



Friday Post

Friday 12th December 2025

Our School Value: Trust

Key Verse: *You keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on you, because he trusts in you.*
Isaiah 26.3

Dear families,

We've had another wonderful week at school which has been full of learning, curiosity and wonder in hand with lots of singing and practice for our nativity plays next week.

Thank you to all of the children for learning their lines and songs for our 'Grumpy Sheep' nativity. Warmest thanks to families for supporting with costumes and help with practice at home. We can't wait to welcome everyone to our performances on Tuesday. We are in for a real treat!

We also wanted to share our sincerest thanks to everyone for joining our carols around the tree event last Friday and to the PTA for the refreshments, chocolate tombola and games. All of the money raised supports resources and trips for the children – thank you to everyone for your kind generosity.

Excitingly, we also have our Christmas dinner, Christmas parties and visit from Father Christmas on Wednesday. We can't wait to share photographs in next week's Friday Post.

In worship, we have been learning more about our advent wreath which is made from the holly, ivy, conifer and laurel from our very own garden here at St. Leonard's. So far, we have lit the candles of Hope and Peace; our third candle will be lit on Monday which represents joy – this links in superbly to all of the joy and fun we are going to have in our final week of term.

We have been exploring the theme of emotions and emotional well-being in PSHE. Linking to this, Mrs Lloyd from the Mental Health Support Team joined our lunch time 'mindful' colouring, reading and puzzle club which takes place in the hall each day. Mrs Lloyd also visited Foxes class to explore the theme of recognising and managing our emotions. The children will be building on their learning with a second workshop in January which we are looking forward to. Owls will also take part in the workshops in the Spring term and Hedgehogs in the Summer term.



A reminder that it is our 'Champion of Trust' service at St Leonard' Church on Friday where we will celebrate our school values and to say thank you for all of the wonderful learning, friendship, respect and trust from this term. We are also looking forward to our service on Sunday 19th December at St. Leonard's Church. It will be lovely to sing carols and listen to the Christmas readings together with the congregation at St Leonard's Church.

We really are so lucky to belong to such a warm and inspiring school family.

Wishing everyone hope, peace and joy as we enter the third week of advent on Sunday from,

Mrs Claire Keay and the team at St Leonard's C of E First School

Headteacher: Mrs C Keay

St Leonard's C.E First School & Nursery

School Lane, Dunston, ST18 9AG

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Church Service – Friday 19th December

Everyone is welcome to join us for our Champion of Trust church service on Friday 19th December. Children aim to be in church by approx. 9:15am

ParentPay balances

Current items outstanding for payment are:

- December Ark invoices
- December Nursery invoices
- Before School fees
- Pantomime
- Nativity seats

Please clear your balances asap. Thank you



*And the
Winners
are...*

Well done to the winners of the Christmas Tree decoration competition! Competition was tough and Miss Wenlock-Evans & Miss Gibbons wished everyone could have won!



Lost Property

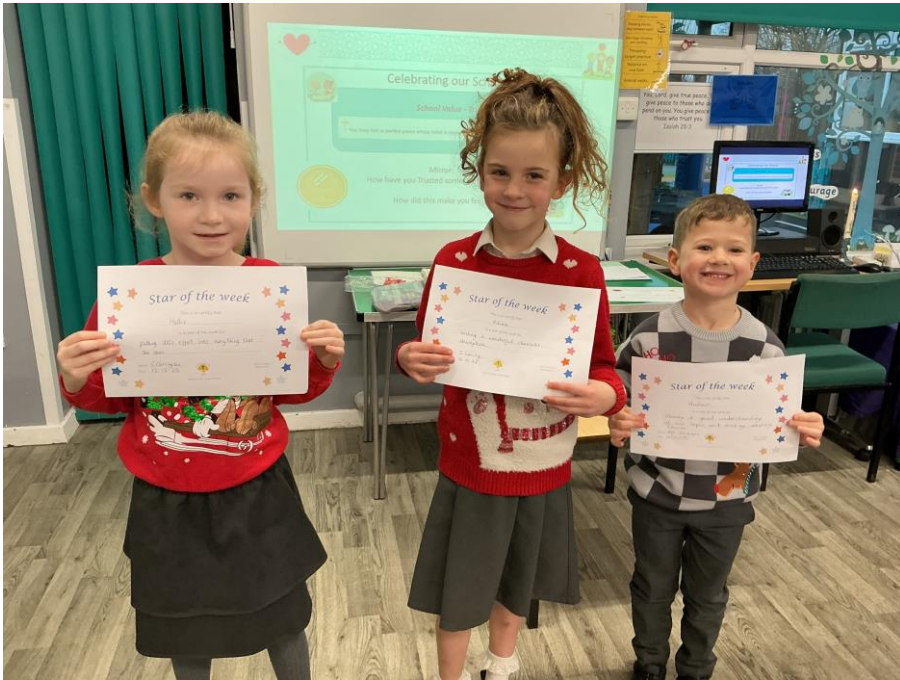
We have an increasing amount of lost property hanging around school. Please may we remind you to name **EVERY** piece of school clothing, drinks bottles and lunch boxes. A permanent marker on a washing label works just as well as sew in or iron on tags. Any items with a name on will be returned to their owner!



Christmas Post

The St Leonard's children's Christmas post box is now in the entrance hall. Please make sure the recipients name & class is on the envelope! Last post: Friday 19th December at 9am.

stars of the week



Care, Love and Kindness Award



'Let all that you do, be done in love' 1 Corinthians 16:14



OWLS



Owls are continuing to work hard perfecting their sewing skills! We look forward to seeing the end result next week.



CHRISTMAS CRAFTS



CURRENT NURSERY PARENTS - Reception 2026

If you will turn 5 after 1st September 2026 then you will need to apply online for a place in our Reception class, no later than 15th January 2026.

Applications should be made directly through 'Staffordshire's On-line Application System' at: [Citizen Portal - Sign in](#)

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

If you know of anyone who is looking for a reception place, then please ask them to give the office a call and book an appointment to look around our school with Mrs Keay.

Friday 19th December 2025

School closes at 1.30pm on Friday 19th December.

All children must be collected - there is no Ark available.

**PLEASE!
NOTE**

Big Question

I wonder if a stable was the right place for Gods son to be born?

Pippa "No, I think it wasn't he could have got poorly straight away, that might not happy in a house"

Finley "Yes, as all the Inns were full"

Amelie "I think God chose the right place"

Teddy "it was the right place, it was meant to be"

Lola "Yes, he was born with the animals and God made the animals"



Postcard from the Headteacher



This afternoon our Choir sang festive songs & carols to members of the 'Dunston village Wombles'. The children represented the school so well – well done to them all!





This week we learnt
 'It was on a Starry Night'

It was on a Starry Night

Next week we are learning:
 'Silent Night'

The story of 'Silent Night' - BBC Teach

Click the link above to find the lyrics & music

Weekly House Point Tally

Holly



98

Oak

85

Sycamore

81

Achievements from outside school



Swimming



Martial Arts



Football



Cub badges

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

Our Safeguarding Team



Mrs Keay is our Designated Safeguarding Lead

Miss Laing is our Deputy Safeguarding Lead

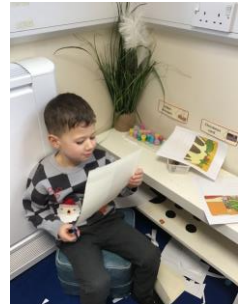
Should you hear or see something that concerns you, please contact the office to speak to either of them.



HEDGEHOGS



Hedgehogs have taken their learning from The Polar Express and the Jolly Postman this week – they are certainly getting into the Christmas spirit!





Attendance figures

8th – 12th December 2025



Holiday forms must be handed into the office – these are available in the entrance hall.

Unless in exceptional circumstances, holidays will be counted as unauthorised absence.

| | |
|--------------|-----|
| Hedgehogs | 91% |
| Owls | 92% |
| Foxes | 93% |
| Whole School | 92% |

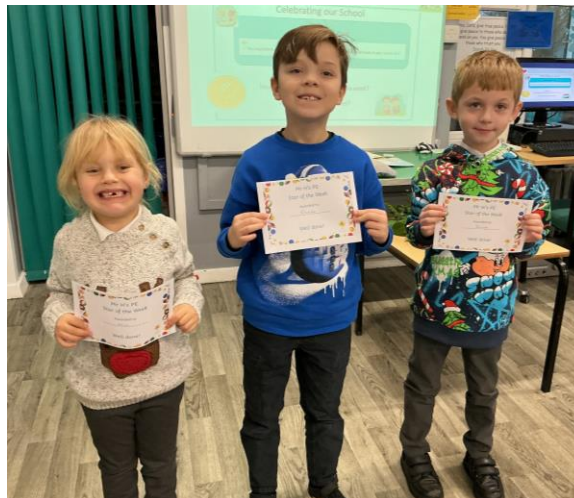
The national target for attendance, as set out in guidance from the DFE is 95%

Impact of lateness over a school year:

- 5 minutes late every day = 3 days absent
- 15 minutes late every day = 10 days absent
- 30 minutes late every day = 19 days absent

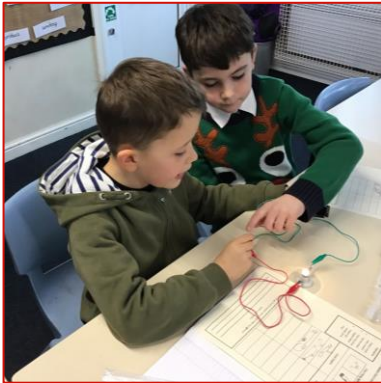
Pupils arriving late miss valuable learning time and it can contribute to them becoming anxious when they enter the classroom late.

PE STARS OF THE WEEK





In Science we have adapted our circuits to include a buzzer



In PE we played 'call & response games'



In PHSE we have been discussing the signs & symptoms of different illnesses





Wednesday 17th December 2025

Don't forget to book your child's special Christmas meal via your SchoolGrid account.

Don't forget to book your school meals in advance via your school grid account before 8am.

<https://app.schoolgrid.co.uk/login.aspx?ReturnUrl=%2F>

| VILLAGE AUTUMN | New dishes for 2025 | | WEEK 1 | | WEEK 2 | | WEEK 3 | | | |
|------------------------|---------------------|---|---|---|---|--|---|---|--|--|
| | | | Weeks starting: 1st Sept, 22nd Sept, 13th Oct 3rd Nov, 24th Nov, 15th Dec | | Weeks starting: 8th Sept, 29th Sept 20th Oct, 10th Nov, 1st Dec | | Weeks starting: 15th Sept, 6th Oct 27th Oct, 17th Nov, 8th Dec | | | |
| Mega Monday | | Margherita Pizza & Garlic Slice (V) Jacket Potato & Fillings (V) (VG) (GF) Soft Roll with a Choice of Fillings (V) (VG) | Green Beans, Sweetcorn Fresh Daily Salad Selection, Fresh Sliced Bread | Vanilla Ice Cream (V) Dolce Homebake, Seasonal Fruit, Fruit Yoghurt | Margherita or Vegetable Supreme Pizza (V) Jacket Potato & Fillings (V) (VG) (GF) Baguette with a Choice of Fillings (V) (VG) | Steak Potato Wedges, Sweetcorn, Green Beans Fresh Daily Salad Selection, Fresh Sliced Bread | Ice Cream & Fruit (V) Dolce Homebake, Seasonal Fruit, Fruit Yoghurt | Margherita or Sweetcorn Pizza with Pasta Salad (V) Jacket Potato & Fillings (V) (VG) (GF) Sandwich with a Choice of Fillings (V) (VG) | Green Beans, Sweetcorn Fresh Daily Salad Selection, Fresh Sliced Bread | Crispy Cake (VG) Dolce Homebake, Seasonal Fruit, Fruit Yoghurt |
| Tasty Tuesday | | Crispy Chicken Dippers & Tomato Based Sauce Jacket Potato & Fillings (V) (VG) (GF) Soft Roll with a Choice of Fillings (V) (VG) | Steamed Rice, Sweetcorn, Broccoli Fresh Daily Salad Selection, Fresh Sliced Bread | Wobbly Sponge & Custard (V) Dolce Homebake, Seasonal Fruit, Fruit Yoghurt | Mid Fatta Chicken, with Nachos & Steamed Rice Jacket Potato & Fillings (V) (VG) (GF) Baguette with a Choice of Fillings (V) (VG) | Cabbage, Carrots Fresh Daily Salad Selection, Fresh Sliced Bread | Fruit Crunch & Custard (V) Dolce Homebake, Seasonal Fruit, Fruit Yoghurt | Macaroni Cheese (V) Jacket Potato & Fillings (V) (VG) (GF) Sandwich with a Choice of Fillings (V) (VG) | Cauliflower, Peas Fresh Daily Salad Selection, Fresh Sliced Bread | Apple Cake & Custard (V) Dolce Homebake, Seasonal Fruit, Fruit Yoghurt |
| Roast Wednesday | | Roast Chicken (GF) or Plant Based Sausages (VG) Jacket Potato & Fillings (V) (VG) (GF) Soft Roll with a Choice of Fillings (V) (VG) | Roast Potatoes, Carrots, Peas, Gravy Fresh Daily Salad Selection, Fresh Sliced Bread | Raspberry Jelly & Picochies (VG) Dolce Homebake, Seasonal Fruit, Fruit Yoghurt | Sausage Stuffed Yorkshire Pudding Jacket Potato & Fillings (V) (VG) (GF) Baguette with a Choice of Fillings (V) (VG) | Mashed Potatoes, Carrots, Peas, Gravy Fresh Daily Salad Selection, Fresh Sliced Bread | Lemon Drizzle Cake (V) Dolce Homebake, Seasonal Fruit, Fruit Yoghurt | Roast Chicken (GF) Jacket Potato & Fillings (V) (VG) (GF) Sandwich with a Choice of Fillings (V) (VG) | New Potatoes, Carrots, Savoy Cabbage, Gravy Fresh Daily Salad Selection, Fresh Sliced Bread | Strawberry Mousse (V) Dolce Homebake, Seasonal Fruit, Fruit Yoghurt |
| Try It Thursday | | Homemade Beef & Vegetable Pie Jacket Potato & Fillings (V) (VG) (GF) Soft Roll with a Choice of Fillings (V) (VG) | Mashed Potatoes, Savoy Cabbage, Carrots Fresh Daily Salad Selection, Fresh Sliced Bread | Winter Fruit Crumble & Custard (V) Dolce Homebake, Seasonal Fruit, Fruit Yoghurt | Cheddar & Chicken Pasta Bake Jacket Potato & Fillings (V) (VG) (GF) Baguette with a Choice of Fillings (V) (VG) | Broccoli, Sweetcorn Fresh Daily Salad Selection, Fresh Sliced Bread | Jam Sponge & Custard (V) Dolce Homebake, Seasonal Fruit, Fruit Yoghurt | The Dolce All Day Breakfast Jacket Potato & Fillings (V) (VG) (GF) Sandwich with a Choice of Fillings (V) (VG) | Hot Brown, Baked Beans, Peas Fresh Daily Salad Selection, Fresh Sliced Bread | Fresh Fruit Salad (VG) Dolce Homebake, Seasonal Fruit, Fruit Yoghurt |
| Fishy Friday | | Breaded Fish Fingers or Vegetable Grill (VG) Jacket Potato & Fillings (V) (VG) (GF) Soft Roll with a Choice of Fillings (V) (VG) | Chips (V) (GF), Peas Baked Beans (VG) (GF), Ketchup (VG) (GF) Fresh Daily Salad Selection, Fresh Sliced Bread | Lemon Cookie (VG) Dolce Homebake, Seasonal Fruit, Fruit Yoghurt | Breaded Fish Fingers or Salmon & Sweet Potato Fishcake Jacket Potato & Fillings (V) (VG) (GF) Baguette with a Choice of Fillings (V) (VG) | Chips (VG) (GF), Peas Baked Beans (VG) (GF), Ketchup (VG) (GF) Fresh Daily Salad Selection, Fresh Sliced Bread | Chocolate Cookie (VG) Dolce Homebake, Seasonal Fruit, Fruit Yoghurt | Breaded Fish Fingers or Fishless Fingers (VG) Jacket Potato & Fillings (V) (VG) (GF) Sandwich with a Choice of Fillings (V) (VG) | Chips (VG) (GF), Peas Baked Beans (VG) (GF), Ketchup (VG) (GF) Fresh Daily Salad Selection, Fresh Sliced Bread | Hot Chocolate Fudge Pudding (V) Dolce Homebake, Seasonal Fruit, Fruit Yoghurt |

Important Dates and INFORMATION

| | |
|---|--|
| Tuesday 16 th December | Whole school Nativity Plays – 9.30am & 2pm |
| Wednesday 17 th December | Christmas Dinner Day – wear your Christmas Jumpers |
| Wednesday 17 th December | Class Christmas parties |
| Friday 19 th December | School closes at 1.30pm |
| Monday 5 th January | Inset Day – School closed to pupils |
| Tuesday 6 th January | Welcome back to school! |
| Friday 13 th February | Inset Day – school closed to pupils |
| Friday 27 th February @ 2.50pm | Parents 'Read with Me' in classrooms @ 2.50pm |
| Friday 1 st May @ 2.50pm | Parents 'Read with Me' in classrooms @ 2.50pm |
| Monday 1 st June | Inset Day – school closed to pupils |
| Thursday 18 th June | Sports Day |
| Thursday 25 th June | Reserve Sports Day |



St Leonards First School
& Nursery



Our School website

[Home - St Leonards COFE
First School](#)

Copy of a letter send home this week

After School Clubs – Spring 1 2026

December 2025

Below are the After School Clubs taking place from **Tuesday 6th January 2026**.
If you would like your child to attend any of the clubs, please complete the form below and return to the school office no later than **Friday 19th December**. If there is an oversubscribed club names will be pulled from a hat. We will confirm by text if your child has a place at their chosen club. Full payment for the first half term will be via your ParentPay account we will text you when payment is available. **All clubs are priced at £3:80 per session.**

Please note attendance last term does not mean automatic attendance for this term, you must send in a new booking sheet.

Thank you.

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After School Clubs – Spring 1 2026

Name of Child ----- Year / Class -----

| Day | Year Group | Club | Led by | <u>Attend</u> - X |
|------------------|------------------|------------------|--|-------------------|
| Monday | <u>1</u> 2 3 4 | Chromebook | Miss Laing (max 20) | |
| Tuesday | <u>R 1</u> 2 3 4 | Art & Craft Club | <u>Mrs Trumble</u> | |
| Wednesday | <u>1</u> 2 3 4 | Choir | <u>Mrs Keay</u> | |
| Thursday | <u>R 1</u> 2 3 4 | Basketball | <u>Mr Hastilow</u> Progressive Sports | |

My child would like a place at the above club/clubs with a tick against them. I understand that the clubs cost £3:80 per session and that payment will need to be made for the $\frac{1}{2}$ term in advance via ParentPay (unless your child is entitled to Pupil Premium)

I agree to collect my child promptly when all clubs finish at 4pm or to have them booked into The Ark afterwards for extended care (charged separately).

Parent / Carer signature:

Date: