

Thursday 26th October 2023

FRIDAY POST

Our School Value: Thankfulness

Give thanks whatever happens. That is what God wants for you in Christ Jesus. Thessalonians 5.18

Dear Families,

While the half-term break is much welcome, it has been a pleasure to have been in school over the last eight-weeks. Our school community is something to be proud of! Our harvest festival yesterday was a fantastic celebration; coming together like that is always one of my favourite parts of what we do. Thank you to those who joined us, and for your generous food donations.

This week, we sent a team of runners to Marshbrook for a cross-country event. Mr Waters had a fantastic evening and enjoyed seeing all pupils tackle the event with confidence! Thank you to everyone who went along to support the event.

Owls also enjoyed their day out to the Wolseley Centre this week! They made hedgehog dens, potions, mandala patterns and autumn bunting. Lots of time was spent in the afternoon on how to use their senses in different mindfulness activities.

Congratulations to the whole staff team on achieving top marks of a level 5 on our recent Health & Safety audit, this is a credit to their hard work and commitment.

We have much to look forward to after the half-term break - do keep an eye out on the Post for dates and events. Have a wonderful week, however you spend it!

Miss Phillips

Almighty Father, thank You for the rich harvests in my life. Your loving-kindness toward me is always flowing. Allow me to use these blessings to bless others as well. Help me have eyes to see the needy and a heart that longs to give gracious gifts toward others, as you have given graciously toward me. Amen.

CROSSMAP PRAYERS

Learn to Love, love to learn

St Leonard's First School & Nursery



Playwright success for former St Leonard's pupil!

Hi, I'm Molly and I used to come to St. Leonard's. I am now in year 7 at Penkridge Middle School. Last year I entered a competition with the Royal Shakespeare Company called 37 Plays I had to write a play about an issue that was happening in the world, such as bullying, a crisis or discrimination. My play was called "Alfie & War". There was over 2000 entries and mine came out in the top 37. The top 37 then got performed in the writers local theatre (my theatre was The New Vic). It was an amazing experience and I loved it!

From Molly Cartwright.



Special end of term treat for Reception & their Buddies!



IMPORTANT

ParentPay Accounts

Please note that ParentPay accounts need to be **topped up regularly** if your child uses 'Before School Club' or if they have a school meal and they are in Nursery, Y3 or Y4.

Invoices are only issued for After School Care, due to bookings being based on individual needs and **MUST** be paid in advance.





Owls had a fantastic day at the Wolseley Centre. The morning session was based around the topic of autumn which supports the Key Stage 1 Science curriculum. We made hunting using autumnal finds such as leaves and seed heads, we went on a colour hunt, sticking different autumn colours on to cards, we made circular artworks using natural materials from the woodland and made dens for hibernating hedgehogs. The afternoon session was based around mindfulness, using all our senses in the outdoors. We made wonderful smelling potions in the sensory garden using a range of herbs, we spent time listening carefully to the sounds around us and went on a colour matching hunt. Did all the fresh air and activities tire the children out? Absolutely not! The children were in fine voice on the coach during the journey back and treated the adults to a range of fantastic songs.

Attendance figures

School Attendance 23rd - 26th October 2023

Hedgehogs 82%

Owls 90%

Foxes 93%

Whole School 89.1%

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

Christmas jumper swop

Christmas is coming and along with that will be Christmas jumper days! These can be expensive and children grow out of them so quickly! If you have any jumpers that you are willing to donate to other families, please place them on our uniform exchange rail and help yourself to any that have been



Champion of Thankfulness

Presented to





Year 3 & Year 4 Cross Country Competition

Well done to all of the children who represented our school so well in the Cross Country competition this week..

Phonics

Reception & Year 1 Parents

Parents in Reception and Year 1 are invited to a rescheduled Phonics workshop for parents. The session is on **Thursday 9th November** at 3:15pm - Children can be booked into the Ark at a cost of £3.80 for the hour, please speak to the office to book.



Next week in worship we are singing

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart"

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?app=desktop&v=O7Rrux5wZmM>

Click the link above to hear the music

Owls have been learning about the abstract artist Wassily Kandinsky and



how he used colours to express his feelings. They looked at his work 'Squares With Concentric Circles' and created their own pieces in the same style.



Harvest Service



Thank you to everyone who came to our Harvest Festival on Wednesday it was lovely to see so many parent/carers in church.



All food donations were gratefully received at Rising Brook food bank.



REMINDER

Unless your child is in receipt of Free School Meals lunches provided by our school kitchen for children in **Nursery, Year 3 & Year 4 are at a cost of £2:83 daily**. Please keep your ParentPay accounts topped up to cover this. Thank you for your co-operation.

1 meal per week - £2.83 5 meals per week - £14.15 7 week 1/2 term - £99.05

Please could children in every year group check to see if you could be eligible for Free School Meals by going to the County Council website:

[Apply online - Free School Meals - Staffordshire County Council](#)

You will get an instant result by using the checker above, please let the office know if you are eligible - thank you





In ICT Foxes have been
'Coding'.

They learnt how to
create a set of
instructions



Quote of the Week

"The children here show great team-work and work together to find solutions to problems." - Alison Lloyd, Education Mental Health Support worker after spending lunchtime on the playground.

On your child's forest school day, please send them to school dressed in old clothing you 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 wet weather.



Y4 **7/11/2023**

Y3 14.11.2023

Y2 21.11.2023

Y1 28.11.2023

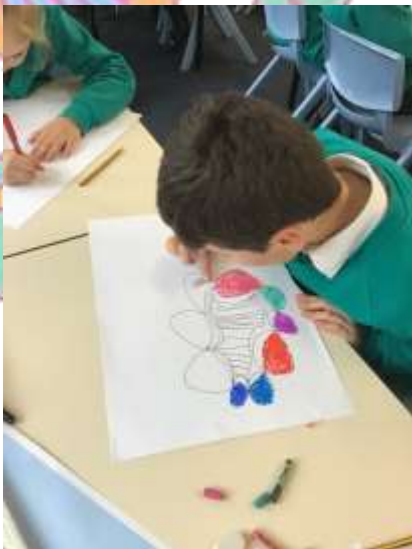
Rec 05.12.2023

Nurs 12.12.2023



We have been trying really hard to improve our reading and name writing and we have had lots of success with it. To finish off our harvest work we collected the seeds from a pumpkin so we can make a pumpkin patch. We also planted out some bulbs in our class flower bed and we can't wait to see them start to grow. Nursery had their first Forest School experience and made some colourful leaf wands.





Rangoli patterns



To develop our philosophical thinking we will be asking a BIG question each week! As a family take time to discuss the big question! Miss Phillips will listen to the children's thoughts on the question during Worship on Friday.

Our next BIG QUESTION

Who decides what we remember?



Lunchtime Menu - after 1/2 term is week ONE

Please note we will NOT be offering a sandwich option during winter.

NEW MENU

	WEEK ONE	WEEK TWO	WEEK THREE
MONDAY	Mac & Cheese (V) or Mixed Bean Chilli with Rice (Ve)(Wg) Choice of Jackets, Sandwiches or Tomato Pasta Rainbow Veg Scoop of Vanilla Ice Cream (V)	Pork or Chicken Sausages with Mash & Gravy or Veggie Sausage with Mash & Gravy (Ve) Choice of Jackets, Sandwiches or Tomato Pasta Rainbow Veg Scoop of Vanilla Ice Cream (V)	Pizza Mac & Cheese (V) or Mild Sweet Potato & Chickpea Curry with Rice (Ve) Choice of Jackets, Sandwiches or Tomato Pasta Rainbow Veg Scoop of Vanilla Ice Cream (V)
TUESDAY	Mild & Sweet Chicken Curry with Rice (Wg) or Margherita Pizza with Jacket Wedges (V) Choice of Jackets, Sandwiches or Tomato Pasta Sweetcorn & Peppers, Cauliflower Apple Crumble (Ve)(Wg) with Custard (V)	Chicken Paella (Wg) or Margherita Pizza with Jacket Wedges (V) Choice of Jackets, Sandwiches or Tomato Pasta Sweetcorn, Green Beans Apple & Pear Crumble (Ve)(Wg) with Custard (V)	Chicken Tandoori with Golden Rice (Wg) or Margherita Pizza with Jacket Wedges (V) Choice of Jackets, Sandwiches or Tomato Pasta Sweetcorn, Green Beans Peach & Pineapple Crumble (Ve)(Wg) with Custard (V)
WEDNESDAY	Roast of the Day with Roasties & Gravy or Chickpea & Veggie Puff with Roasties (Ve) Choice of Jackets, Sandwiches or Tomato Pasta Broccoli, Sliced Carrot Strawberry Jelly & Peaches (Ve)	Roast of the Day with Roasties & Gravy or Homemade Veggie & Stuffing Roll with Roasties & Gravy (Ve) Choice of Jackets, Sandwiches or Tomato Pasta Cauliflower, Carrot Batons Orange Jelly & Mandarins (Ve)	Roast of the Day with Roasties & Gravy or Veggie Sausage Toad in the Hole with Roasties & Gravy (V) Choice of Jackets, Sandwiches or Tomato Pasta Cabbage, Sliced Carrot Strawberry Jelly & Pineapple (Ve)
THURSDAY	Penne with Chicken Meatballs in Classic Tomato Sauce (Wg) or Penne with Tomato Super Sauce (Ve) Choice of Jackets, Sandwiches or Tomato Pasta Green Beans, Swede Chocolate Mousse with Pears (V)	Penne with Beef Bolognese (Wg) or Penne with Classic Tomato Sauce (Ve)(Wg) Choice of Jackets, Sandwiches or Tomato Pasta Cabbage, Garden Peas Banana Custard (V)	Chicken, Broccoli & Sweetcorn Pasta Bake (Wg) or Penne with Beany Bolognese (Ve)(Wg) Choice of Jackets, Sandwiches or Tomato Pasta Swede, Shredded Carrots Chocolate Mousse with Mandarins (V)
FRIDAY	Fish Fingers or Salmon Fish Fingers with Chips or Falafel Wrap with Mint Yoghurt & Chips (V) Choice of Jackets, Sandwiches or Tomato Pasta Baked Beans, Garden Peas Flagjack (Ve)	Fish Fingers or Salmon Fish Fingers with Chips or Vegeball Marinara Sub with Chips (V) Choice of Jackets, Sandwiches or Tomato Pasta Baked Beans, Garden Peas Chocolate Shortbread (Ve)	Fish Fingers or Salmon Fish Fingers with Chips or Garden Vegetable Goujons with Chips (Ve) Choice of Jackets, Sandwiches or Tomato Pasta Baked Beans, Garden Peas Iced Shortbread (Ve)

Freshly baked bread, fresh fruit, yoghurts and fresh drinking water available daily

V - Vegetarian Ve - Vegan Wg - Wholegrain

DATES TO REMEMBER

Friday 27th October	Inset Day
Monday 30th Oct - Fri 3rd Nov	Half Term
Wednesday 1st November	Reception 2024 Admissions opens
Thursday 9th November 3.15pm	Reception & Year 1 Parent Phonics Workshop
Wednesday 22nd November	PTFA Christmas Movie night - <i>more info to follow</i>
Friday 1st December	NO DODGEBALL CLUB
Friday 1st December	Christmas lights switch on
Wednesday 13th December PM	Christmas play - <i>more info to follow</i>
Thursday 14th December AM	Christmas play - <i>more info to follow</i>
Thursday 21st December	Last day - school closes at 1:30pm
Friday 22nd December	Inset Day
Monday 8th January	Back to school
Friday 9th February	Inset Day
Mon 12th Feb - Fri 16th Feb	Half Term
Mon 25th Mar - Fri 5th April	Easter Holiday
Monday 6th May	Bank holiday school closed
Friday 24th May	Inset Day
Mon 27th - 31st May	Half Term
Friday 19th July	Last day of academic year
Monday 22nd July	Inset Day

PE Timetable Autumn 2023

Please make sure your child has their PE kit in school. Thank you for your co-operation

Thursday - Owls & Foxes

Friday - Hedgehogs & Foxes



October Half Term


The Wolsley Centre
Wolsley Bridge, Stafford,
ST17 0WT



Staffordshire
Wildlife Trust

 @swtactivities

 @StaffsWildlife

 @staffswt

Wildfamilies Workshops- Create something to take home!

Halloween Mask Making Workshop Monday 30 October, 10am - 12pm

Wildfamilies Lantern Workshop Wednesday 1 November, 1pm - 3pm

Wildfamilies Lantern Workshop Thursday 2 November, 10am - 12pm

£7.50 per child and £4.50 additional siblings. Activities tailored to 8+ but all ages welcome

Wildfamilies Spooktacular- crafts, activities, and outdoor fun!

Monday 30 October, 1 - 5pm

£10 per child and £7 adult. Suitable for all ages.

Halloween Toddler Trek- A spooktacular trundle casting spells

Tuesday 31 October, 10am - 11.30am

£6.50 per child and £3.50 additional siblings. Suitable for 18months- 5 years

Halloween Macrame Workshop-Create spooky home décor

Tuesday 31 October, 11am - 1.30pm

£20 per person. Suitable for ages 14 plus.

GetWild- Leave your parents behind!

Tuesday 31 October, 1.30pm - 3.30pm

Wednesday 1 November, 1.30pm - 3.30pm

FREE thanks to funding from Baron Davenport's Charity. Suitable for 8-16 years only.

Wildfamilies- Outdoor fun for the family

Spooky Strolls

Tuesday 31 October, 6pm - 7.30pm

Halloween Woodland Adventures

Tuesday 31 October, 10.30am - 12.30pm

Spooky Strolls

Wednesday 1 November, 6pm-7.30pm

Wildplay

Thursday 2 November, 1pm-3pm

Spooky Strolls

Thursday 2 November, 6pm-7.30pm

Halloween Wildfamilies

Friday 3 November, 10.30am-12.30pm

Halloween Natural Crafts

Friday 3 November, 1.30pm-3pm

£7.50 per child and £4.50 for additional siblings. Suitable for all ages.

Booking essential: www.staffs-wildlife.org.uk/events

For more details, contact getwild@staffs-wildlife.org.uk

Do you know a family who will be looking for either a Reception or Nursery place for September 2024? If so, please ask them to contact the school office to arrange a tour with Miss Phillips.

St Leonard's C.E First School & Nursery

School Lane, Dunston, Stafford, ST18 9AG

Call: 01785 712488

Email: office@st-leonards-dunston.staffs.sch.uk

Do you have a child starting school in 2024?



- ◆ Fabulous grounds providing forest school
- ◆ Morning care from 8am
- ◆ After School care until 5pm
- ◆ A friendly school with a Christian ethos
- ◆ Wide range of active clubs
- ◆ 15 & 30 hour Early Years funding

Call or Email us to book an individual tour with our Headteacher

Current availability in some year groups





www.staffordsport.co.uk



October Holiday Sports Clubs

Blessed William Howard Catholic School, Stafford



Monday 30th October- Friday 3rd November

8.30am- 5.30pm - £20 per day
10am-4pm - £17 per day



Staff are NGB qualified, DBS Checked and First Aid Trained.
Staff employed by the Stafford Sports and Performance Academy

The days will be filled with sporting fun including football, rounders, gymnastics, dance, cricket, badminton, table tennis and MORE. Sessions are perfect for boys and girls.

IDEAL FOR AGES 5-13

facebook

www.facebook.com/staffordsport



To book a place please call or email:
07793891029 holidayclubs@staffordsport.co.uk

PENKRIDGE
JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB



PLAYERS WANTED



U9'S

SCHOOL YEAR 4 & BELOW

CONTACT CHRIS

07444 196090

TRAINING MATCHES

THURS

36 WOLGARSTON
HIGH SCHOOL

SAT

PENKRIDGE
MIDDLE SCHOOL

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

FIVE NIGHTS AT FREDDY'S

AGE RESTRICTION
PEGI
12

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Five Nights at Freddy's is a series of indie point-and-click horror games whose word-of-mouth success and widespread spin-off content on YouTube have helped each of the nine instalments so far to sell almost five million copies on Steam (the PC gaming platform) alone. Set in various deserted locations at night, with creepy animatronic characters suddenly coming to life, the games are rated PEGI 12 for disturbing/violent content, mild profanity and horror themes.

FRIGHTENING THEMES

Five Nights at Freddy's (FNaF for short) doesn't feature bloodshed like many horror games – but it does build tension and use jump scares, which may be too intense for young players. The sinister animatronic characters and the sensation of being trapped and defenceless could be particularly unsettling, as could the inclusion of disturbing elements such as murder or possession by evil spirits.

STRESSFUL SITUATIONS

Due to FNaF's suspenseful atmosphere, it can be extremely stressful for players. Constantly checking that one's surroundings are safe is a crucial part of the gameplay and could create residual stress or even obsessive-compulsive behaviours. Several media reports have suggested that some younger children have experienced severe nightmares or sleep anxiety after playing games from the series.

IN-GAME SPENDING

FNaF doesn't foreground in-game purchasing as strongly as many other well-known games, but some titles in the series do offer additional content that promises to enhance the experience. Five Nights at Freddy's: Help Wanted, for instance, is complemented by a Halloween-themed expansion pack called 'Curse of Dreadbear' (costing £8.99), which unlocks new levels and mini-games.

AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

As a result of FNaF's popularity, a sizeable YouTube community based on fan-made content has developed around the game. While the majority of this material is still child friendly, there are a number of channels which are geared more towards mature audiences: they contain adult and disturbing themes, for example, and (in some cases) age-inappropriate language.

PLAYING IN ISOLATION

Many parents will be relieved to learn that Five Nights at Freddy's is a single-player game which doesn't include any online chat functionality. Conversely, however, this could also make playing FNaF quite an isolating experience – especially if your child is spending a lot of time investigating the game's spooky, shadowy environments alone in their room, for example.

Advice for Parents & Carers

USE PARENTAL CONTROLS

Five Nights at Freddy's doesn't have conventional parental controls. However, if you're concerned about the potential impacts of the game's themes and content, you can simply choose not to let your child play it. If they use an Android or iOS device for gaming, you can adjust Apple and Google's built-in parental controls to restrict your child's access to certain content.

TRY IT YOURSELF

Every child is different, of course, so it could be worth playing Five Nights at Freddy's yourself for a while to gauge how your young gamer might cope with the series' more frightening and disturbing aspects. If they're old enough, you could spend some time playing it together – after all, it usually only takes between two and ten minutes to complete a level.

LIMIT SPENDING

Unlike many popular titles, Five Nights at Freddy's doesn't bombard players with tempting in-game purchase offers. It's worth noting, however, that some instalments in the series do provide the option for players to spend real-world money. With that in mind, it's important to either keep a close eye on your child's expenditure or limit their access to digital payment options.

SPOT THE SIGNS

If you're concerned that your child might be spending too much time on Five Nights at Freddy's, or you're worried that the game's scary themes are taking a toll, watch out for warning signs. Young people may start to prioritise gaming over everyday essentials like schoolwork or sleep; irritability or a lack of concentration could also indicate that their gaming sessions are going on too long.

TALK ABOUT THE RISKS

Before you allow your child to play Five Nights at Freddy's, it's wise to have a conversation about the game so that they're aware of the potential risks. Ensure that your child understands that the series is purposely designed to be tense and unsettling, and that they should stop or take a break if the intensity of the gameplay is making them feel uncomfortable or putting them on edge.

Meet Our Expert

Cathy Pegg is an experienced technology journalist with a track record of more than 10 years in the industry. Previously the editor of tech tabloid The Inquirer, Cathy is now a freelance technology journalist, writer and consultant.



NOS
National
Online
Safety®
#WakeUpWednesday