



Friday Post

Friday 1st May 2026

Our School Value: Service

Key verse: *Just as each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another as good stewards of the varied grace of God. Peter 4.10*

Dear families,

We have loved enjoying the sunshine during playtime, lunch time and outdoor learning this week. It has been such a beautiful week at our school.

The children in Foxes class are really looking forward to their residential trip to Laches Wood next Thursday and Friday followed by 'Bike Ability' the week after. We can't wait to share lots of photographs in the Friday Post. The children and staff can't wait to enjoy all of the outdoor adventure activities with time for fun and friendship to flourish.

Hedgehog classes learning linked to bees and honey has sent a real buzz around school. Even gardening and Eco club are looking forward to us becoming a bee friendly school. We will be aiming to gain the gold award with the Bumblebee Conservation Trust. This week we created a list of bee friendly flowers and herbs which 'Gardening' Club would like to purchase which include: lavender, wild flowers, mint, fennel, rosemary, sage and thyme. We will share some photographs of our planting. Here's the link if you would like to learn more about the 'Bumblebee Friendly Schools Award' and we will keep you updated on our progress towards becoming a gold school.

[Bumblebee-friendly Schools Award - Bumblebee Conservation Trust](#)

Thank you to parents for all of the lovely comments following our steel pan music at the end of last week. The children had a wonderful time learning a new instrument. Thank you to Foxes class for performing to us and for parents for being such a supportive audience. It was also lovely to welcome everyone to school this afternoon for our 'read with me' session. Thank you to Hedgehog class for singing 'Mary, Mary Quite Contrary' which the children have been learning this week; it is one of my favourites!

With 2026 being the 'Year of Reading,' we are so proud of the reading at school and at home which is making a real difference to the children's reading fluency and understanding. Here's to lots more reading opportunities during the year ahead.

We hope that everyone has a wonderful extended Bank Holiday weekend and we look forward to welcoming everyone back to school on Tuesday.

Warmest wishes

Mrs Claire Keay and our book-loving team

Stars of the Week



Care, Love and Kindness Award



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

Achievements from home



Dancing Gymnastics Football Football

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.

TIMES TABLES

ROCKSTARS





In Forest School we made Nature crowns & belts



In Geography Owls have been learning to name and locate the seven continents of the world. They enjoyed this paired activity in which they took turns to give/follow instructions from their partner, such as 'Put a yellow counter on Africa' etc.





In Art Owls are thinking about animals around the world, which ties in beautifully with our current Geography topic.

This week we've been thinking about African animals and looked closely at their colours and patterns. We cut out animal silhouettes and stuck them on a patterned background. Some children chose the pattern which matched their animal, whilst others opted for a different pattern. Next stop Australia!



A reminder that unless for special circumstances, holidays in term time will be marked as unauthorised.

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 talk to 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 pay it in 21 days it will be reduced to £80.

£160



2

FOR EVERY CHILD A PENALTY IS GIVEN.



+ £160 + £160 + £160 + £160

4 children & 1 parent = £640

Reduced to £320 if paid in 21 days

IRREGULAR ATTENDANCE

10 IN 10

5

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



+ £160 + £160 + £160 + £160

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.

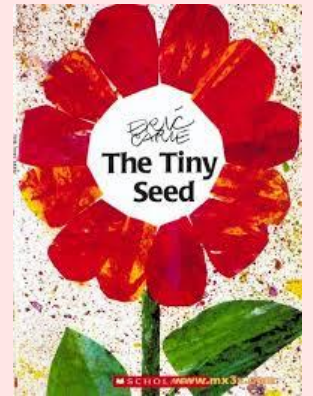
A magistrate can fine each parent
£2500 for each child

1 parent & 4 children = £10,000
2 parents & 4 children = £20,000

HEDGEHOGS



Hedgehogs have been exploring the question 'How does a seed grow?' using the book *The Tiny Seed* by Eric Carle to support their learning. They have been observing seeds in fruit at our investigation station, counting seeds beyond 10, the Garden Centre Role Play and exploring textures in art to make flower collages.



Postcard from the Headteacher



BIG QUESTION

What is the most important part of a spoon?

Ralph: "both parts, if there's no handle you can't pick up the food"

Ted: "the scoop bit as you can use that if there's no handle"

George B: "both bits, if you had cereal and there was no scoop bit you would get a wet hand!"

Tommy: "I think the handle because if you were stirring something hot you could burn yourself"

Miles: "both parts you can't have one bit without the other"



Lovely to see people being able to join their children reading this afternoon.



Ordering of school meals

We kindly ask that ALL parents and carers order their child's school lunch every day – this can be done in advance if preferred. Please note if your child has an appointment in a morning but will be needing a school meal then let the office know. If a child is off school poorly, then any ordered meals are cancelled otherwise the school has to pay.

Thank you for your support.

Weekly House Point Tally

Sycamore  126

Holly 118

Oak 104

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>

Dinner Times

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

VILLAGE SUMMER

New Menu!

Week 1

13th Apr, 4th May,
25th May, 15th Jun, 6th Jul

Hand Stretched Margherita or Vegetable Pizza (V) (VG)
Jacket Potato & Fillings (V) (VG) (GF)
Soft Roll with a Choice of Fillings (V) (VG)

Garlic Slice, Green Beans, Sweetcorn
Fresh Salad Selection, Fresh Sliced Bread

* Strawberry Ice Cream (V) *
Seasonal Fruit, Fruit Yoghurt

All Day Breakfast
Jacket Potato & Fillings (V) (VG) (GF)
Soft Roll with a Choice of Fillings (V) (VG)

Hash Brown, Baked Beans, Peas
Fresh Salad Selection, Fresh Sliced Bread

Fresh Fruit Salad (VG)
Seasonal Fruit, Fruit Yoghurt

Roast Chicken (GF)
Jacket Potato & Fillings (V) (VG) (GF)
Soft Roll with a Choice of Fillings (V) (VG)

New Potatoes, Carrots, Savoy Cabbage, Gravy
Fresh Salad Selection, Fresh Sliced Bread

Chocolate Cookie (VG)
Seasonal Fruit, Fruit Yoghurt

Pasta Bar (V) (VG)
Jacket Potato & Fillings (V) (VG) (GF)
Soft Roll with a Choice of Fillings (V) (VG)

Sweetcorn, Carrots
Fresh Salad Selection, Fresh Sliced Bread

* Summer Fruit Puff & Custard (V) *
Seasonal Fruit, Fruit Yoghurt

Breaded Fish Fingers or Crispy
Crumbed Vegetable Grill (VG)
Jacket Potato & Fillings (V) (VG) (GF)
Soft Roll with a Choice of Fillings (V) (VG)

Chips, Peas, Beans, Ketchup
Fresh Salad Selection, Fresh Sliced Bread

Chocolate Banana Slice (VG)
Seasonal Fruit, Fruit Yoghurt

Week 2

20th Apr, 11th May,
1st Jun, 22nd Jun, 13th Jul

Hand Stretched Margherita Pizza (V) (VG)
Jacket Potato & Fillings (V) (VG) (GF)
Baguette with a Choice of Fillings (V) (VG)

Potato Wedges, Sweetcorn, Green Beans
Fresh Salad Selection, Fresh Sliced Bread

* Strawberry Mousse (V) *
Seasonal Fruit, Fruit Yoghurt

Chicken & Coconut Curry (GF)
Jacket Potato & Fillings (V) (VG) (GF)
Baguette with a Choice of Fillings (V) (VG)

Rice, Green Beans, Cauliflower
Fresh Salad Selection, Fresh Sliced Bread

Red Velvet Brownie (V)
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 Salad Selection, Fresh Sliced Bread

Raspberry Jelly & Peaches (V) (VG)
Seasonal Fruit, Fruit Yoghurt

Pasta Bar (V) (VG)
Jacket Potato & Fillings (V) (VG) (GF)
Baguette with a Choice of Fillings (V) (VG)

Broccoli, Carrots
Fresh Salad Selection, Fresh Sliced Bread

* Fruit Crumble & Ice Cream (V) *
Seasonal Fruit, Fruit Yoghurt

Breaded Fish Fingers or Quorn Dippers (VG)
Summer Salmon Salad (GF)
Jacket Potato & Fillings (V) (VG) (GF)
Baguette with a Choice of Fillings (V) (VG)

Chips, Peas, Beans, Ketchup
Fresh Salad Selection, Fresh Sliced Bread

Lemon Cookie (VG)
Seasonal Fruit, Fruit Yoghurt

Week 3

27th Apr, 18th May,
8th Jun, 29th Jun, 20th Jul

Hand Stretched Margherita or Pineapple Pizza (V) (VG)
Jacket Potato & Fillings (V) (VG) (GF)
Sandwich with a Choice of Fillings (V) (VG)

New Potatoes, Spaghetti Hoops, Green Beans, Sweetcorn
Fresh Salad Selection, Fresh Sliced Bread

Ice Cream & Fruit (V)
Seasonal Fruit, Fruit Yoghurt

* Crispy Chicken or Quorn Dippers (VG) *
Jacket Potato & Fillings (V) (VG) (GF)
Sandwich with a Choice of Fillings (V) (VG)

Chips, Sweetcorn, Broccoli, Ketchup
Fresh Salad Selection, Fresh Sliced Bread

Ginger Flapjack Cookie (VG)
Seasonal Fruit, Fruit Yoghurt

Roast Chicken (GF)
Jacket Potato & Fillings (V) (VG) (GF)
Sandwich with a Choice of Fillings (V) (VG)

Roast Potatoes, Carrots, Savoy Cabbage, Gravy
Fresh Salad Selection, Fresh Sliced Bread

Watermelon Wedges (VG)
Seasonal Fruit, Fruit Yoghurt

Spaghetti Bolognese
Jacket Potato & Fillings (V) (VG) (GF)
Sandwich with a Choice of Fillings (V) (VG)

Cauliflower, Carrots
Fresh Salad Selection, Fresh Sliced Bread

* Chocolate Crunch & Custard (V) *
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)

Mashed Potatoes, Peas, Baked Beans
Fresh Salad Selection, Fresh Sliced Bread

* Manchester Tart (V) *
Seasonal Fruit, Fruit Yoghurt

LOCALLY SOURCED
FRESH
PRODUCE

BREAD
AVAILABLE
DAILY

Attendance figures

27th April – 1st May 2026



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	100%
Owls	98%
Foxes	97%
Whole School	98%

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



Dear God

Thank you for the beauty of our world and all creatures great and small.

Thank you for the beauty of our family and friends.

Thank you for the beauty in our school which blossoms every day.

Amen



Pray

Sun cream

Please can we ask that you apply sun cream before your child comes to school. This must NOT be left in a child's bag for them to do themselves. Thank you



This week we have been learning:

'All things bright & beautiful'

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/school-radio/articles/zmgk47h>

Next week we are learning:

'What a mighty God we serve'

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

Click the link above to find the lyrics & music



Uniform Reminders

To support our high expectations of uniform, we will be sending a text home as a reminder if clothing isn't in line with our policy. Thank you for your support as it helps all children to feel secure and the same as their peers when they wear full uniform.

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.



St Leonards First School
& Nursery



Our School website

Home - St Leonards COFE First
School



Pop Art in action!
The children have been learning about the artist Andy Warhol and creating their own pop art, inspired by his famous style.



Important Dates and INFORMATION

Summer term	
Thursday 7 th & Friday 8 th May	Foxes @ Laches Wood
Thursday 7 th May	Amy Stafford – Senco in school, please arrange meetings through the office if you require
Monday 11 th May	Foxes Bikeability – <i>more info to follow</i>
Wednesday 13 th May @ 2.15pm	Owls parents in Forest School
Wednesday 13 th May	Y3 girls Cross Country competition at Cheslyn Hay
Friday 15 th May	Foxes Bikeability – <i>more info to follow</i>
Friday 15 th May	School Council non-uniform day - £1 to support Birmingham children's hospital
Monday 18 th May	OWLS FOREST SCHOOL – this is instead of Wednesday
Friday 22 nd May	Church service – everyone welcome including new reception & nursery parents 7 children
Thursday 21 st May	School Council Cake sale - £1 fundraising for forest school equipment
Friday 22 nd May	Church service – everyone welcome
Monday 1 st June	Inset Day – school closed to pupils
Thursday 18 th June	Sports Day – New Reception & Nursery parents & children welcome
Tuesday 23 rd June 9:30-10:30am	Stay & Play for Reception 2026 parents & children
Thursday 25 th June	Reserve Sports Day
Wednesday 1 st July 5pm	Reception 2026 parents information meeting
Monday 6 th July 2:15pm	Stay & Play for Reception 2026 parents & children
Tuesday 7 th July	Hedgehogs & Owls Creative Workshop - <i>more info to follow</i>
Friday 17 th July	End of Year Leavers Church Service – everyone welcome



Wednesday 13th May 2:15pm Parents of children in Owls are invited to join the children in Forest School. Footwear/clothing suitable for outdoors recommended! Please leave mobile telephones in your car or hand into the office. Thank you

Fine art

FOR YOUR KIDS

Term Time Classes & Holiday Workshops

At Cygnets, our focus is on traditional drawing, painting, and sculpture, combined with unique projects, all taught by experienced teachers using professional quality materials.

Hayes Green Community Centre,
Heath Way, WS12 3XP

AGES 5-12 (ALL ABILITIES)

Wednesdays 4:30 - 5:30pm
Fridays 4:30 - 5:30pm
Saturdays 9:45 - 10:45 am

UPCOMING HOLIDAY WORKSHOPS

We will also be running May Half Term and Summer Holiday workshops!

Monday & Tuesday
10:30am-12pm and 12:30-2pm
£27 per session / £50 per day / £95 per week

Hayes Green Community Centre,
Heath Way, WS12 3XP

✉ cannock@cygnetsartschool.com
🌐 cygnetsartschool.com/branch/cannock



@CYGNETSARTSCHOOLCANNOCK



Book Now!



Parenting Support Sessions

Free support sessions for parents in Staffordshire

Our sessions are a welcoming space to talk through any worries, learn more about our service and find out what other support is available.

Challenges we support with:

- Behaviour
- Family relationships
- Special educational needs
- Emotional wellbeing
- Family routines
- Housing and finances



These sessions take place Thursday mornings at various locations across Staffordshire

For bookings and more details, please visit sctsp.org.uk/community-family-support

School/organisation based sessions are available to book separately
Please contact daniellebutcher.fss@sctsp.org.uk for more details



Charity No. 1077687
Company No. 3575079



Mental health support for children and young people

Follow the **SAFE** steps for mental health support to find the right help at the right time.

S

Self help

Advice and signposting to wellbeing activities and digital tools

A

Ask for advice and help

Young people's wellbeing services and support

F

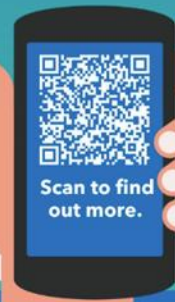
Fast specialist support

Specialist mental health support for young people

E

Emergency services

Mental health crisis and urgent help



Visit staffordshire.gov.uk/imhere