

Friday 17th November 2023

FRIDAY POST

Our School Value: Trust

*You, Lord, give true peace. You give peace to those who depend on you. You give peace to those who trust you.
Isiah 26.3*

Dear Families,

We have had a great week in school, with more fantastic learning happening each day.

On Monday, we started with an anti-bullying message from Mr Atkins. The children talked confidently about what to do if they are concerned about bullying in school. They also spoke about how to play and to treat one another well. School staff are always available if you have any concerns around bullying, and are committed to putting a stop to it.

We also marked inter-faith week on Wednesday. It was fascinating to spend time exploring the many similarities and differences between our own beliefs and the beliefs of others. The children were very knowledgeable about world religions and many gave examples of people in their own lives who follow different religions. Our RE lessons and wider curriculum continue to support pupils in learning about the world and expanding their knowledge and experiences.

Have a wonderful weekend,

Miss Phillips

Thank you

for making me

SPECIAL!

Dear God,
thank you for making me special and unique.
Thank you for loving me just as I am.
Please help me to celebrate
all the good things about me,
and to enjoy all the wonderful things
I see in others.
Thank you for making us all different.
Please help me to be grateful
for the way you made me,
And to be kind and accepting of everyone.
Amen.



Learn to Love, love to learn

St Leonard's First School & Nursery





PTFA are in need of a Treasurer, do you have a little spare time to be able to help the PTFA by collecting any money raised from fundraising events and paying them in to the PTFA bank account? If so, please speak to

Leisha Hatton PTFA Chair or contact the office who will pass on your details. The PTFA are an important part of school life they raise funds to help school provide those 'little extras' that school funding doesn't cover. In the past the PTFA have subsidised school trips, played a huge part in our school library renovation, provided prizes for competitions, paid for new books in school the list is endless and without it the children will miss out on these nice things - please if you have a little time to spare consider helping out, it would be very much appreciated. **Help also needed at the Christmas lights switch on 1st November from 2:15pm onwards.** **Help also needed at the Christmas plays to serve refreshments.** Please let the office know if you can help at any of the upcoming events, thank you.

Attendance figures

School Attendance 13th - 17th November 2023

Hedgehogs 99%

Owls 92%

Foxes 96%

Whole School 95.5%

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



Music lessons update:

Thank you to all who completed our survey around music lessons in school. We are currently working with Entrust Music Services to secure a teacher to deliver lessons. We will keep you posted! In the meantime, we are looking forward to our upcoming Christmas events - Sinbad the Sailor, our Light Switch-On, and our nativity play - all of which help raise enjoyment of music across the school.



FOREST SCHOOL



During their forest school session this week, year 3 were making natural themed pictures



Weekly House Point Tally

Oak

126



Sycamore

110

Holly

78

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.

stars of the week



Year 4 - Middle School Applications

Year 4 parents, please make sure you make your application for your next school of choice before 15th January 2024.



After School Clubs & After School Care invoices



All payments for after school clubs and after school care are now overdue, if you haven't already done so please make payment via your ParentPay account.



Reception 2024

Do you have a child who will be 5 years old between 1/09/2024 to 31/08/2025? 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 2024. Applications should be made directly at <https://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/Education/Admissions-primary/Apply/Overview.aspx>

Please note children who currently attend our school nursery will still need to apply for a Reception place.

Christingles

Please can all children bring an orange, satsuma, or tangerine into school for **Thursday 30th November**. On Friday 1st December, we will be gathering in Leaf Teams ahead of our Christmas Light Switch-On to make our Christingles.



Next week few weeks in Worship we will be learning our songs for Christmas:

Silent Night https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nEH7_2c644Q

Ding-dong merrily on high <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zJbRURK3zWo>

Christingle song <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z3YB996-ohc>

Achievements from home



Swimming



Rainbows



Gymnastics

If your child has recently received an award they would like to share with us, eg swimming, football, dance, Beavers, Brownies etc please send them into school & we will share them during our Celebration Worship on Friday.



We have carried on our fireworks theme this week as we start to learn about Diwali – The Festival of Light. We have looked at information books about the topic and read the story of Rama and Sita. The children made more firework pictures using chalk and experimented with lentils to make Rangoli patterns. In phonics we have continued to learn new graphemes and phonemes. It is great to see how confident the children are at being able to segment the sounds in the words we are learning. Also it has been great to see how purposeful and challenging the learning is in Hedgehogs – particularly when the children concentrate on their Mini-Me Challenges.



Lunchtime Menu - next week is week THREE

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 Flapjack (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)

11/1/23, 21/1/23, 12/1/24, 01/04, 23/04, 10/04, 17/04
13/1/23, 21/1/23, 01/04, 12/04, 18/04, 26/04, 03/04
20/1/23, 28/1/23, 07/04, 14/04, 22/04, 29/04, 06/04, 13/04

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

V - Vegetarian Ve - Vegan Wg - Wholegrain

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

When complimented on their ability to read and learn the lyrics to a new song, Owls spontaneously said:

**Quote
of the
Week**

Thomas T: *"It's because we're always reading!"*

Aliyah: *"Yes! In history, geography, maths, science, art...!"*

Ted: *"We even read in our homework!"*

Well done, Class Owls - we love to see your enthusiasm for reading across the curriculum!



Children were thoroughly engrossed reading facts about Florence Nightingale.

St. Modwen Development

Many of you will be aware of the plans released this week for the land at J13 of the M6. As a school, we have had some initial conversations with St. Modwen Logistics. St. Modwen Logistics wished to discuss how development at this site would affect the school and offer ways to work together. We understand that St. Modwen Logistics is still developing detailed plans, so we are unable to provide any further insight into their proposals. We will continue to provide feedback as more information becomes available. **In the meantime, if local people want get in touch with St. Modwen Logistics, they can do so by emailing stmodwenlogistics@devcomms.co.uk or by calling 0800 080 3161**



Sinbad the Sailor

A reminder that payment of £7 for this years panto, is now on ParentPay.
Thank you

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.



Y2 21.11.2023

Y1 28.11.2023

Rec

05.12.2023

Nurs

12.12.2023



Our PTFA will be arranging a Christmas tree to the children again this year. The tree will need to be filled with decorations to fill us with Christmas cheer so **we are asking all the children to create an eco decoration that can be put on the tree.**

Entries will be £2.00 each. Please note money will need to go directly to our PTFA by putting the money in an envelope with your child's name on the outside and placing it in the PTFA . Children and parents can enter and everyone can enter more than once. We are looking forward to seeing your creations. Please have your finished decoration in school by **Monday 27th November** - there are prizes to be won - 1 per class!

A letter has been sent home this week about a Film Night for all children on Wednesday 22nd November. If your child wishes to attend please **return the slip with your £5** and place in the PTFA post box in the school entrance hall.



Christmas shopping means more than just gifts
 Raise **FREE** donations for
St Leonards School Dunston PTFA

with easyfundraising
 feel good shopping

THIS MEANS MORE

You **Shop**. 6,100 sites will **Donate** to us. For **Free**

Find us on easyfundraising.org.uk or get the App

GET IT ON Google Play Download on the App Store

Over £35 million raised Trustpilot Over 2 million users

If you are doing your Christmas shopping on-line this year, don't forget to go through Easyfundraising and help us to raise funds with no cost to you!



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

Can you have a friend that you don't really like?



Does everyone have to believe in the same thing?

Inter Faith Week



[Little Kids, Big Questions: What Do Kids Think About Religion? - YouTube](#)

Ralph: "No, because God made everyone different"

Lucas: "You can believe and sometimes you can't"

Belle: "We are all different, we live in different countries"

Aliyah: "If you have a friend and they believe different to you, it doesn't matter"

Jakey: "You believe what you want"



NON UNIFORM DAY

Friday 24th November

Chocolate tombola donations



We will be holding a non-uniform day on Friday 24th November in return for a donation for a chocolate tombola which will be held on Friday 1st December at our annual Christmas Tree lighting.



WANTED!!

Thank you so much for all the pant donations, we really appreciate it. If you have any boys or girls socks and girls tights that your child has grown out of, we welcome donations!



Thank you



DATES TO REMEMBER

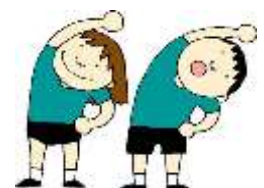
Wednesday 22nd November	PTFA Christmas Movie night
Friday 24th November	Non-uniform day - donations for a chocolate tombola
Friday 1st December	NO DODGEBALL CLUB
Friday 1st December	Christmas lights switch on - gates open 2:45pm
Wednesday 6th December	Whole school Christmas Panto - Sinbad the Sailor
Wednesday 13th December PM	Christmas play
Thursday 14th December AM	Christmas play
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



Road Safety Week 2023 | 19–25 November 2023

We all drive too fast sometimes...

The majority of speeding drivers who cause death and injury are normal people on normal journeys. But because we sometimes drive too fast, together we increase the risk of a crash – and we increase the chance that someone we love will be killed or hurt on a road.

“I didn't notice I was going so fast!”

“A few mph over the speed limit won't make much difference, will it?”

“It's not a crime to speed, is it?”

“Everyone else is doing it so why can't I?”

Let's talk about...

SPEED ROAD SAFETY WEEK

Presented by  Brake

Sponsored by  ARVAL

 DHL

 AUTOGLASS

 Safety

We are all guilty of putting our foot down in the car, especially if we are late or in a hurry to get somewhere, but that doesn't help the children. Remember the advert - "if you hit me at 40 there is an 80% chance I will die, hit me at 30 and there is an 80% chance I will live!"

An event being promoted by Ellis, Esme & Lexie in class Foxes



FUNDRAISING

21ST WEST STAFFORD SCOUT GROUP

Everyone welcome!

Christmas Fayre

Saturday, December 9th - 11:00am - 5:00pm

THE CHURCH HALL, LOVELACE CLOSE, HIGHFIELDS ST17 9YB

Join in the Christmas fun with 21st West Stafford Scout Group!

There will be stalls, games and activities for all ages as well as a variety of food and refreshments.

Everyone is welcome, bring your friends and family and help to raise funds for the Group.

BUZZZZ WIRE GAME
PENNY DROP
FIND RUDOLF

HANDMADE GIFTS
(BY THE SQUARE, BEANS, CIGLE KIDZ)

CAKE STALL
TOMBOLA

GRAND RAFFLE
BBQ HOOK A BAUBLE

LUCKY DIP
TREASURE HUNT

Plus much more...

Scouts 
21st West Stafford
Charity No: 525009





the national
sleep
helpline

Does your child suffer with sleep issues?

Do you struggle
with your child's
bedtime?

Will your child
not sleep in
their own bed?

WE CAN HELP

 **03303 530 541**

Monday, Tuesday & Thursday 7pm - 9pm

Monday & Wednesday 9am - 11am

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



What Parents & Carers Need to Know about SMART TVs

Smart TVs connect to the internet without the need for a set-top box or streaming device, letting users access a range of features through the TV set itself: from on-demand content apps like BBC iPlayer to streaming services such as Netflix, as well as connecting to smartphones and other wireless devices. Most new televisions are internet enabled – so whether you're thinking of upgrading your home viewing system or buying an additional TV for your child's room, it's now even more important to consider the online safety aspects.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

From Netflix to Disney+ to Prime Video, there is a plethora of streaming services available. While these services offer content catering for younger viewers, they also provide material for more mature audiences. If you don't have parental controls set up on your accounts, your child could find themselves being exposed to shows and movies with adult themes, strong language and violence.



INCREASED SCREEN TIME

The array of content available through smart TVs could lead to your child spending excessive amounts of time in front of the screen. Not only can prolonged screen time distract from important activities such as schoolwork or exercise, but experts have also warned that endless hours in front of the box can lead to health problems including obesity, poor sleeping patterns and depression.



REMOTE-CONTROL RETAIL

Like many online devices, smart TVs facilitate digital purchases: buying a new app or the latest season of a favourite show, for example. If your child has access to a bank card and isn't restricted by spending controls on the system, they could run up a sizeable bill through a smart TV fairly quickly – especially if they're not quite old enough to fully appreciate the value of money.



UNCONVINCING SECURITY

As Internet of Things (IoT) devices, smart TVs can be uniquely vulnerable to attack. Experts warn that internet-enabled TVs tend not to support high-level security software, so you won't always be able to download strong antivirus programmes like you would on a phone or computer. Being targeted by hackers could be deeply upsetting for your child, as well as putting their personal data at risk.



A SILENT SPY?

Some smart TVs already collect data on users' viewing habits and then display targeted advertising based on that personal information – while there have also been reports of internet-enabled TVs (and the apps installed on them) being used to 'eavesdrop' on owners. In models with a built-in microphone (for voice activation), third parties could potentially listen in on someone's home life.



CONTACT FROM STRANGERS

Many smart TVs can be used for web browsing, social media and live streaming – all of which could allow unknown users to contact your child (or vice versa). If your child engages with these functions of the TV, a stranger could potentially discover their contact information and potentially then use it to obtain even more sensitive personal details, such as your home address.



Advice for Parents & Carers

MAKE IT A FAMILY THING

Family TV time is a great way to model the responsible enjoyment of technology – showing your child how to use the smart TV safely for when they're old enough to watch it independently. You could also take this opportunity to establish some healthy TV boundaries, such as time limits on their daily viewing or how to make sure they're only watching content that's appropriate for their age.



CREATE CHILD PROFILES

Much like with smartphones and tablets, apps can be downloaded onto smart TVs: from free content platforms such as BBC iPlayer to paid-for services like Prime Video. Most of these apps allow you to create a separate account for your child which has different settings to your own – suggesting more child-friendly material and reducing the possibility of them viewing explicit content.



SET UP PARENTAL CONTROLS

It's likely that your smart TV has built-in parental controls, which not only let you filter out age-inappropriate shows, movies and games but can also restrict in-app purchasing, so your child can't accidentally spend money through the device. When you've enabled these safeguards, have an open conversation with your child about the reasons, helping them to understand the potential risks.



CONSIDER THE LOCATION

If you're concerned about the online safety hazards that a smart TV might pose to your child, you could consider where in your home you put the device. The safest option would be to place the smart TV in a shared family space – so that an adult is usually nearby and able to supervise while your child's watching it – rather than in the relative privacy of a bedroom.



Meet Our Expert

Carly Page 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, Carly is now a freelance technology journalist, editor and consultant.



NOS National Online Safety®
#WakeUpWednesday