

Friday Post

Friday 20th September 2024

Our School Value: Thankfulness

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

Dear families,

We have had another very busy week in school, with visitors joining us throughout.

Today we welcomed colleagues from our Academy Trust, along with Sir Gavin Williamson, MP for Stone, Great Wyrley and Penkridge. Following an excellent tour of the school from our pupils, we discussed the many challenges facing schools including that of funding. We are very grateful to Sir Gavin for the time taken to visit us and hear what we had to share.

Rev. Manda joined us for worship on Wednesday and share the story of the Good Samaritan. It is a story we know well, and the children were able to reflect on how it teaches us to love one another, even those different to us. We also welcomed Mrs Jennings into school, who comes from Lichfield Diocese and is supporting our school in furthering our Christian distinctiveness.

Next week, we look forward to welcoming Alison Lloyd, our Education Mental Health Practitioner, back into school. She will be speaking to us about looking after our mental health and steps we can take to stay healthy.

Please check out the diary dates for our new 'Learn with Me' sessions. We will begin these with Reception and Year 1, and will have opportunities throughout the school year for all children to be joined by a parent for their learning. In the meantime, if you have any questions about your child's school day, do not hesitate to speak with their class teacher.

Have a wonderful weekend,

Miss Phillips



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September Ark Invoices
 &
 Club payments

All payments for clubs and Ark are now overdue for payment. Texts/email reminders have been sent out this week to those who still have outstanding payments. Please arrange payments asap.



Wear Yellow - Thursday 10th October 2024

Come together in yellow on Thursday 10 October (World Mental Health Day) to raise vital funds and show children and young people they're not alone with their mental health.

Children are asked to come to school in non uniform and **add a touch of yellow** to their clothing to show their support.


Voluntary donations can be made directly to YOUNGMINDS charity: [Donate](#) | [Help Young People Get Mental Health Support](#) | [YoungMinds](#)



Newsletter Mailing List

With more and more carers doing school drop off & pick ups these days, we thought it might help for them to know key dates in your child's school calendar.

If this is something your family would find useful, please email the office and ask for their email to be added to our Friday Post distribution list.

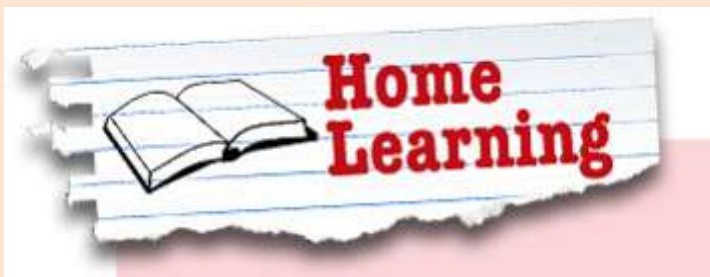

 Childcare
 cost help

Don't forget you can use Gov Tax Scheme/Childcare vouchers to pay for Before & After School Care and after school clubs. Check out [Homepage](#) | [Childcare Choices](#) for help & guidance.



In art, Owls have begun to find out about the artist Andy Goldsworthy who uses natural materials in the outdoors. We explored the outdoor area to find out what colours we could find in nature. We were challenged to find colours to match the different coloured petals on a picture of a flower.





Use your child's home learning tasks below to support their learning outside of school. Tasks should be brought in throughout the half-term to be shared and celebrated in class.

Thank you!

Hedgehogs: Please share your homework by email or bring in for Show and Tell

Mathematics: Play counting games and count objects that are ordered or unordered. Match amounts with numerals up to 5

Understanding of the world 2: Learn about where we live. The name of your town or village. The street you live on and the number of your house.

Writing: Draw pictures of family members and label them. Drawing, writing and mark-making centred around their favourite books.

Understanding of the World 3: Encourage your child to point to parts of their body. Play 'Simon says' and encourage your child to move body parts in different ways.

Reading: Spend time reading favourite books together especially bedtime stories. Visit the library

Expressive Arts & Design: Draw and paint pictures of faces and encourage to add detail such as hair colour and eye colour. Make a model of a person and add labels for the body parts.

Understanding of the World: Bring in a family photo to add to our topic display in class. Look at photo albums and talk about family photos.

Physical Development: Talk about the parts of their body they are using as your child plays at the park or in the garden. Encourage your child to take part in team games.

Owls:

- **Art:** Find out about the artist Andy Goldsworthy who uses natural materials in the outdoors. Make your own artwork using natural materials e.g leaves, stones, twigs. Bring in a photo of your art work.
- **Science:** Grow your own spring onions using these instructions: <https://www.youtube.com/shorts/HCcp-C35vKI> Can you think of a tasty way to eat them? Write down the recipe to show how you used them.
- **Geography:** Think of an interesting place you have visited in the UK. Design and make an information leaflet all about your chosen place which would encourage other people to visit. Include a map of the UK showing its location.
- **Science:** Choose a deciduous tree in your garden/local area. Over a few weeks, take a photo or draw a picture of the tree once a week and note any changes.
- **Maths:** Exciting information coming soon about Numbots. Watch this space.

Foxes:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Geography - Design your favourite meal. Find out where each item of food originally comes from and how much of it is produced in the country each year. | Art - Write the definition of 'Still Life'. Take a 'still life' picture of an object in your house - for example, a piece of fruit. Practise drawing it using shading to show lighter and darker parts of the object. | Spellings need to be practised daily ahead of our quiz on a Friday. Remember to spot the spelling rule and think about other words you would use it in. |
| Science - Draw and label the different types of adult teeth and write their functions. | English - Draw and label your favourite meal. Write a persuasive advert and include reasons why people should buy it. Use persuasive phrases ambitious vocabulary. | TTRS will help increase accuracy and speed with times tables. Practise daily to increase both of these and move up the leader board! |

All children should be heard reading their school book a minimum of 4 times a week. Re-reading a book helps develop fluency and comprehension.

Books will be changed on **Tuesdays** and **Fridays**.



**"Which of these three, do you think, proved to be a neighbour to the man who fell among the robbers?"
He said, "The one who showed him mercy."
And Jesus said to him, "You go, and do likewise."**

Luke 10:36-37



Gardening club have been harvesting the fruit and vegetables that they planted earlier in the year.



Attendance figures

School Attendance 16th - 20th September 2024

Hedgehogs 95%

Owls 98%

Foxes 95%

Whole School 96.2%

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

Please note fixed penalty notice referrals **will** be made to the Local Authority for term time holidays.

ATTENDANCE WHAT THE NEW RULES MEAN FOR ME

1 I'm a single parent of one child and we want to go on holiday for a week.
Your holiday will not be authorised and you must tell the school before you book anything. Because your child will miss 5 school days you will be given a penalty notice fine. The fine is £160 but if you stay 9 or 10 days it will be reduced to £80.

2 FOR EVERY CHILD A PENALTY IS GIVEN. **IRREGULAR ATTENDANCE 10 IN 10**
If your child is absent for 10 or more sessions in 10 weeks and their absences are unauthorised, the school will consider prosecution.
1 Day = 2 Sessions

3 FOR A FAMILY OF TWO PARENTS
4 children & 2 parents = **£1280**
(Reduced to £640 if paid in 21 days)

4 If in any period of not more than 3 years, your child has a 2nd and 3rd leave of absence or pattern of irregular attendance...

2ND TIME
2 parents and 1 child = £320
2 children = 640
3 children = 960
4 children = 1280
No discount for early payment

3RD TIME
A penalty notice fine will not be given. Instead, your case will be taken to court. A magistrate can fine each parent £2500 for each child.
1 parent & 4 children = £10,000
2 parents & 4 children = £20,000

ATTENDANCE WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?

ABSENCE FROM SCHOOL
How do YOU measure up?

| Percentage | Days | Weeks | Lessons |
|------------|---------|----------|-------------|
| 10% | 4 Days | 2 Weeks | 80 Lessons |
| 25% | 10 Days | 5 Weeks | 200 Lessons |
| 50% | 20 Days | 10 Weeks | 400 Lessons |
| 75% | 30 Days | 15 Weeks | 600 Lessons |
| 90% | 40 Days | 20 Weeks | 800 Lessons |
| 95% | 45 Days | 22 Weeks | 880 Lessons |

89% & Below
Drastic effect on academic achievement

95%-90%
Cause for concern

100%-96%
Excellent

HERE EVERY DAY READY ON TIME

Gate opens at 8:35am
Before School Care from 8am

Weekly House Point Tally

Oak



148

Sycamore

138

Holly

90



OWLS



Owls have been learning all about plants and trees in Science and have been outside to hunt for various plants and trees in the school grounds.



In Science, Owls have been learning that many plants grow from seeds but some grow from bulbs. We looked at a range of seeds and bulbs and planted radish seeds, daffodil bulbs and hyacinth bulbs.



**Quote
of the
Week**

When Mrs Jennings, our new Christian Distinctiveness advisor was looking around school she asked Lucas "Do you like school"? Lucas replied "No, I don't like school, I love it"!

HEDGEHOGS



CEO James Capper, talking to the children about their play and learning.



We have been looking carefully about what makes us unique and special and used these ideas in our play. As part of this the children have been thinking about families and finding out how unique we are by reading Maisie's Scrapbook. Reception have started their phonics programme using ELS and are concentrating well on learning the first 5 graphemes and phonemes s, a, t, p, i and n. We have been really impressed with their writing in their phonics activity books. Nursery have also been working hard in our Squiggle and Wiggle activities where they have been working on their movements to support early writing.





Year 1 have been partitioning numbers into tens and ones and finding one less than a given number



Our Safeguarding Team

Miss Phillips is our Designated Safeguarding Lead

Miss Laing is our Deputy Safeguarding Lead

Should you hear or see something that concerns you, please contact the office to speak to either of them.



Stars of the Week



Old microwave wanted!

Does anyone have an old broken microwave they no longer want?
If so, Mr Atkins would be very grateful to receive it for the outdoor kitchen area in Hedgehogs. Please contact the office.

Book Bags

Please could we ask that children in class Hedgehogs and Owls have book bags rather than ruck sacks for school. This encourages independence and looking after their own things children have a tray each to put their book bags in and where they should put their jumpers/cardigans if they remove them during school time.
Thank you.

Label everything!!

Please can we ask that you label everything that comes to school!! We are having a lot of jumpers & cardigans left around school and when they aren't named we can't return them to their rightful owner!

Achievements from home



Swimming



Fishing

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.



English- We have been working hard to create our own narrative based on the text 'The Dot'. We enjoyed sharing our work with our friends and we were very good at giving constructive feedback!



Art- As we are exploring fruits and vegetables in art, this week we were learning how to sculpt clay from still life fruits. We have learnt to roll clay as well as use a variety of tools to shape our clay into peppers. We look forward to painting them next week.



Information videos from the school nurses reference the flu vaccines,



Video for children

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JepMe0BkDil>

Video for adults

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



If your child has a school lunch it is important to keep your ParentPay account topped up with funds.

For children in our Nursery, Year 3 and Year 4 there is a cost of £2.95 per day or £14.75 per week,

WC 23rd September - Week One



| | WEEK ONE | WEEK TWO | WEEK THREE |
|------------------|---|---|---|
| MONDAY | Margherita Pizza with Jacket Wedges (V) Veg of the Day Vanilla Shortbread (Ve) | Margherita Pizza with Jacket Wedges (V) Veg of the Day Chocolate Shortbread (Ve) | Margherita Pizza with Jacket Wedges (V) Veg of the Day Sultana Shortbread (Ve) |
| TUESDAY | Pork or Veggie (Ve) Sausages with Mash & Gravy Veg of the Day Apple Sponge (V) | Sausage Roll with Mash & Gravy Veg of the Day Carrot Cake (V) | Chicken Meatballs with Mash & Gravy Veg of the Day Pineapple Upside Down Cake (V) |
| WEDNESDAY | Roast of the Day with Roasties & Gravy Veg of the Day Jelly (Ve) | Roast of the Day with Roasties & Gravy Veg of the Day Jelly (Ve) | Roast of the Day with Roasties & Gravy Veg of the Day Jelly (Ve) |
| THURSDAY | Penne with Beef Bolognese Veg of the Day Sultana Flapjack (Ve) | Chicken Korma with Rice Veg of the Day Apple Flapjack (Ve) | Mac & Cheese (V) Veg of the Day Flapjack (Ve) |
| FRIDAY | Fish Fingers or Salmon Fish Fingers with Chips Veg of the Day Vanilla Ice Cream with Banana (V) | Fish Fingers or Salmon Fish Fingers with Chips Veg of the Day Vanilla Ice Cream with Banana (V) | Fish Fingers or Salmon Fish Fingers with Chips Veg of the Day Vanilla Ice Cream with Banana (V) |
| | 2/9/24, 23/9/24, 14/10/24, 4/11/24, 25/11/24, 16/12/24, 6/1/25, 27/1/25 | 9/9/24, 30/9/24, 21/10/24, 11/11/24, 2/12/24, 23/12/24, 13/1/25, 3/2/25 | 16/9/24, 7/10/24, 28/10/24, 18/11/24, 9/12/24, 30/12/24, 20/1/25, 10/2/25 |

V - Vegetarian, Ve - Vegan

Choice of **Classic Tomato Pasta** or **Filled Jacket Potatoes** also available daily along with freshly baked bread, salad, fresh fruit, yoghurts, jelly and fresh drinking water.



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.



Year 4 were first to have Forest School sessions with Susan from Staffordshire Wildlife Trust this week.



What is inside a mountain?

Alex "Me & Harry think that it depends, it could be caves or it could be boulders"

Ted H " I think it's stones"

Lola "It depends what kind of mountain, if it's a snowy mountain it could be ice & rocks"

Thomas H "If you're really lucky you might get riches like diamonds or it could be just caves"

Eliza "Dark caves"

Myla "There could be fossils"

Darcie "A volcano is like a mountain so there could be lava, if it's a normal mountain rocks or caves"

Vinny "Dinosaur bones"

Ralph "Quartz rock"

Finley "Magma & very hot glass"

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

BIG QUESTION

Do you have to finish every book you start?



School Photos

Please return your school photo order before 27/09/2024 alternatively you can order directly by going to <https://www.academyphotos.co.uk/online-ordering>

Wellies



If they haven't already please **ALL** children please have a pair of **NAMED** wellies at school. It is important that the children have wellies in school every day so they can join in with impromptu sessions in the forest area, wet play and they are also needed when we walk across the farmers field to church.

Thank you.



Please search for
St Leonards First School
& Nursery

Don't forget to keep
up to date by
following us on ..



Our School website

<https://www.st-leonards-dunston.staffs.sch.uk/>

dates to Remember

| | |
|-------------------------|--|
| Tuesday 8th October | Reception Learn with Me: Phonics 9 - 10am <i>more info to follow</i> |
| Wednesday 9th October | Reception Learn with Me: Phonics 9 - 10am <i>more info to follow</i> |
| Thursday 10th October | Wear Yellow to raise awareness of Mental Health |
| Tuesday 22nd October | Year 1 Learn with Me: Phonics 9 - 10am <i>more info to follow</i> |
| Tuesday 22nd October | Parents Evening - more info to follow |
| Wednesday 23rd October | Parents Evening - more info to follow |
| Thursday 24th October | Year 1 Learn with Me: Phonics 9 - 10am <i>more info to follow</i> |
| Friday 26th October | Harvest Celebration in church - everyone welcome to join us at 9:15am at St Leonards Church, Dunston |
| Monday 28th October | Half Term |
| Friday 1st November | |
| Monday 23rd December | Christmas Holidays |
| Friday 3rd January 2025 | |
| Friday 31st January | Inset Day - school closed to pupils |
| Friday 11th April | Inset Day - school closed to pupils |
| Monday 2nd June | Inset Day - school closed to pupils |
| Monday 21st July | Inset Day - school closed to pupils |



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.

Year 3
25/09/2024

Year 2
2/10/2024

Year 1
9/10/2024

Reception
16/10/2024

Nursery
23/10/2024



PE Days

Please make sure your child has their PE kit in school on the relevant days.

Hedgehogs - Fridays

Owls - Thursdays & Fridays Foxes - Thursday & Friday



I hear there is a special service at church on 28th September and we can take our human pets along.

Now I have trained them I can take mine.

Yes, I'm taking mine - I just hope they will behave and not embarrass me!
It should be fun!!



PET SERVICE

SUNDAY 28TH SEPTEMBER

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 FAMILY PETS, FARM AND 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.

INTRODUCING CASHPOT FOR SCHOOLS

Download and opt-in with Asda Rewards
and we will donate ££s to schools.

CASHPOT
FOR
SCHOOLS



With
Parentkind

HERE'S HOW

- 1 Download the Asda Rewards app & sign up today
- 2 Opt-in to Cashpot for Schools and follow the steps in your app
- 3 Shop, scan and we donate

Do you shop at ASDA? If so we need you to help us raise funds at no cost to you!!
Between 2nd September and 30th November 2024, every time customers shop with Asda using their Rewards app, they can choose a primary school to receive a percentage of their spend. And that's not all — every time a customer chooses St Leonard's, Asda will donate £1 to your school's Cashpot
All you need to do is to follow the steps below and choose our school (use our postcode **ST18 9AG**) on their App. As this doesn't apply to high schools please pass our school name on to any friends and family. -
We have currently already raised £79.00
Thank you!!

Berkswich Jets U8s Girls team have opportunities for *YOU!*

We have opportunities for girls to experience developmental league football and train in a safe, enjoyable environment supported by F.A. qualified coaches.

Come and join us and let the fun begin!

Contact Rich: 07790497486

