



Friday Post

Friday 17th July 2026

Our School Value: Courage



Key Verse: *Be strong and courageous. 'Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the 'Lord' your God is with you wherever you go'. **Joshua 1.9***



Dear parents,

A million thanks to all of our families for a truly incredible year. The children have flourished and blossomed thanks to everyone's incredibleness. It has been a truly inspiring year. Thank you to everyone who joined us this morning for our service in church. We loved gathering together to celebrate our champions of courage and to say farewell to our fantastic Year four children.

The creativity, love of learning and musicality of our school family really shone through during our performances today. There wasn't a dry eye in church as we celebrated the incredible journey of our wonderful year fours. We hope you enjoy the poem which celebrates the beauty and personalities of each of our year four children. We wish them every success as they move to Penkridge Middle in September. Like saplings from a sturdy Oak tree, we have carefully nourished their learning, their personalities, their talents, their friendships and their character skills for life. We know that this will nurture our wonderful year fours as they continue to flourish and blossom through their future chapters and life. With love and good luck to year four.

Today we also bid farewell to Mr Brown who has become such a valued member of our team; he is a popular member of staff who has enriched lunch and after school club. Mr Brown will be greatly missed. We wish him every success as he moves forward in his career with Rock-it music. Mr Bough quickly recognised Mr Brown's musical talents! We know you will all join us in wishing Mr Brown well in his next chapter. This week we have also said good bye to our wonderful Mrs Baggott (our very own Julie Andrews) and Mrs Sheldon who have supported Hedgehog Class so beautifully with their care and kindness this year. They have been amazing.

In addition to this, we say goodbye to Alicia who will be starting her new school in Shropshire from September. We will really miss her.

From September, we very much look forward to welcoming Mrs Thompson fully who is our new Early Years and Reading lead. We are also welcoming Miss Forrest who will be teaching in Owls class alongside Miss Laing. We also look forward to welcoming our new families and children into school after the summer break.

Once again, sending our warmest thanks for your immense love, care and kindness which enables your children to grasp every exciting moment and opportunity at St Leonard's and allows them to flourish and grow every day.

Wishing everyone a wonderful summer break from myself, our staff and governors.
Best wishes, Mrs Claire Keay.

Headteacher: Mrs C Keay
St Leonard's C.E First School & Nursery
School Lane, Dunston, ST18 9AG
Tel: 01785 712488
Email: office@st-leonards-Dunston.staffs.sch.uk

A big thank you to the PTFA for our ice-cream
treat today!!



Champions of Courage



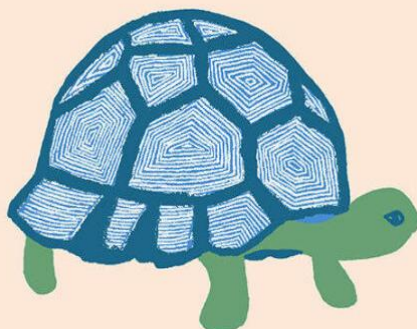
'Let all that you do, be done in love' 1 Corinthians 16:14



This week we had a special visitor in school – Arlo brought his Tortoise to meet everyone!

Her name is 'Torty' and she is over 100 years old, still healthy, still hungry, still hibernating and still laying eggs!

Thank you to Arlo and his dad for bringing Torty to school to meet us!!



Achievements from home



Martial Arts

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.

Important changes to Free School Meals

The government has announced changes to the entitlement criteria for free school meals from **September 2026**. From then there will be two different types of free school meals, known as 'targeted' and 'expanded'.

Families who receive any of the following are eligible for **'targeted'** free school meals -

- Universal Credit with annual household earnings of £7,400 or less
- support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- are in receipt of income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- receive the guarantee element of Pension Credit

Families in receipt of Universal Credit, with annual household earnings exceeding £7,400 will be entitled to **'expanded'** free school meals.

A free school meal cannot be provided under 'expanded' criteria before 1 September 2026.

Please check to see if you could be eligible, by clicking the link below.

To apply under 'targeted' or 'expanded' free school meals please [Apply for Free School Meals - Staffordshire County Council](#)



We have said goodbye & luck to Mr Brown in his new role as music teacher.





Year Four...Forever in our Hearts

Dear listener, both family and friend, our time at St Leonard's is nearing an end.

Your children have shone, their future is bright,
moving on seems overwhelming, but we know it is right.

Alfie with a heart full of care, with so much kindness to share
The best buddy of all time, his love of farming helps him to shine.

Belle, always bouncing with laughter and play, a successful future we definitely say.
Where do we find her everyday? Having great fun with her friends; her gymnastics blows us away!

Cian our dinosaur fan, a definite Jurassic Park Man;
Always a kind and sincere friend, ready to help, care and mend.

Elsie, such a gentle and caring young girl, a beautiful personality like an innocent pearl.
Her love of animals warms our hearts, go forward with courage; our memories will never part.

Finley, a sincere and fun-loving boy, who will rocket forward in life with so much joy.
A mountain-biking star, who will travel so far.

Freddie, every second of every day, your kindness shines brightly,
your courage is immense and so mighty. A popular buddy, magnet fisher, worship leader.
Keep aiming high; you are a real succeder.

Harrison brings us such joy and laughter; a School Council leader, World War II and RAF master.
Flying forwards, you will journey high; sending our love as we say goodbye.

Harrison our motor-cross hero; who always goes that extra mile;
What will we do without your enchanting smile?
A love of football and time outdoors exploring, your fun and laughter will always be soaring.

Olivia, our talented dancing queen; glistening with energy; she is a real dream.
Stylish with her beautiful jewellery, a friend in a million – always playing so merrily.

Ted, our rugby hero and mathematical King, his love of learning; is a really great thing.
Dazzling us all with his determination and courage. He's always the first to give help and encourage.

Year Four will always journey far, as our St Leonard's Superstars.
With so much brilliance alight, they have been such a delight.

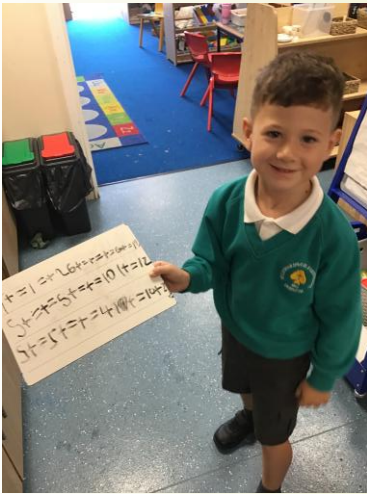
Now your time left with us here is short, take your values and all you have learnt.
Run ahead, flourish forward and keep aiming high.
Sending our love as we say goodbye.



HEDGEHOGS



This week we have said a sad goodbye to
Mrs Bagot & Mrs Sheldon



Meet the teacher presentations

Thank you to everyone who attended the Teacher Presentations, we hope you found them informative. For those of you who couldn't make it please find the links below – [these are on our school website under the 'Classes & Clubs' tab.](#)



**For children who will be in
Nursery & Reception**

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

**For children who will be in
Year 1 & Year 2**

<https://www.st-leonards-dunston.staffs.sch.uk/year-1-year-2-owls/>



**For children who will be in
Year 3 & Year 4**

<https://www.st-leonards-dunston.staffs.sch.uk/year-3-year-4-foxes/>



Please ensure that your ParentPay balances are clear for the end of the year.

*Loving God,
Thank You for our time here,
for friends, teachers, and all we've learned.
Bless us as we move forward—
give us courage, wisdom, and kindness
to shine Your light wherever we go.
Amen*

PE STARS OF THE WEEK



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

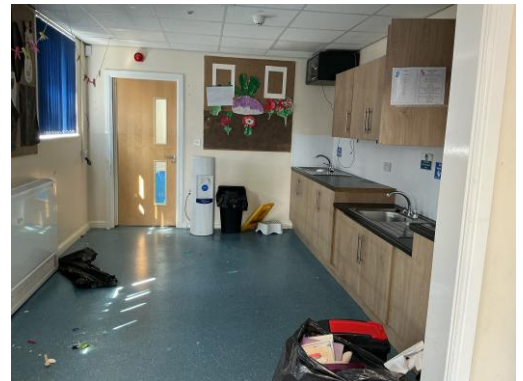
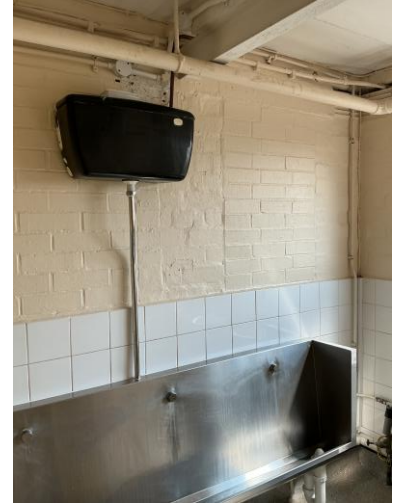
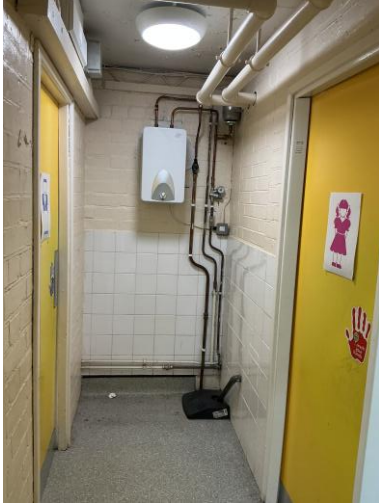
Home - St Leonards COFE First
School

Huge thank you to the PTFA for hosting this years disco



Changes are on there way!!

Sorry that the Friday Post is late today, but once all the children had left we had to empty Hedgehogs, Owls and the main toilets as over the summer they are going to be refurbished!
We can't wait to show you the end result in September!!



Important Dates and INFORMATION

Summer term	
Tuesday 1 st September	Inset Day – school closed to pupils
Wednesday 2 nd September	Inset Day – school closed to pupils
Thursday 3 rd September	Welcome back to school!





SCHOOL TERMS AND HOLIDAY DATES 2026 – 2027

Autumn Term 2026

Inset Day: Tuesday 1st September

Inset Day: Wednesday 2nd September

Term Starts: Thursday 3rd September (all students return)

Inset Day: Friday 23rd October

Half Term: Monday 26th October – Friday 30th October

Term Starts: Monday 2nd November

Term Ends: Friday 18th December

Christmas Holiday: Monday 21st December – Friday 1st January

Spring Term 2027

Inset Day: Monday 4th January

Term Starts: Tuesday 5th January (all students return)

Half Term: Monday 15th February – Friday 19th February

Term Starts: Monday 22nd February

Last Day: Thursday 25th March

Easter Holidays: Friday 26th March – Friday 9th April

Easter Sunday: Sunday 28th March

Summer Term 2027

Term Starts: Monday 12th April (all students return)

May Day Bank Holiday: Monday 3rd May

Half Term: Monday 31st May – Friday 4th June

Inset Day: Monday 7th June

Term Starts: Tuesday 8th June

Last Day: Wednesday 21st July

Summer Holidays: Thursday 22nd July



www.staffordsport.co.uk



Summer Holiday Sports club

At Blessed William Howard Catholic School

Monday 20th July - Friday 21st August
2026

8.30am- 5.30pm - £26.50 per day
10am-4pm - £24.50 per day
*Plus a small booking fee also applies

Staff are NGB qualified, DBS Checked and First Aid Trained.
Staff employed by the Stafford Sports and Performance Academy
07793891029 or email holidayclubs@staffordsport.co.uk

The days will be filled with sporting fun including football, rounders,, dance, cricket, badminton, table tennis and
MORE.

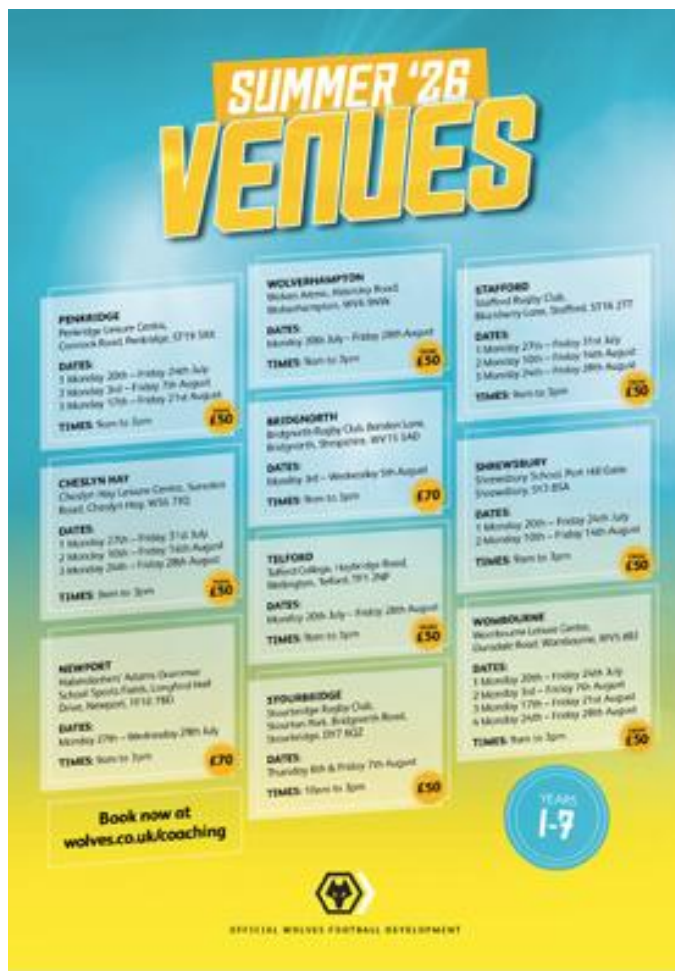
IDEAL FOR AGES 5-13

facebook

www.facebook.com/staffordsport



To book a place please click on link below or QR Code:
<https://eequ.org/experience/10978>





GetWild

Doxey Marshes, Stafford,
ST16 1PU



**Staffordshire
Wildlife Trust**

 [staffswildlife.bsky.social](https://twitter.com/staffswildlife.bsky.social)

 [staffswt](https://www.instagram.com/staffswt)

 [StaffsWildlife](https://www.facebook.com/StaffsWildlife)

Do you like climbing trees, building dens,
or generally getting a bit mucky outside?

Then leave your parents behind and
#GetWild on Tuesdays throughout the
summer at Doxey Marshes!

14th August- 10.30am-12.30pm

21st August- 10.30am-12.30pm

Suitable for ages 8-16 years only.

Booking Essential:

www.staffs-wildlife.org.uk/events

For more details contact:

getwild@staffs-wildlife.org.uk



FREE thanks to funding from:

Space
Live • Laugh • Learn

www.staffshirespace.uk



Summer Holiday FUN!!

BIG BOUNCE

High Energy Inflatable Play Event

FRIDAY 7th AUGUST

STAFFORD

STAFFORD MANOR HIGH SCHOOL
ST17 9DJ

2026 Attractions

**** Summer Limbo * Surf Simulator ****

Unlimited Play on a Huge Indoor Arena Full Supervised Interactive Inflatables & Games

featuring **Ideal for 4 - 13 year olds**

Duck & Jump Sweeper Game - nerf guns
Bouncy Castles - **Leap of Faith** - Slides
Obstacle Courses - Sports Games - **Surf Rider**
Under 5's Inflatables - **WARRIOR WALL** - Disco Dome
Demolition Ball - Helter Skelter - **NINGA COURSE**
Fun & Games mixed to a Summer Soundtrack

BOOK NOW! 

www.BigBounceEvents.co.uk



 Bounce over to our Facebook pages! 
Ticket giveaways • Discount Codes

We Support **TEENAGE CANCER TRUST** **OVER £19,000** RAISED SO FAR

SUMMER ACTIVITIES

Join us for these free activities over the summer for children and young people living with sight loss and inclusive of all disabilities

VI Cricket

 **Worcestershire Cricket Foundation**
Wednesday 29th July and Thursday 13th August 11am - 12pm, Beacon Centre, Wolverhampton Road east, WV4 6AZ

Holiday Hub

Wednesday 5th August 10am - 12pm, Cherry Street Sensory Hub, Cherry Street Wolverhampton, WV3 0QW

Holiday Hub

 **CITY OF WOLVERHAMPTON COUNCIL**
Wednesday 19th August 10am - 12pm Cherry Street Sensory Hub, Cherry Street Wolverhampton WV3 0QW

Wolves Foundation

Wednesday 26th August 10:30am - 12pm, Beacon Centre, Wolverhampton Road East WV4 6QW

For further information or to book onto these event's please email enquiries@beaconvision.org or call 01902 880111

 **Wolves Foundation**

 **WORCESTERSHIRE CRICKET FOUNDATION**

SEND cricket & sports sessions

FREE INCLUSIVE CRICKET SESSION FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE. INCLUSIVE OF ALL DISABILITIES ALONG WITH THEIR PARENTS SIBLINGS AND CARERS

Wednesday 29th July and Thursday 13th August 11am - 12pm

Beacon Centre, Wolverhampton Road East WV4 6AZ

For more information and or to book on please call 01902 880 111 or email enquiries@beaconvision.org

Trentham

Sunday 26 July 2026

KidsFest

NOW ON SALE!

Meet your favourite characters

Picnic fun & treats

Live music

KPOP dance & games



SCAN ME!



HAF fun this summer

Bookings open Friday 19 June at 4pm

staffordshire.gov.uk/holidayactivities

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







**WED 26TH
AUGUST**

**MIXED
SPORTS
SESSION**

10:30AM - 12PM

**FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG
PEOPLE INCLUSIVE OF ALL
DISABILITIES
SPORTS AND GAMES**

**BEACON CENTRE,
WOLVERHAMPTON,
WOLVERHAMPTON ROAD
EAST, WV4 6AZ**

**TO BOOK ON TO THIS FREE SESSION
PLEASE CONTACT
ENQUIRIES@BEACONVISION.ORG OR
CALL BEACON RECEPTION ON 01902
880 111**



**Wolves
Foundation**



**CANNOCK
COMMUNITY
HOCKEY CLUB**

Be part of something great!

**NEW TO HOCKEY OR
LOOKING TO COME BACK?**

ALL AGES. ALL ABILITIES. ALL WELCOME.



FUN & FRIENDSHIPS
Make new friends and be part of a team.



STAY ACTIVE & HEALTHY
A great way to improve fitness and wellbeing.



LEARN A NEW SKILL
Develop confidence, coordination and teamwork.



COMMUNITY SPIRIT
A friendly, welcoming club for everyone.



SAFE & NON-CONTACT
Hockey is a non-contact sport.

Whether your child has never played sport before or is looking for a new challenge, hockey is a fantastic way to build confidence, stay active and have loads of fun!

BOYS & GIRLS WELCOME AGED 4-16

ADULTS WELCOME TOO!
Players, returners and complete beginners.
You're never too old to start!



TRAINING EVERY MONDAY AT CHASE PARK

UNDER 12s (4-11 years)
6.00pm - 7.00pm

12 YEARS & OVER (12-16 years)
6.00pm - 7.30pm

ADULTS
6.00pm - 7.00pm
All abilities welcome!



CHASE PARK
Hitherton, Cannock, WS11 1RR



New Stars Welcome!




TRY BEFORE YOU COMMIT!

FIRST 3 SESSIONS FREE!
Just contact us via our website and quote your school name when you get in touch.

ONLY £5 PER SESSION AFTERWARDS

Be part of our growing hockey family!

- ✓ Friendly coaches
- ✓ Great facilities
- ✓ Inclusive environment
- ✓ Pathways for all abilities
- ✓ Fun, safe and supportive

Join the Team!

FIND OUT MORE & GET IN TOUCH:
www.cannockhockey.com/clubcontacts

FOLLOW US ON: