFICATION

Amigo makes no secret of the fact that it's for people aged 18 or above. There's no age verification, however, so a young person could simply sign up under a false date of birth. The app's algorithm claims to match users of similar ages (making them more compatible), but either the algorithm isn't very reliable, or most users have entered a fake age which doesn't correspond with their profile pic.

#### REWARDS FOR REPEATED USE

Amigo gifts virtual coins to users if they reply to messages within 10 seconds, while there are also daily rewards for posting comments, sharing a video, getting likes or simply opening the app. It also encourages increasing 'Intimacy Levels' with other users to unlock extra features: once someone's online 'friendship' reaches Intimacy Level 3, they can hold one-to-one video calls with each other.

## Advice for Parents & Carers

#### MONITOR DOWNLOADS

As well as frequent catch-ups with your child about what they've enjoyed doing online, you could consider taking the additional step of physically checking their phone every so often to see which apps they've installed. The safest option could be to enable 'ask to buy' (Apple) or 'purchase approval' (Android) on their device, meaning your authorisation is needed to download any apps.

#### RESPECT AGE RESTRICTIONS

Apps have age restrictions for a reason, and Amigo is very definitely a mature content platform. Given that many of Amigo's users apparently use a bogus date of birth, you might want to remind your child about the implications of setting up a fake profile – such as being exposed to messages and videos that make them feel uncomfortable or feeling pressured into chatting with strangers.

#### BLOCK, REPORT, DISCUSS

Many children already know that connecting with strangers online is dangerous, but it never hurts to refresh their memory. Whatever communication apps your child uses, make sure they're fully aware that if anything online makes them feel uncomfortable, scared or upset, then they can block the user responsible, report the content, take a screenshot as evidence and come to tell you straight away.

#### ACTIVE LISTENING

If your child does approach you with a concern, make time to stop what you're doing and actively listen. Let them talk without interrupting or showing any judgement, then discuss their options and the possible solutions: this empowers them and reassures them that you're there to be supportive. If the issue is one that has put your child at risk, however, you may wish to contact the police.

#### Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutcliffe is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



National Online Safety

#WakeUpWednesday



[www.nationalonlinesafety.com](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com)



@nationalonlinesafety



/NationalOnlineSafety



@nationalonlinesafety

Do you have a child who is neurodiverse or has traits of neurodiversity?



## Parent & Carer Support Group

- AUTISM
- ADHD
- TICS
- TOURETTES
- FOETAL ALCOHOL SYNDROME
- DYSPRAXIA
- INTELLECTUAL DISABILITY



Join us at our brand new support group in Armitage every 3rd Friday of the month from 10am –12pm



For more information contact  
Tel: 01782 977877  
Or email:  
staffordshirewb@actionforchildren.org.uk



South Staffordshire College



## FREE BASIC PAEDIATRIC FIRST AID

YOU WILL LEARN HOW TO DEAL WITH:



Choking



Breathing



Burns



CPR



Emergency first aid

Ever wanted to know what to do in an emergency if your baby or child starts choking, stops breathing or burns themselves?

Come along to one of our sessions where we will cover burns, scalds, choking, CPR and other emergency situations.

### Course Location:

Landywood Children's Centre  
Holly Lane Great Wyrley WS6 6AQ

### Dates:

#### Wednesday

QXDXCEIPFAGW	9/11/2022
QXDXCEIPFAGW-2	07/12/2022
QXDXCEIPFAGW-3	25/01/2023
QXDXCEIPFAGW-4	01/03/2023
QXDXCEIPFAGW-5	10/05/2023
QXDXCEIPFAGW-6	21/06/2023

### Time:

10:00-12:00

For more information contact Staff to book on 01922 415632\* Enquiries Jennifer.simkins@staffordshire.gov.uk or Joy Peace 01543 301198 \* joy.peace@southstaffs.ac.uk

## WOODLAND WANDERERS - AUTUMN INTO WINTER

5 week course starting Thursday 3rd November. For parents and carers with children aged 5-11

Support your child's development in the core subjects and beyond, through fun, outdoor focused activities. Inspire their curiosity, spark their joy for learning, nurture a love of nature. To reserve your place or for more info contact Rebecca on 07525 120117 / [communityforestservices@gmail.com](mailto:communityforestservices@gmail.com).

Inspired by the Forest School ethos, this online course provides a variety of nature based activities to support children's development. Each week we provide an email pack with ideas to try at times to suit you. We cover maths, science and literacy, as well as the arts and practical skills to raise confidence and build resilience. Families are also introduced to activities to help their mental health and wellbeing. And there's lots of help along the way from two experienced tutors.

## Free 7 week online course starting Tuesday 1st November. For parents and carers with children aged 2-5 years.

Following on from the popularity of our BabyLovesNature courses, we have developed a course designed for the next stages of your little ones development. We provide ideas and inspiration for connecting to nature to support the development of your growing toddler.

Using the outdoors as inspiration we're offering multi sensory, engaging activities to try as a family at times to suit you. Staffordshire residents can book on this course for free, to access weekly activity ideas straight to your inbox and online resources to support your learning. On completion of the 14 hour course you will receive a certificate and ideas to continue your nature adventures together!

For more information and to reserve your place contact Rebecca on 07525 120117 or [communityforestservices@gmail.com](mailto:communityforestservices@gmail.com)

## GROWING WITH NATURE