

Friday Post

Friday 27th 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 a brilliant week in school; I particularly enjoyed spending a morning and afternoon in Class Foxes. We painted clay sculptures, programmed a turtle in ICT, wrote setting descriptions and worked on rounding numbers to the nearest ten!

Our ELS Phonics is well underway in Hedgehogs and Owls and we are looking forward to our Learn with Me sessions. Reception and Year 1 parents are welcome to sign-up to these in the entrance hall; please note spaces are limited per session. We will also be launching the children's e-library accounts, so look out for more information on this.

In class, teachers have been re-visiting the PANTS rule with children; the NSPCC have lots of resources online to support with this message at home. The catchy song is one that will stick in your minds, and is a helpful reminder that what is in our pants is private.

On another safeguarding note, we are asking that parents of Hedgehogs children report injuries upon arrival into school to the school office. A short form will be provided to help us share this information effectively.

We are continuing to enjoy our extensive outdoor environment, with all classes carrying out lessons outside on a weekly basis; as the weather turns, please ensure children always come with a waterproof coat. We know what a big difference getting outside makes to everyone's mental health and well-being.

Have a wonderful weekend,

Miss Phillips



Headteacher: Miss C Phillips,
St Leonard's First School & Nursery,
School Lane, Dunston, ST18 9AG
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E-mail: office@st-leonards-dunston.staffs.sch.uk





Foxes

NO pencil cases

Please could we ask that children do not bring their own pencil cases into school.

We have sufficient supplies in school and when children misplace their items it can cause upset. Thank you

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](#)



An introduction to Worry

Tuesday 12th November 9am - 10am

Alison Lloyd, our Education Mental Health Practitioner, will be running a workshop for parents.

- What is worry
- How to talk to your child about their worries
- Ways to manage worries at home

There will be a sign up sheet in the entrance hall closer to the date.

Reminder!

Please remember: School uniform for children in Y1-Y4 includes a shirt and tie.

October Ark bookings

If you haven't already please could you let the office know if you require any after school care booking for October. Thank you

Attendance figures

School Attendance 23rd - 27th September 2024

Hedgehogs 96%

Owls 99%

Foxes 97%

Whole School 97%

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.

Introducing our new

School Council



Office Helper



Worship Team



Weekly House Point Tally

Oak



166

Sycamore

116

Holly

152

In RE, Owls have been learning about the Christian story of creation. We wondered what a Christian might want to say to God about the wonderful world. The children were given some sentence starters which they discussed in small groups. Then we shared our ideas and Miss Laing recorded their fantastic responses on sticky notes.



Wednesday 25th September 2024
We are learning to think, talk and ask questions about living in an amazing world.
If someone believes God made the world, what might they say about it? What might they say to this Creator? Think about these sentence starters: I like... Thank you for... I wonder why... Please can You... It's amazing that...
We did this activity as a class and Miss Laing recorded the children's responses on sticky notes.

Please can you make it snow very soon?

It's amazing that the sun sets and rises again!

Thank you for bees because I like honey.

It's amazing that trees lose their leaves and then grow new ones!

I wonder why there are caves?

I like the darkness. It's quiet and calm.

I wonder why snow is white?

Thank you for all the animals, especially my pets.

It's amazing that we're alive!

I wonder why you made the world?

I like beaches and waves to jump over.

It's amazing that volcanoes erupt!

Please can you make snow warm, not cold?

Please can you create an animal that's half cheetah, half bird?

Amazon Book Wish Lists

Are you able to help us to acquire new books for our children?

Reading is at the heart of our curriculum here at St. Leonard's. We encourage children to read for pleasure and incorporate reading into every subject at every opportunity. Following a recent overhaul of our curriculum, staff are now desperate for a range of books which link to the learning which goes on in school over our new curriculum's 2-year cycle.

Each teacher has drawn up a wish list of books on Amazon and we are hoping to gradually accumulate them. If you would like to donate a book from your child's class list, we would be extremely grateful. Some children bring sweets to share with their classmates when it is their birthday – how about donating a book instead? A book really is a gift which keeps on giving and will give pleasure to many children (and their teachers!) for years to come.

If you choose to donate a book from the list to your child's class, the book will be presented to the whole school during assembly and will have a sticker placed on the inside cover stating the name of the child who kindly donated it. Please do check if Amazon sell any second hand copies of the books, as these can be picked up quite cheaply and we will be more than happy to receive them.

The books on each wish list have been prioritised and are labelled either high, medium or low priority. The high priority titles will match the topics being taught straight after Christmas.

Foxes

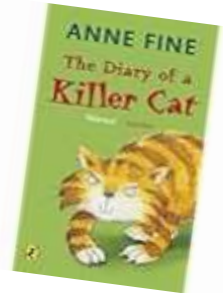
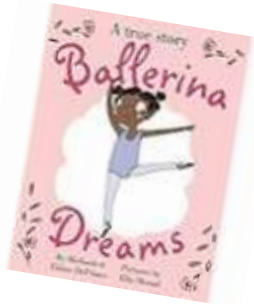
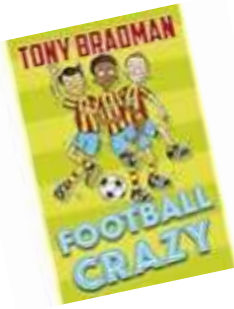
https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/1QSQNM3YGS06H?ref_=wl_share

Owls

https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/36FQL4RYEKU3S?ref_=wl_share

Hedgehogs

https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/16ZCE13CMXH2T?ref_=wl_share





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**.





Owls have been continuing to find out about the artist Andy Goldsworthy. We found out that he often creates curved, winding works of art in the outdoors. We went outside and collected piles of stones, fallen apples and sticks. Then we worked in groups to create our own curved, winding lines. We even learnt a great new word - meandering.



Lots of proud faces as they receive their postcards for home.



HEDGEHOGS



Despite the weather, Hedgehogs have been taking full advantage of our brilliant outdoor area. Mr H has organised some excellent games to build the children's gross motor skills with the



parachute and we have been incorporating our maths learning into our play. The children particularly enjoyed sorting the natural materials and collecting leaves for craft activities. We are working well as a team and showing self confidence to create our

own ideas or to adapt ideas we have. It is encouraging to see the children using our school values of respect, love and thankfulness as they collaborate in their learning experiences. The children have also shared lots of ideas about how we change from babies to grown-ups and how this can be illustrated as a time line. The buddies also got



together to decorate pants after learning about Pantosaurus's PANTS Rules through the NSPCC.



Before School Club

A reminder that Mrs Trumble 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 as invoices are not issued for these sessions.



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.



As a school we have always benefitted from the generous work of a PTA.

Fundraising activities and events are always a great way to come together as a community. The money raised then helps subsidise trips, visitors into school, and equipment that we may not otherwise be able to purchase.

We are looking to gather anyone interested in being part of the PTA. We need to elect a Chair and Treasurer, as well as form a group who are willing to run future events.

More information on being part of a PTA can be found here: <https://www.parentkind.org.uk/#>

This invitation extends to grandparents and wider family members who we know are a huge part of our community.

If you would like to be involved, please join us in school on Friday 11th October at 2.15pm.

Many thanks,
Miss Phillips

Achievements from home



Squirrels badges

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.



Go for a walk as a family and use this guide to pray as you find each item



Bird - Thank God for promising to always be with us.



Bug - Ask God to heal those who are sick.



Red Flower - Ask God to protect those in the medical field.



Evergreen - Ask God to give leaders wisdom.



Nut/Seed - Ask God to take care of your family and friends.



Fallen leaf - Ask God to take care of your neighbors.

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=dngfhcdLZvs>



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 Two



	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 3 had a great start to forest school this week, they were printing in clay and making clay faces, as well as spending time enjoying the great outdoors!



Do you have to finish every book you start?

Lucas "No, for example if there are difficult words"

Jovie "Yes, if you want to learn more"

Olivia R "Yes, because sometimes it might get a bit more interesting"

Finley "No, as it might be a bit too long and you might get fed up"

Alex "No, it's good to finish but there's no law to say you have to"

Xander "No, I was reading a really big book once and I got bored"

Dexter "No, if you don't like it you can change it"

Tovah "You don't have to, but I do so it's not sitting around"

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.



Grapes



If you send your child with either grapes or small tomatoes please could you cut them in half. We appreciate you may not do this at home but if left whole, they can be a choking hazard. Many thanks.



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/>

Have you talked PANTS yet?

Since 2013, Pantosaurus has helped over six million parents to Talk PANTS and help keep children safe from sexual abuse.

Tips and advice to help keep your kids safe

Talk PANTS is here to help children understand that they have a right to say no and if they need to speak out about something, someone will listen.

We know that a simple conversation can make a BIG difference, and that's what Talk PANTS is all about. Developed with children, parents, carers and teachers, Talk PANTS is here to help children understand that their body belongs to them, and they should tell a safe adult they trust if anything makes them feel upset or worried.

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/support-for-parents/pants-underwear-rule/>



dates to Remember

Tuesday 8th October	Reception Learn with Me: Phonics 9 - 10am <i>more info to follow</i>
Friday 11th October - 2.15pm	PTFA Meeting everyone welcome
Monday 14th 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 - Owls & Foxes
Wednesday 23rd October	Parents Evening - Hedgehogs, Owls & Foxes
Thursday 24th October	Year 1 Learn with Me: Phonics 9 - 10am <i>more info to follow</i>
Thursday 24th October	Parents Evening - Hedgehogs
Friday 26th October	Harvest Celebration in church - everyone welcome to join us at 9:15am at St Leonards Church, Dunston
Monday 28th October Friday 1st November	Half Term
Tuesday 12th November	An introduction to worry - parent workshop 9-10am
Monday 23rd December Friday 3rd January 2025	Christmas Holidays
Monday 6th January	Back to school

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 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

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about INSTAGRAM

AGE RESTRICTION
13+

Instagram is a highly popular social media platform with over 2 billion active monthly users. The app is continuously updating and adding new features to meet the wishes of its audience, allowing them to upload images and videos to their Instagram feed, create interactive 'stories', go live, exchange private messages or explore and follow other accounts that catch their eye.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

ADDICTION

Many social media platforms, Instagram included, are designed to keep us engaged on them for as long as possible. They encourage scrolling often and scrolling more in case we miss something important – in essence, a fear of missing out. On Instagram, young people can lose track of time when aimlessly scrolling and watching videos posted by friends, acquaintances, influencers and possibly strangers.

UNREALISTIC IDEALS

Children sometimes compare themselves to what they see online: how they look, how they dress, and the way their life is going in comparison to others on social media. However, most people only share the positives about their lives online and many use filters when sharing pictures of themselves. A constant comparison with unrealistic ideals can lead to insecurity over one's own appearance and lifestyle.

GOING LIVE

Livestreaming on Instagram allows users to connect with friends and followers in real time. Risks increase if the account is public, because that means anyone can watch the broadcast, which could result in further contact from strangers. Additional dangers of going live include an impulse to act inappropriately to draw more viewers, as well as being exposed to harmful content or offensive language.

INFLUENCER CULTURE

Social media influencers are sometimes paid thousands of pounds to promote products, services, apps and more. When celebrities or influencers post such content, it often says 'paid partnership' above the post. In April 2024, Ofcom found that over a quarter of children (27%) believed in influencer marketing, accepting their endorsement of products unthinkingly. So it's perfectly possible for young people to be taken in by this kind of content.

PRODUCT TAGGING

Product tags allow users to tag a product or business in their post. This tag will take viewers directly to the product detail page on the shop where the item can be purchased. Children may also be encouraged by influencers to purchase products that they advertise.

EXCLUSION & OSTRACISM

Youngsters are highly sensitive to feeling excluded, which comes in many forms: not receiving as many 'likes' as expected; not being tagged in a friend's photo; being uninvited; not receiving a comment on their post or a reply to a message they sent. Being excluded online hurts just as much as offline. Young people have reported lower moods and self-esteem when excluded in this way, feeling as if they don't belong and aren't valued.

Advice for Parents & Educators

AVOID GOING PUBLIC

If a young user wants to share their clothing style, make up or similar and use product tagging to show off the items in their post, they may be tempted to change their settings to public. This leaves their profile visible to everyone, which carries the risk of strangers getting in touch with them. Set a child's account to private and explain the importance of keeping it this way.

HAVE AN OPEN DIALOGUE

Talk to children about the positives and negatives of social media, including the risks involved and how they can slow or create content safely with family and friends. Explain how safety settings will ensure only followers can view them, and why this is so important. Also, if you find a child continuously uses filters on their photos, ask them why and impress on them that they don't need it.

MANAGE LIKE COUNTS

Due to the potential impact on mental wellbeing, Instagram allows users to hide the total likes on their posts, to prevent people from obsessing over that number in the corner. Users can hide like counts on all the posts in their feed as well as on their own posts. This means others can't see how many likes a person gets. This can be done by going into Settings > Notifications > Posts > Likes > Off.

USE MODERATORS

Instagram Live has implemented a mechanic called Moderators, meaning that creators can design a moderator and give them the power to report comments, remove viewers and remove the ability for certain viewers to comment at all. Consider this if a child in your care wants to go live on the platform, it's also recommended to keep devices in communal spaces so you're aware if a child does go live or watch a livestream.

FOLLOW INFLUENCERS

Following influencers will allow you to monitor what they're sharing as well as being able to discuss anything which you deem inappropriate. Talk to children about who they follow and help them to develop critical thinking skills about what the influencer is trying to do. For example, encourage the child to ask themselves if an influencer is trying to sell them a product when they make a video endorsing it.

BALANCE YOUR TIME

Instagram has a built-in activity dashboard that lets you control how much time is spent on the app. Make sure children sign in to the platform with the correct age, as Instagram's 'Teen Accounts' afford much more control for parents and carers over how long they can use the app each day. Talk with young users about how much time they spend on Instagram and work together to set a healthy time limit.

Meet Our Expert

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





TOGETHER WE THRIVE 2024

FOR ATTENDEES

A free one-stop shop for parents & carers, education providers and young people with SEND.

Join us for a marketplace of SEND services, inspiring speakers, experienced trainers and professionals sharing practical ideas and expertise for SEND families.

DATE & LOCATION

**Staffordshire County Showground
Ingestre Suite**

**Wednesday 2nd October 2024
9.30am – 4.30pm**

Drop in anytime during the day



ON THE DAY

• **Keynote speakers:**

- Dean Beadle- Autistic Speaker
- Halit Hulusi- Head of SEND, SCC
- Staffordshire's Hearing & Sight Inclusion Team
- SENDIASS
- Relational & Restorative Practice Team

• **Awareness Workshops:**

- Whose Shoes - MPFT
- Oliver McGowan Training

• **Marketplace:**

- NHS & Local Authority Teams
- Family Hub
- Further Education Providers
- Charities and Community Groups

**FOR MORE INFORMATION
CONTACT STAFFORDSHIRE
PARENT CARER FORUM:**

info@staffspcf.co.uk

[BOOK AS AN ATTENDEE](#)

Funded By:



**Staffordshire and
Stoke-on-Trent**
Integrated Care System





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



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

With
Parentkind

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!!