



Friday Post

Friday 2nd October 2026

Thankfulness | Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. **Thessalonians 5.18**



Dear families,

Thank you to our whole school family for an inspiring week at St Leonard's full of learning, wonder and joy.

Learn to Love and Love to Learn

Each week, I join the children in class and our 'love to learn,' motto really does shine through. I am always dazzled by the children's curiosity and creativity. Highlights this week have been seeing Hedgehog classes love of phonics and the pride the children are showing for learning new sounds. In Owls, I was astounded on Wednesday, when I joined the children as they were writing some fantastic sentences using phonic mats to support their spelling choices. When I joined Foxes class, the children were enjoying the challenge of manipulating the value of tens, hundreds and thousands.

Noah's Ark – Worship Focus

In worship, we have been exploring the story of Noah's ark and examples of thankfulness linked to this half term's value focus. The children are looking forward to creating some artwork, poems or prayers linked to the story/our theme of thankfulness. I look forward to displaying these in our school entrance.

Book Snuggle Boxes – Exciting New Resources

Mrs Thompson who is our Early Years Leader also leads on Reading and Jigsaw PSHE. She has been taking feedback from the children to develop this year's 'Book Snuggle' boxes. The resources are being purchased based on the children's feedback and we look forward to launching our updated 'Book Snuggle' baskets next Friday. Each week, six lucky children will have the reading boxes to enjoy as a family.

Hedgehog Classroom Update

Our mobile extension was expected to be finalised by the end of next week however due to unexpected adaptations, the new completion date is expected to be 6th November. Whilst disappointed with the delay, we know that the new classroom will definitely be worth the wait. Unfortunately, we will need to delay several parent engagement sessions which we had planned for this half term including phonic and maths workshops, Rock-it Music performance and our resident artist visit. These have all be moved to after half term (see dates below). We can't wait to welcome everyone into classes in the very near future. The children have adapted so well to not having a hall space currently; we are so proud.

Thank you to everyone for the care, kindness and learning we have shared together this week.

Hope that you enjoy lots of fun over the weekend,
Mrs Keay and our creative school team.

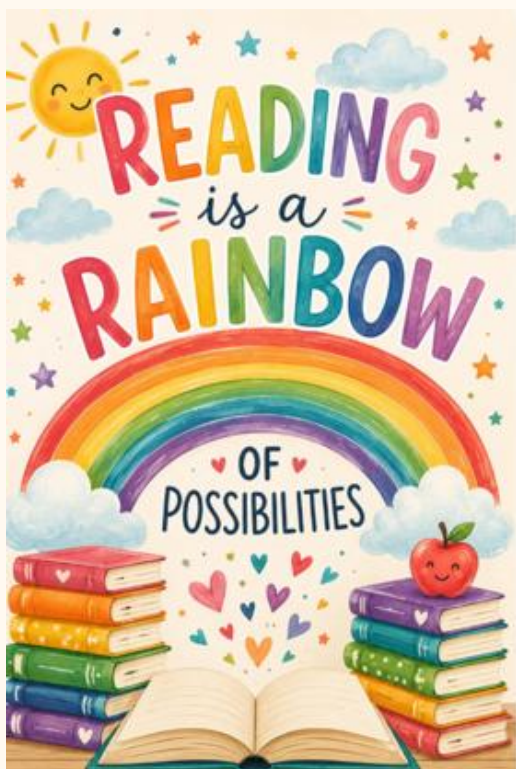
Stars of the Week



Care, Love and Kindness Award



PE STARS OF THE WEEK



Reading at St Leonard's

A reminder that children read at least 4 times per week. The magic of books enables children to flourish in so many ways.

Notice of price increase.

Please note after $\frac{1}{2}$ term there will be an increase in the cost of Before & After School Care and clubs for children in Reception & above. (Nursery charges were increased in September)

St Leonard's Before & After School Care

The Ark

	7:45am 8:35am	3:10pm 4pm	4pm 5pm
Nursery	£5.00	£5.00	£5.00
Reception Year 4	£4.00 Siblings £3.00	£4.00	£4.00

Bookings for After School Care must be made in advance. Children can just turn up for Before School Care if in Reception & above. Nursery children must be pre-booked for Before School Care.

Year 2 Spellings

knee

know

sign

design

wrist

write

what

undo



Our Weekly Home Learning

'Learn to Love and Love to Learn'

Year Group: Owls
Date: 02.10.26
Return date: 15.10.26

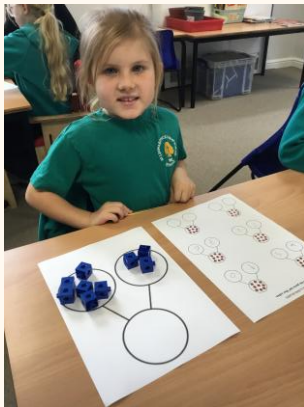
Thank you for all of your hard work at school and at home.

This is helping your learning to flourish

Activities	
	Daily reading: Read at least 4 times a week. Can you make a list of some of the verbs which you come across in your reading book? <i>Remember reading brings joy and makes you a great writer too.</i>
	Maths: Y2 - Think of a 2-digit number and partition it in different ways. Eg $56 = 50+6, 40+16, 30+26$ etc Y1 - how many different ways can you find to partition 10? Use real objects to find as many ways as you can. Can you write some number sentences to show your findings? E.g $7+3=10$
	Other: Can you draw and colour the flag for each of the four UK nations?
	Worship Homework: This week we have been reading the Bible story: 'Noah's Ark.' Enjoy reading the story together. <u>Noah's Ark Story for Kids: Full Bible Story. With Pictures</u> You are warmly invited to make any of the following which we would like to display in our school entrance. There will be 5 'Respect' points on class dojo for each entry. *Piece of art *Poem *Prayer *Thought bubbles from Noah's family and the animals *Story re-tell *Puppet show/photos



Year 1 have been portioning a whole into two parts.



The children enjoyed a creative outdoor learning challenge where they used natural resources found in our outdoor area to create their own unique characters. Using items such as leaves, sticks, stones, and flowers, they carefully designed and built their characters, showing great imagination and problem-solving skills.

Once their characters were complete, the children worked hard to construct homes for them using additional natural materials. They then brought their creations to life by inventing and sharing stories about their characters, thinking about where they lived, their adventures, and their special personalities.

This activity encouraged creativity, communication, teamwork, and storytelling, while helping the children develop a deeper appreciation for the natural world around them. We were so impressed with their imagination and enthusiasm! 🌿 🏠 ✨





Our Weekly Home Learning

'Learn to Love and Love to Learn'

Year Group: Hedgehogs - Reception

Date: Friday 2nd October

Return Date: Thursday 8th October

Thank you for all of your hard work at school and at home.

This is helping your learning to flourish.

Activities



Daily reading

Read at least 4 times a week to an adult.

Please record this in your reading journal.

This week we have started to learn the graphemes: g,o,c,k

Here is a video modelling the pure sounds we use in phonics.

[ELS: Phase 2 pronunciation](#)



Maths:

We have been comparing objects this week using the words 'bigger' and 'smaller'! Please encourage your child to use these words at home, we'd love to see some of your comparisons too.



Other:

Next week we will be learning about childhoods in the past, if you have any old photographs or old toys we would love to see them!

Worship Homework:

This week we have been reading the Bible story: 'Noah's Ark.'

Enjoy reading the story together.

[Noah's Ark Story for Kids: Full Bible Story, With Pictures](#)

You are warmly invited to make any of the following which we would like to display in our school entrance.

There will be 5 'Respect' points on class dojo for each entry.

*Piece of art

*Poem

*Prayer

*Thought bubbles from Noah's family and the animals

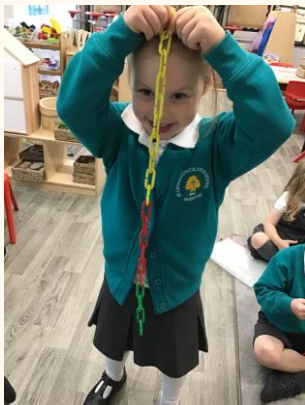
*Story re-tell

*Puppet show/photos



HEDGEHOGS

Class Hedgehogs had great fun during outdoor learning this week as they explored primary colours and experimented with colour mixing. Using "natural paintbrushes" such as leaves, feathers, apples, sticks and conkers, the children created beautiful artwork while discovering how colours can change and blend together.



Hedgehogs class have been learning all about The Colour Monster this week! We have learnt about colours, emotions and the weather! We have enjoyed talking about how we feel and using colour to represent our emotions. We have experimented with colour mixing and set up our own weather station. The children have enjoyed observing the weather and talking about the changes they notice around us.





During outdoor learning this week, Class Foxes learnt a new game, a 'wild twist' on Rock, Paper, Scissors. Through play, the children developed important skills such as teamwork, cooperation, strategic thinking and loyalty to their team. They also explored the importance of having fun, showing resilience and understanding that taking part is more important than winning.



Don't forget to add book your child's school meal onto SchoolGrid before 8am in a morning. You can order a whole term in advance if it's easier!



VILLAGE AUTUMN	Dinner Times		
	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	
Week 1 23rd Sept, 27th Sept, 30th Oct, 2nd Nov, 23rd Nov, 14th Dec Week 2 7th Sept, 20th Sept, 19th Oct, 9th Nov, 30th Nov Week 3 24th Aug, 14th Sept, 5th Oct, 26th Oct, 16th Nov, 7th Dec			
	Monday Hand Sliced Meatballs or Sweetcorn Pizza & Garlic Sauce (V) (VG) (GF) Jackpot Potatoes & Fillings (V) (VG) (GF) Boll with a Choice of Fillings (V) (VG) Green Beans, Sweetcorn Fresh Salad Selection, Wholemeal Shred Bread Ice Cream & Fruit (V) Seasonal Fruit, Fruit Yoghurt	Tuesday Meatballs in Tomato Sauce & Spiced Rice (V) (GF) Jackpot Potatoes & Fillings (V) (VG) (GF) Boll with a Choice of Fillings (V) (VG) Carrots, Peas Fresh Salad Selection, Wholemeal Shred Bread Hand Sliced Cookie (V) Seasonal Fruit, Fruit Yoghurt	Wednesday Roast Chicken (V) Jackpot Potatoes & Fillings (V) (VG) (GF) Boll with a Choice of Fillings (V) (VG) Roast Potatoes, Carrots, Savoy Cabbage, Gravy Fresh Salad Selection, Wholemeal Shred Bread Fresh Fruit Salad (V) Seasonal Fruit, Fruit Yoghurt
	Thursday Steamed Rice, Sweetcorn, Broccoli Jackpot Potatoes & Fillings (V) (VG) (GF) Boll with a Choice of Fillings (V) (VG) Apple, Orange & Carrot (V) Seasonal Fruit, Fruit Yoghurt	Friday Roast Chicken (V) Jackpot Potatoes & Fillings (V) (VG) (GF) Boll with a Choice of Fillings (V) (VG) Roast Potatoes, Carrots, Savoy Cabbage, Gravy Fresh Salad Selection, Wholemeal Shred Bread Fresh Fruit Salad (V) Seasonal Fruit, Fruit Yoghurt	Week 4 Hand Sliced Meatballs or Sweetcorn Pizza & Garlic Sauce (V) (VG) (GF) Jackpot Potatoes & Fillings (V) (VG) (GF) Boll with a Choice of Fillings (V) (VG) Green Beans, Sweetcorn Fresh Salad Selection, Wholemeal Shred Bread Ice Cream & Fruit (V) Seasonal Fruit, Fruit Yoghurt
	Week 5 Hand Sliced Meatballs or Sweetcorn Pizza & Garlic Sauce (V) (VG) (GF) Jackpot Potatoes & Fillings (V) (VG) (GF) Boll with a Choice of Fillings (V) (VG) Green Beans, Sweetcorn Fresh Salad Selection, Wholemeal Shred Bread Ice Cream & Fruit (V) Seasonal Fruit, Fruit Yoghurt	Week 6 Hand Sliced Meatballs or Sweetcorn Pizza & Garlic Sauce (V) (VG) (GF) Jackpot Potatoes & Fillings (V) (VG) (GF) Boll with a Choice of Fillings (V) (VG) Green Beans, Sweetcorn Fresh Salad Selection, Wholemeal Shred Bread Ice Cream & Fruit (V) Seasonal Fruit, Fruit Yoghurt	Week 7 Hand Sliced Meatballs or Sweetcorn Pizza & Garlic Sauce (V) (VG) (GF) Jackpot Potatoes & Fillings (V) (VG) (GF) Boll with a Choice of Fillings (V) (VG) Green Beans, Sweetcorn Fresh Salad Selection, Wholemeal Shred Bread Ice Cream & Fruit (V) Seasonal Fruit, Fruit Yoghurt

Congratulations and well done to Miss Tina who has gained full marks on a 'drop-in' inspection this week from the Foods Standards Agency.



Our Weekly Home Learning

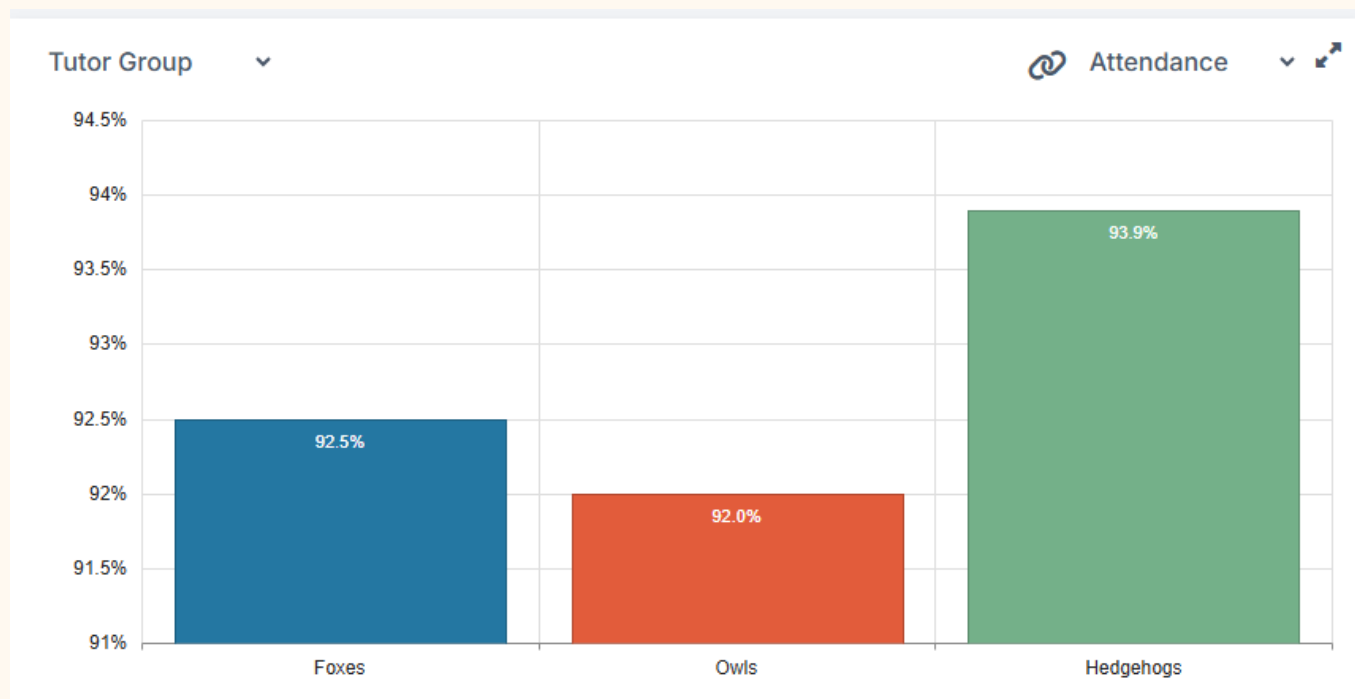
'Learn to Love and Love to Learn'

Year Group: Foxes
Date: 2.10.26
Return date: 8.10.26

Thank you for all of your hard work at school and at home.
This is helping your learning to flourish

Activities	
	Daily reading Read at least 4 times a week. <i>Remember reading brings joy and makes you a great writer too.</i>
	Number bonds/Timetables: TT Rockstars- We have a battle on which ends next Friday! Who will be our champions this week? <i>Fluency with number bonds and times tables make you a mighty mathematician.</i>
	Spellings: Y3- See Reading Diary Y4- See Reading Diary
	Other: Maths (in homework book) linked to this weeks learning with Roman Numerals! <u>Worship Homework:</u> This week we have been reading the Bible story: 'Noah's Ark.' Enjoy reading the story together. <u>Noah's Ark Story for Kids: Full Bible Story, With Pictures</u> You are warmly invited to make any of the following which we would like to display in our school entrance. There will be 5 'Respect' points on class dojo for each entry. *Piece of art *Poem *Prayer *Thought bubbles from Noah's family and the animals *Story re-tell *Puppet show/photos

Attendance figures



Appointments

A reminder that if your child has an appointment during the day, please let the office know so that your child can be marked correctly in the register. A copy of the appointment letter or screenshot of a text confirmation will be required for the absence to be authorised. Thank you



We have been learning:

Autumn Days

[Autumn Days When the Grass is Jewelled \(singing and lyrics\) \(StF 121 / BBC Come and Praise 4\)](#)

My Lighthouse

Click the link below to hear the music:

[My Lighthouse with lyrics \(Rend Collective\)](#)

*Eternal Father
You have provided faithful pastors in every age
To watch over your people and lead them in
your ways:
As you chose your servant Chad
To be the first bishop of your church in Lichfield,
so raise up for us, who follow Christ in his
footsteps today,
A shepherd to lead your people in the joy and
steadfastness of the Holy spirit,
That all may know the abundant life which you
give us in Jesus Christ your son.
Amen*



Pray



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.



Postcard from the Headteacher



Headteacher Award



Dates for the Diary

Wednesday 14 th October	Foxes - Hay House Farm Trip
Monday 19 th October - 4pm	Foxes - Cross Country Competition @ Marshbrook
Thursday 22 nd October – 9:15am	Join us at St Leonard's Church for our Harvest & Values Service
Friday 23 rd October	Inset Day – school closed to pupils
Monday 26 th – Friday 30 th October	Half Term
Monday 2 nd November	Back to school
Friday 13 th November	Children in Need – money line
Monday 16 th November	Anti-bullying day come to school in Odd Socks!
Tuesday 17 th November	Open Day for Nursery 2026 & Reception 2027 intake
Friday 20 th November 8:50am	Year 1 parents – join your child for Phonics
Monday 23 rd November 8:50am	Reception parents – join your child for Phonics
Friday 27 th November 8:50am	Foxes parents – Multiplication check workshop
Friday 4 th December	Christmas tree light switch on & carols
Monday 7 th December	Pantomime
Friday 18 th December	School closes at 1:30pm
Monday 21 st December	Christmas Holidays
Monday 4 th January	Inset Day – school closed to pupils
Tuesday 5 th January	Back to school
Monday 15 th – Friday 19 th February	Half Term
Monday 22 nd February	Back to school



**St Leonards First School
& Nursery**



Our School website

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

CONTACT US



Telephone: 01785 712488

Email: office@st-leonards-Dunston.staffs.sch.uk

The office is manned:

Monday – Thursday 8:30am – 4:15pm

Friday: 8:30am – 3:15pm

Emails received after these times will be responded to the next working day.

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AGES 5-16

ALL Abilities Welcome!



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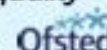
"Best Multi-Sport Holiday Camps
Provider 2026 - Midlands"

2026 Global Excellence Awards



"Children are extremely happy, safe
and welcomed at this high-quality
setting."

Ofsted Inspection - 2026



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EarlyBird Plus Programme

Has your child received an autism diagnosis?

Join the National Autistic Society's EarlyBird Plus programme delivered in Staffordshire by the Autism Inclusion Team to understand more about autism and how you can support your child.

Meet other parents and share experiences on our six-week programme. Designed for parents and carers of autistic children aged 5 to 10 years, we can help you understand autism and support your child, including:

- understanding autism
- communication
- understanding autistic experiences
- supporting daily living
- health and wellbeing
- connections.

"This has made a real difference to me. In general, life-changing."
Parent

Staffordshire Autism
Inclusion Team will be
delivering this course at:

Dates:

05.10.26

12.10.26

19.10.26

Lane Green First School,
Bilbrook Road, Bilbrook,
Wolverhampton, WV8 1EU

02.11.26

09.11.26

16.11.26

10am – 1pm tea and coffee
provided.

You will need to be able to
commit to attending all six
sessions

For more information and to register for this free course please contact:

kate.perry@staffordshire.gov.uk



**SOUTH STAFFORDSHIRE
SCHOOLS & GPs**



CAMHS

CRISIS & INTENSIVE SUPPORT TEAM

Support • Advice • Guidance





**AVAILABLE
7 DAYS A WEEK**



9:00am – 10:00pm



CALL NHS 111 →

OPTION 2

Before directing any child or young person under 18 to A&E



STOP & CALL FIRST

If you are concerned about the mental health of a child or young person under 18, please contact our CAMHS Crisis & Intensive Support Team to speak to a CAMHS Practitioner **before** directing them to hospital.





OUR AIM

To reduce avoidable attendances at local A&E departments and ensure children and young people receive the **right support**, in the **right place**, at the **right time**.

HOW WE CAN HELP



Mental health advice and guidance



Risk assessment support



Clinical support and intervention



Assistance in determining whether an A&E attendance is appropriate



AFTER 10PM

Calls will be answered by a call handler who will ensure CAMHS receives the information for appropriate follow-up the next morning.



NHS 111 – OPTION 2

CONTACT CAMHS BEFORE REFERRING UNDER 18s TO A&E





Midlands Partnership University
NHS Foundation Trust

Together we are making life better for our communities

Should I keep my child off school?

Yes

Until...

Chickenpox	at least 5 days from the onset of the rash and until all blisters have crusted over
Diarrhoea and Vomiting	48 hours after their last episode
Cold and Flu-like illness (including COVID-19)	they no longer have a high temperature and feel well enough to attend. Follow the national guidance if they've tested positive for COVID-19.
Impetigo	their sores have crusted and healed, or 48 hours after they started antibiotics
Measles	4 days after the rash first appeared
Mumps	5 days after the swelling started
Scabies	they've had their first treatment
Scarlet Fever	24 hours after they started taking antibiotics
Whooping Cough	48 hours after they started taking antibiotics

No

but make sure you let their school or nursery know about...

Hand, foot and mouth	Glandular fever
Head lice	Tonsillitis
Threadworms	Slapped cheek



SCAN ME

Advice and guidance

To find out more, search for health protection in schools or scan the QR code or visit <https://qrco.de/minfec>.

