



Friday 5th 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,

What an exciting week! The magic of Christmas has definitely arrived at St Leonard's with the glint of Christmas tree lights, baubles, elves and nativity songs. We have enjoyed lighting our advent candle in worship each day as we journey towards 25th December.

All of the children had an amazing time at our annual whole school pantomime on Thursday. It really filled our hearts with laughter and enjoyment. I'm sure the cries of 'He's behind you,' and 'Oh no he isn't' spread far and wide.

Thank you to everyone for the kind donations of chocolate on Monday; we are looking forward to the PTA stalls and games later this afternoon. Warmest thanks also for the orange donations; the children have enjoyed a great morning working in their mixed year group teams to make their Christingles. It was lovely to see all of the kindness and trust as the children from Hedgehog, Owls and Foxes worked together to make their very own Christingles. Everyone will bring home their Christingle this afternoon for you to light together at home as a family. The Christingle is a symbol of light and hope for this Christmas and beyond.

It was great to meet School Council and Worship Council last week; the children had some great ideas. It was rewarding to spend time reflecting and suggesting ideas to support everyone as we 'Learn to Love and Love to Learn' together. School and Worship Council are keen to make links with and support local homeless charities, foodbanks and Birmingham Children's Hospital. The children would like to learn more about charity work and how they can help others especially those in poverty or need. School and Worship council would also like to write monthly updates for the Friday Post which we are looking forward to.

On Wednesday, 'Wonders of the World' club helped me to find holly, ivy, laurel and pine leaves in our garden which we will add to our advent wreath.

This week, I was lucky enough to meet Wendy who leads worship at St Leonard's Church. We are inviting families to join us on Sunday 21st December for a special carol service at Church from 11am. Wendy has written the service especially for us; it will include 5 carols and readings including favourites such as 'O Come, all ye Faithful', 'While Shepherd's Watched' and 'O Little Town of Bethlehem.' A letter will be coming home on Monday with more details and we are looking forward to sharing our singing and prayers written by the children. It will be a lovely for St Leonard's C of E First School to join the local church community here at Dunston for a very memorable carol concert just before Christmas. We look forward to seeing you there.

Here's to a joyful weekend ahead and we look forward to lighting our second advent wreath candle on Monday.

With best wishes from Mrs Keay and the team at St Leonard's

Nativity seats

If you haven't already done so, please hand in your requests for seats for the Nativity plays on Monday – only then can we work out how many seats we have available to allocate all the extra requests. Thank you



PTFA Film Night

Friday 12th December 2025

Volunteers are needed to lend a hand at the Children's film night. If you can help supervise the children and hand out snacks then please let Stacey or Laura know. Alternatively you can email the PTFA on: ptfa@st-leonards-Dunston.staffs.sch.uk.



Nativity Refreshments
Tuesday 16th December

9.30am & 1pm

We are looking for some willing volunteers to help serve refreshments before the Christmas Nativity on Tuesday 16th December. If you are able to help please contact the office. Thank you.

Christmas Jumper Day



Wear your Christmas Jumpers – Friday 12th December

Children can come to school wearing their Christmas jumpers with their school trousers/skirts on Monday to help raise awareness of 'Birmingham Children's Hospital' and the wonderful things they do to help even some of our children here in school.. Please click the link below to find out more information:

<https://www.bch.org.uk/pages/category/christmas-jumper>



Volunteers
Needed!

Christmas Post

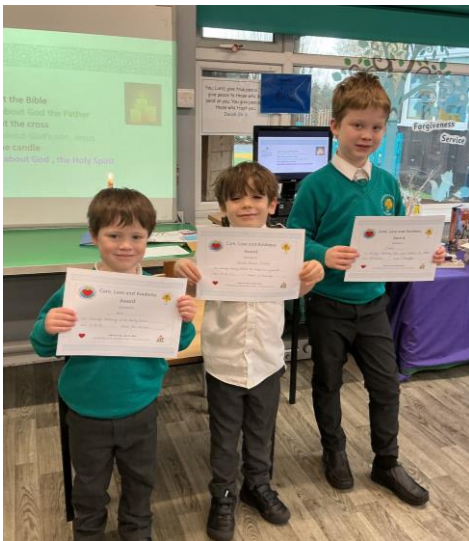
The St Leonard's children's Christmas post box is now in the entrance hall. Please make sure the recipients name & class is on the envelope! Last post: Friday 19th December at 9am.



stars of the week



Care, Love and Kindness Award



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

FOXES



Headteacher Award



It was lovely to see so many parents & grandparents attending the Parent Read with Me session last week.



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





Children had a fabulous time watching the travelling pantomime 'Rick Whittington' yesterday.

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

If we didn't have CHRISTmas how might things be different for you?

Lucas "It means that God the father was born, so it would mean that we wouldn't celebrate Christmas"

Olivia "If we didn't have Christmas it would mean we wouldn't have presents but we could celebrate the cold, snow and no leaves on the trees"

Pippa "If we didn't celebrate Christmas it would mean that Jesus wouldn't have been born"

George "We wouldn't have presents as they represent the gifts given to Jesus"

Richard "We wouldn't have a Christmas tree if we didn't celebrate Christmas"



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

Oak



129

Holly

103

Sycamore

71

Achievements from outside school



Swimming



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.





Decorating
the
Christmas
Tree



Making our Christingles

A Christingle is a symbolic object used in Christian services, particularly during Advent and Christmas, to represent Christ as the light of the world. It consists of an orange with a candle on top, a red ribbon, and four sticks with sweets or fruit. Each component has a meaning: the orange is the world, the red ribbon represents Jesus's love, the sweets are the gifts of God, and the candle is the light of Christ.



Attendance figures

1st – 5th 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	89%
Owls	96%
Foxes	98%
Whole School	94%

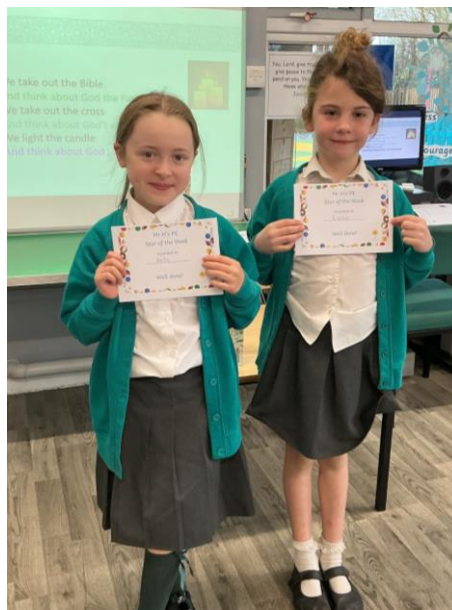
The national target for attendance, as set out in guidance from the DFE is 95%

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





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>

	WEEK 1 Weeks starting: 1st Sept, 22nd Sept, 13th Oct 3rd Nov, 24th Nov, 15th Dec	WEEK 2 Weeks starting: 8th Sept, 29th Sept 20th Oct, 10th Nov, 1st Dec	WEEK 3 Weeks starting: 15th Sept, 6th Oct 27th Oct, 17th Nov, 8th Dec
New dishes for 2025			
Mega Monday	Margherita Pizza & Garlic Sauce (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) Baked 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 Molise Sponge & Custard (V) Dolce Homebake, Seasonal Fruit, Fruit Yoghurt	Mid Fajita 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 & Picochees (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) Hash Browns, 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

Wednesday 10 th December	Year 4 – Forest School
Thursday 11 th December	Rec-to Yr4 Flu immunisations – more info to follow
Friday 12 th December	Save the Children wear your Christmas Jumpers
Friday 12 th December	PTFA Film Night – more info to follow
Tuesday 16 th December	Whole school Nativity Play – 9.30am & 2pm
Wednesday 17 th December	Christmas Dinner Day – wear your Christmas Jumpers
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

Please see the dates above for Forest School sessions.



Children should arrive at school in clothing suitable for getting muddy on their Forest school day. Please also send your child with a sun hat/ waterproof clothing depending on the weather, a coat & wellies are a **MUST!** Please make sure all items are named.



St Leonards First School
& Nursery



Our School website

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



**PTFA Film Night – Friday 12th December 2025
Muppets Christmas Carol – Rated U**

Children are invited to a film night on Friday 12th December from 3:10pm. The cost will be £5 per child and will include popcorn and a drink. This is a fundraising event to raise funds for the children’s Christmas present this year. The event will be run by PTFA and school staff, however, if you are available to help on the evening please let us know.

If your child is in Nursery and attends all day on a Friday, then they are welcome to join in.

Choir Club **will** be running for those that have already paid for it, if your child would prefer to watch the film then please just pay £1.20.

There will be no Ark available on this evening but care will be given until the usual 5pm within the £5 cost.

Pick up will be promptly at 5pm.

Please enclose your payment of £5, exact change required, in an envelope with your child’s name on the outside marked ‘FILM NIGHT’ OR you can pay directly to the PTFA bank account using the following link: <https://st-leonards-ptfa.sumupstore.com/>.

Please return by Monday 8th December 2025.

Kind regards,
Mrs C Keay

PTFA Film night – Friday 12th December 2025

My child: Class:.....

I am available to help supervise: YES / NO

The person responsible for collecting my child at 5pm is:

.....

Signed:

Driver Server NEEDED FOR ST LEONARDS & ALL SAINTS

Please note: Miss Tina
is not leaving us!

An opportunity has arisen for a friendly, enthusiastic individual to join our rapidly growing and forward thinking company in St. Leonards, Dunston & All Saints Bednall schools.

Your role will be assisting the cook in the smooth delivery of Dolce services to the school, transporting meals and serving the pupils.
Own transport is essential.

If you're looking for a role which fits around your family life and enjoy working with children please email your CV to Debbie.Knowles@dolce.co.uk

Driver / Server
£12.41 per hour (plus mileage allowance)
Term time only - 10 hours per week

dolce
schools catering


Department
for Education


Staffordshire
County Council

**HOLIDAY
ACTIVITIES
AND
FOOD**

HAF^{fun} this winter

Holiday Activities and Food funded for children and young people aged 5-16 who get free school meals*. Paid places also available.

SCAN ME!



staffordshire.gov.uk/holidayactivities