



Friday Post

Friday 23rd June 2023

Our School Value: Respect

Do for other people the same things you want them to do for you. Matthew 7:12

Dear Families,

We have had a great enterprising week in school in which the children have been busy creating products to sell at our summer fair next Thursday!

Today, we had our athlete visit from Olympic swimmer, Amy Smith. We had a fantastic afternoon learning about Amy and trying different exercises and activities. I am sure we have several budding Olympians in our midst!

We are delighted to say that we have been awarded the Silver School Games Mark in school this year! This means our children have had chance to compete in different events, have a range of sporting after-school clubs, work with trained coaches, have access to sports equipment at lunchtimes, and have had a visit from an athlete! This is a great achievement which we are all very proud of.

Hedgehogs had a very special visit from the animals at Rodbaston on Wednesday - a huge thank you to our PTA for funding this. It was great to welcome some of our new starters into school as well.

Next week, we are looking forward to our family picnic, sports' day and summer fair - we can't wait to see you there! We will also be sending home annual reports on Friday after school so do look out for these.

Have a wonderful weekend,
Miss Phillips



Split families - Reports will be sent home next Friday, if you require a second copy please contact the school office to make arrangements.

Thank you

Headteacher: Miss C Phillips,
St Leonard's First School & Nursery,
School Lane, Dunston, ST18 9AG
Tel: 01785 712488
E-mail: office@st-leonards-dunston.staffs.sch.uk
Chair of LAC: (Governors) K Gibson
Email: chair@st-leonards-dunston.staffs.sch.uk

 **Staffordshire
University
Academies
Trust**

Parking on Sports Day

There will be limited car parking available on the staff car park on Sports Day to help ease congestion in the village. However, gates to the field **MUST BE KEPT CLEAR** in case of emergency vehicles needing to enter the premises. Thank you for your co-operation.

Sports Day / Summer Fayre Thursday 29th June

We will be holding our Sports Day on Thursday 29th June which parents will be invited to. Afterwards we will be holding a Summer Fayre.



Timetable

12pm - 1pm: families are invited to join us for our annual picnic.

1pm - 2pm: Sports' Day races!

2pm - 3pm: Summer Fair stalls and activities in support of our PTA.

Please can children wear the team coloured top and PE kits on the day.

Sycamore - yellow Holly - green Oak - blue



HELP NEEDED

If you are willing to help us to run a stall at our sports day summer fayre, please could you let Miss Phillips or the office know - your help would be very much appreciated.

This week during worship we are learning:

'Amazing Grace'

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fLBR1aB7Z9I>

Please follow the link above to hear the music





A fabulous sporty afternoon with Olympian swimmer Amy Smith. Children thoroughly enjoyed listening to her journey to the top and telling them how not give up on their dreams.



Attendance figures

School Attendance 12th - 16th June 2023

Hedgehogs 95%

Whole School 96.9%

Owls 96%

Foxes 100%

The National target for attendance, as set out in guidance from the DFE is **95%**



If anyone has lost a child's watch please see the office.

Strike action: The NEU have announced additional strike action on July 5th and 7th . It is our intention to remain open, however some children will not receive their usual taught lessons on this day. We have heard that Penkridge Middle School are hoping to continue with their Y4 transition visit as planned.

Weekly House Point Tally

Holly

136



Sycamore

103

Oak

65

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.



WEEK 2 MENU

Chartwells
So much more than fast-food!

AUTUMN/WINTER 2022

	HOT SPECIALS...	DAILY FAVES...	PACKED LUNCH...	PICK A PUDI!	
MONDAY	Cheese and Tomato Pizza 🍕 Served with Potato Wedges	Mixed Bean Pasta 🍝 Served with Tomato Pizza Bread	Tomato Pasta 🍝 Fresh, homemade tomato and basil sauce with penne pasta	Packed Lunch See below for details	Jam Sponge with Fruit Slices 🍰
TUESDAY	Pork Sausages Served with Mashed Potato, Two Vegetables and Gravy	Vegetable Lasagne 🍝 Served with Garlic and Herb Bread Wedges	Tomato Pasta 🍝 Fresh, homemade tomato and basil sauce with penne pasta	Packed Lunch See below for details	Banana and Apricot Flapjack served with Fresh Fruit 🍌
WEDNESDAY	Roast Gammon Served with Mashed Potato, Two Vegetables, Yorkshire Pudding and Gravy	Vegetable Pie 🥧 Served with Mashed Potato, Two Vegetables and Gravy	Tomato Pasta 🍝 Fresh, homemade tomato and basil sauce with penne pasta	Packed Lunch See below for details	Chocolate Ice Cream with Fruit Slices 🍦
THURSDAY	Beef Lasagne Served with Garlic and Herb Bread Wedges	Cauliflower and Sweet Potato Masala 🍛 Served with Wholegrain Rice and Two Vegetables	Tomato Pasta 🍝 Fresh, homemade tomato and basil sauce with penne pasta	Packed Lunch See below for details	Apple and Berry Crumble served with Custard 🍌
FRIDAY	Breaded Fish Served with Chips and Three Vegetables	Quorn Dippers 🍷 Served with Chips and Three Vegetables	Tomato Pasta 🍝 Fresh, homemade tomato and basil sauce with penne pasta	Packed Lunch See below for details	Chocolate Shortbread with Fruit Slices 🍪

Sports Day
Pre-booked sandwiches only available.

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



In maths, Foxes we were introduced to turns and angles. We worked in groups to get ourselves from point A to B using the following instructions:

Half turn - Quarter turn

Full turn - Clockwise

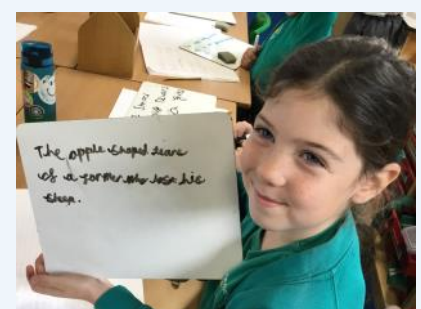
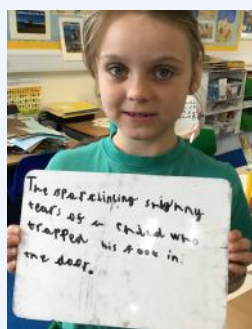
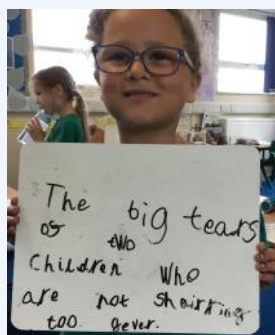
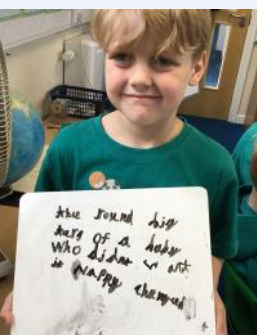
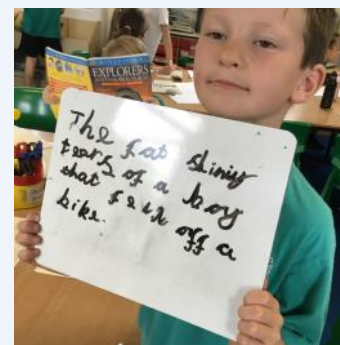
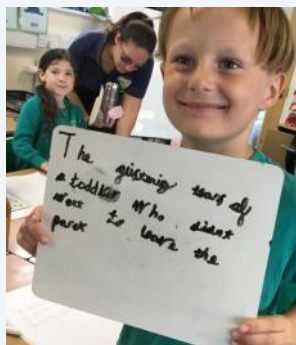
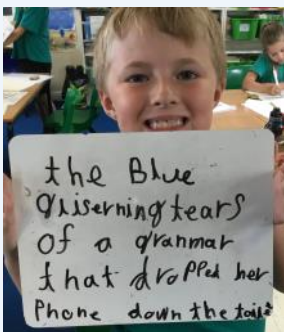
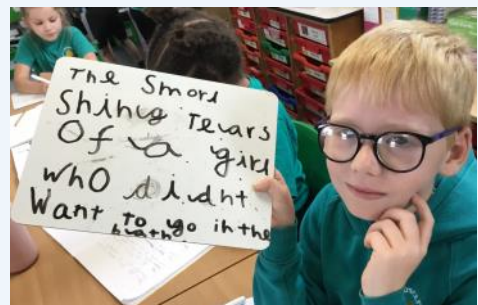
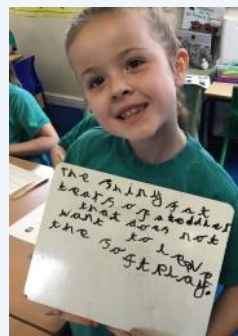
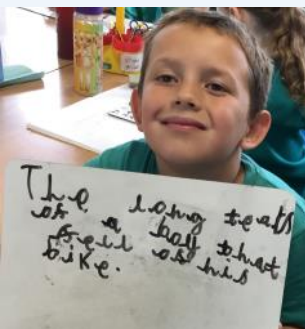
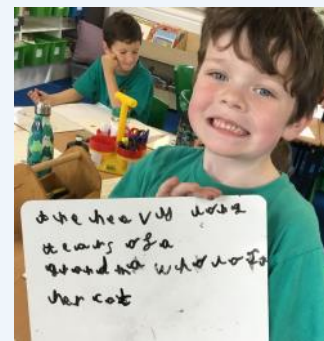
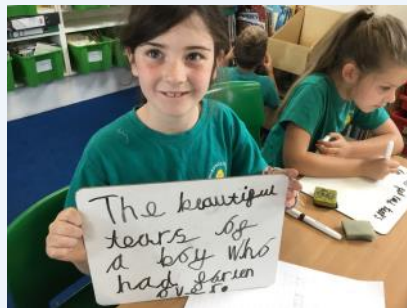
Anti-Clockwise

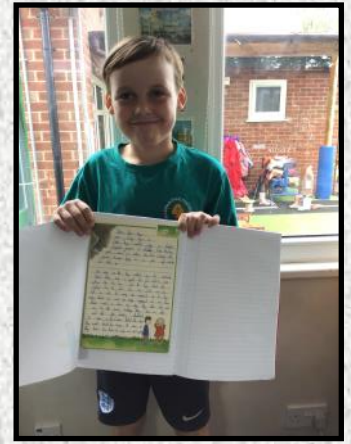
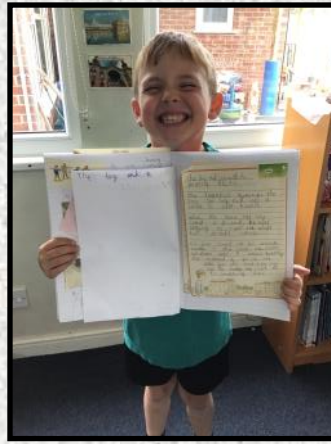
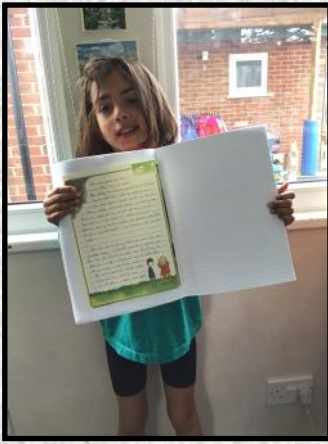


Class Owls have done some super writing. We have been thinking about expanded noun phrases in the story of The Tear Thief. The author, Carol Ann Duffy describes the Tear Thief taking 'the oddly long tears of a boy who had trapped his fingers in a flute', 'the tiny tears of a baby having her nappy changed' and 'the pear-shaped tears from the sly cheeks of a boy who'd been caught telling a lie about a big hole in his trousers'.

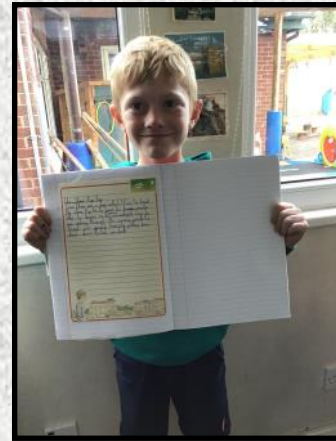
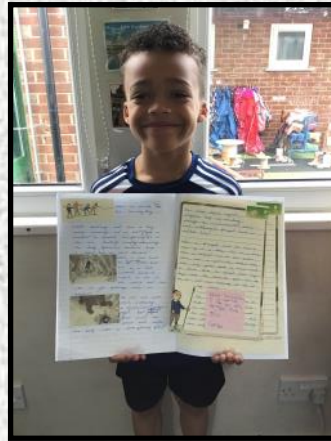
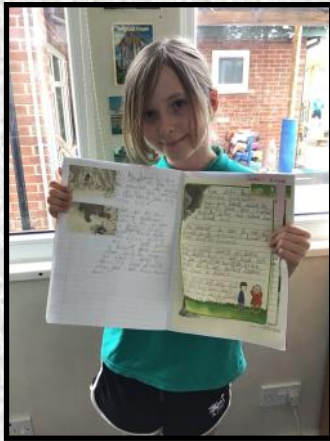


We had a go at writing our own expanded noun phrases to describe the tears which the Tear Thief might take next and came up with some brilliant ideas.





As part of our history topic on the Stone Age, Foxes have written their own story based on this. We have worked so hard, editing and improving the quality of our work.



Last Week's Big Question: If you paint over a window, is it still a window?

Darcie: "It's just paint on glass"

Fran: "The special thing about a window is that you look through it"

Dexter: "Yes, if you can open it you can see through it"

Eddie: "Whole point of a window is to see through it"

Oliver Q: "Yes, because it's only painted on one side" to which **Jenson** replied: "No, because although two sides there's only one window"

Harry F: "If you paint a wall it's still a wall, so the same for a window"

BIG QUESTION

Do ideas come from inside
or outside your head?

We are definitely developing our philosophical thinking! As a family take time to discuss the above question - Miss Phillips will listen to the children's thoughts on this question during Worship on Friday.

DATES FOR THE DIARY

Thursday 29th June	Sports Day & family picnic - Picnic at 12 noon Races at 1pm
Wednesday 5th July	Year 4 at Penkridge Middle School Transition Day Current children will have a day with their September teacher
Wednesday 5th July 9:30 - 11am	New Reception intake
Wednesday 5th July 1:30 - 2:45pm	New Nursery intake
Friday 7th July 2023	Inset Day - school closed to children
Tuesday 25th July - approx. 9:30am	Leavers Church Service
Tuesday 25th July	School closes at 1:30pm
Tuesday 5th September 2023	Back to School!



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 in case of wet weather or sunhats and suncream applied before school for warmer days!

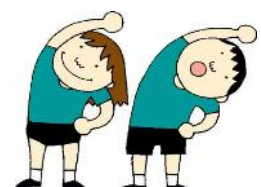
Year 2	04/07/2023 Change of date
--------	------------------------------

Year 1	11/07/2023
Reception	12/07/2023 AM
Nursery	12/07/2023 PM
Year 3	18/07/2023

Please make sure your child has their PE kit in school, long hair tied back & earrings removed. Thank you for your co-operation

PE Timetable Summer 2023

Thursday - Owls & Foxes
Friday - Hedgehogs & Foxes



Winter Coat Drive



PLEASE DONATE ANY UNUSED COATS



This summer Stafford Sports and Performance Academy are looking to collect 300 winter coats. All coats collected will be given to House of Bread Charity to use this coming winter for those people that are in need.

Coats need to be in good condition (no rips) and also clean (please have them washed prior to donating.) All sizes appreciated.

If you have coats to donate then please contact Stephen Glover on:

07793891029

or email stephenglover@staffordsport.co.uk.

If multiple coats these can be collected in the Stafford Area. Alternatively SSPA will be accepting coats at any of their community dance classes, or their Summer Holiday Sports Clubs at Blessed William Howard School.

PLEASE SUPPORT AS MUCH AS YOU CAN.



PET SERVICE

SUNDAY 2ND JULY

9:30 AM - AT ST. LAWRENCE CHURCH, COPPENHALL
11:00 AM – ST. LEONARD CHURCH, DUNSTON

YOU AND YOUR PETS ARE WARMLY INVITED
TO JOIN US FOR A SPECIAL SERVICE OF SONGS
AND READINGS TO CELEBRATE AND BLESS

OUR FAMILY PETS



AND LOCAL WORKING ANIMALS



Smaller pets will be welcome inside church
- dogs on leads and other pets in suitable carriers please.

Larger pets are also very welcome
- but will remain outside church to greet people
as they arrive.

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about AI VIRTUAL FRIENDS

Artificial intelligence – particularly in terms of how it generates natural language – has seen significant development over the last six months, with companies releasing new AI-based software or adding an AI element to existing apps (such as Snapchat, for example). One form of AI to become especially popular has been the ‘AI friend’ or chatbot, as children eagerly experiment with these new-found computer-generated companions. There are now numerous apps available with this ‘virtual friend’ functionality, with the likelihood of it being added to other successful platforms soon.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

CONTENT AND ACCOUNTABILITY

AI chatbots may not always be able to recognise when content is age inappropriate or harmful and should be filtered out. So there’s a possibility that children could be exposed to offensive language or explicit material while conversing with their virtual friend. The companies producing such AI solutions are also unlikely to take responsibility for any content that their algorithms generate.

REDUCED SOCIAL CONTACT

An excessive reliance on chatbots for social interaction could potentially cause a child to begin reducing the amount of face-to-face communication they have, leading to social isolation. If young people become dependent on chatbots to provide companionship, it could very likely hinder the development of their real-life social skills.

LACK OF SENSITIVITY

Chatbot software isn’t always sophisticated enough to pick up on subtle emotional cues or recognise signs of distress in children, as most humans would. It might therefore fail to respond appropriately. AI misinterpreting what it’s being told or replying insensitively to a young user who’s already struggling could potentially impact a child’s emotional wellbeing or exacerbate any existing emotional issues.

UNINTENTIONAL BIAS

AI companions are only as reliable as the information they’ve been programmed with. The algorithms they use, therefore, may unintentionally promote bias, stereotypes or discriminatory behaviour (as many originate from the USA or the UK, for instance, they can display a distinctly western-centric worldview). This could lead to children developing skewed attitudes and behaviours.

COGNITIVE LIMITATIONS

Although many are now undeniably advanced, AI-powered chatbots still have limitations in terms of understanding complex concepts, context and nuance. Depending heavily on chatbots to help with learning or solving problems may stunt the development of a child’s own powers of critical thinking, creativity and ability to engage in open-ended discussions with other people.

PRIVACY CONCERNS

Chatbots typically collect data about users, including personal information and conversations. This is ostensibly to improve their performance as they gradually learn about our behaviour – but many experts are warning that there may be significant risks associated with how this information is stored and used (the possibility of potential breaches or misuse by third parties, for instance).

Advice for Parents & Carers

CHAT ABOUT CHATBOTS

If your child is already expressing an interest in AI apps, a relaxed, natural chat should help you to discover which ones they’re aware of and how they’re using them (or are planning to). Discuss these options with your child and perhaps do your own research to ensure you think they’re suitable. Once you’re totally happy, you could sit with your young one and begin exploring AI chatbots together.

CREATE A SAFE ENVIRONMENT

If your child is keen to engage with AI chatbots, encourage them to do so in a safe environment: ideally in a shared space at home, so you can easily keep an eye and ear on their progress. Set up appropriate content filtering measures in advance – and gently remind them that you’ll be close by and ready to help with any questions or concerns that may arise.

FIND A BALANCE

Work alongside your child to establish the right balance in terms of how they might use AI-powered chatbots – and when it’s appropriate. It’s important to make sure that children are still getting plenty of opportunities to learn to solve problems for themselves, as well as building their interpersonal skills through face-to-face conversations with friends, family members and teachers.

TAKE CONTROL

As with any form of app or game, when it comes to AI chatbots we’d strongly recommend that you consider employing parental controls (either on the device being used or within the software itself) to manage which apps your child can download and use. This is particularly important for younger children, who may be more at risk of being upset or frightened by inappropriate content.

RECOGNISE THE RISKS

It’s unlikely that most children will have even considered the potential risks attached to having a virtual companion. So it’s probably wise to explain some of the possible hazards and challenges of AI chatbots to your child. In particular, emphasise that AI isn’t a real person (however much it might sound like one) and may occasionally tell them something that isn’t entirely impartial or accurate.

Meet Our Expert

A Certified Information Systems Security Professional (CISSP), Gary Henderson is the Director of IT at a large boarding school in the UK, having previously taught in schools and colleges in Britain and the Middle East. With a particular interest in digital citizenship and cyber security, he believes it is essential that we become more aware of the risks around technology, as well as the benefits.



NOS
National
Online
Safety®
#WakeUpWednesday

Hedgehogs had a treat of a visit from Rodbaston Animal Zone.
They got to meet a snake, bearded dragon, guinea pigs,
looked at porcupine spines and spider skins!



Stafford (1)



Saturday 1st July

Purple Explorers Club
2 – 5pm
8 – 18 years



Brocton Village Hall, Oldacre Lane, Brocton, ST17 0TW



Tuesday 4th July

Home Education Skills
10:30am – 1:30pm
6 – 19 years



The Wolsley Centre, Wolsley Bridge, Stafford, ST17 0WT



Wednesday 5th July

Chuckle Chillout
5 – 7:15pm
5 – 19 years



The Chuckle House, Stone Enterprise Park, Stone, ST15 0SR



Click here for further details:
[Aiming High - Activities and short breaks](#) | [Staffordshire Connects](#)

Wild About Words

Free 4 week online course starting Monday 19th June. For families with children aged 5-10 years

Join us to celebrate the wonder of words!
Each week we share a different story, linking in activities and games to encourage families take their love of stories outside! So whether you're looking to spark a love of reading or nurture an existing interest, this course will give you lots of practical ideas and inspiration!

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 12 hour course you will receive a certificate and ideas to continue your nature adventures together!

As part of the course we invite your family to join us for a Wild about Words Event on Saturday July 8th 2.30pm - 4.30pm at Birches Valley, Cannock Chase.

For more information and to reserve your place contact
Rebecca on 07525 120117 or communityforests@staffordshire.gov.uk

PROGRESSIVE SPORTS Proudly supporting

YOUTH SPORT TRUST | **SPORTS DIRECT**

NATIONAL SCHOOL SPORTS WEEK 2023

PLAY FOR FUN, PLAY FOR 60

SUMMER GIVEAWAY

Encouraging children to take the pledge to be active all summer long with our great summer giveaway!

PRIZES: £50 Sports Direct Voucher | Free Week On Our Active Camps | £20 OFF Our Active Camps

To be in with a chance to win one these fab prizes, just simply scan the QR code.

Stafford (2)



Thursday 6th / 13th / 20th / 27th July

Ability Counts
4:30 – 6:30pm
6 – 16 years



Gnosall Village Hall, Lowfield Lane, Gnosall, ST20 0ET



Thursday 27th July

Flip Out
10am – 12pm
5 – 19 years



Stone Business Park, Opal Way, Stone, ST15 0SS