



## St. Leonard's CE (A) First School Newsletter

Friday 14<sup>th</sup> October 2022


'From a tiny spark to a bright flame'



*'In him was life; and life was the light of men. And the light shineth in darkness'. (John 1:4-5)*

Executive Headteacher of St Leonard's CE (A) First School / Executive Principal of Manifold C of E Academy: Mrs Kelly Stanesby Chair of Governors: Mrs Sue Hey and Rev Jane Held: Designated safeguarding lead: Mrs Kelly Stanesby, Deputy safeguarding leads: Mrs Julie Amos and Miss Torr

### Weekly Diary

Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> October 2022	Full uniform
Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup> October 2022	Full uniform
Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup> October 2022 Welly Wednesday 	Welly Wednesday all day, all pupils - PE Kit
Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> October 2022	Full uniform  Miss Milward - Paediatric First Aid training
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> October 2022	PE kit  Break up for half term

### Your lunch menu for the 17<sup>th</sup> October 2022 - 21<sup>st</sup> October 2022

Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> October	Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup> October	Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup> October	Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> October	Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> October
Macaroni cheese, green peas and carrots	Sweet and sour chicken with rice, sweetcorn and broccoli	Roast chicken, roast and mashed potatoes, cabbage and carrots	Beef meatballs in tomato sauce with pasta	Fish fingers, chips and peas or beans
Oaty biscuit	Muffin	Flapjack	Chocolate sponge	Ice cream

## Star Awards



Congratulations are sent out to the following children who won Star Award's this week:

Headteacher award	<b>Dylan</b>
Star of the Week Sparks	<b>Elise</b>
Star of the Week Flickers	<b>Jacob</b>
Star of the week Flames	<b>Taya</b>
Spark to a flame Sparks Class	<b>Darcy</b>
Spark to a flame Flickers Class	<b>Harriet</b>
Spark to a flame Flames Class	<b>Nina</b>
Cooks award	<b>Ezme</b>
Mrs Amos award	<b>Eleanor B</b>
Reading Award Flickers	<b>Sophie W</b>
PE Award	<b>Eleanor, Sam, Nina, Lili, Oscar</b>

### STEM club

The children are really enjoying Mr Brightman's STEM club and we are really lucky that he has decided to start it up again after the pandemic. Thank you Mr Brightman!

This week the children were making circuits to power propellers. The young engineers created their own electricity. They learned that electricity can only flow around a complete circuit that has no gaps and to power their propellers they need a power supply so they attached their circuits to batteries.



# Introducing the... **warm welcome project**

providing a warm space  
Starting  
**October 28th 2022**  
**2pm–5pm every Friday**  
at the Methodist Schoolroom,  
Brookfields Road

*including:*

- Hot Food & Drinks
- Community Larder (*Bring, Take, Swap*)
- Practical Food & Goods Help
- Jigsaws, Board Games, Newspapers

### Wraparound care

Please could you ensure your Parent pay balance is cleared before half term, especially for the wraparound care. Fees for breakfast club and after school club ideally should be cleared by the end of each half term as this impacts the school budget. This week Parent pay has had some system issues in the background. We apologise for any inconvenience and confusion but this should all now be sorted.

Thank you.



### School gates

Please could we remind you to use the top gate when dropping off and collecting from school.

The bottom gate is for vehicle access only and should be kept clear. The entrance into the car park has a blind spot so it's important for everyone's safety that you don't enter via the gates to get to the playground.

Thank you.



### Attendance

Attendance Target 97%

Attendance this week 94 %

Please don't forget to call or email the school before 9.00am if your child is ill.

You must inform the school every day of your child's absence.

If we don't not hear from you we will have to chase you up as this scenario in schools is considered a "Child missing in education" case until we are made aware their reason for absence.

Please note we have vigilant procedures to follow in line with our safeguarding duties to your children and Ofsted requirements.

### Attendance Matters



## *Term dates 2022-2023*

### *Autumn Term 2022*

Inset day: Monday 5 September, Tuesday 6 September

Term Starts: Wednesday 7 September

Half Term: Monday 24 October - Friday 28 October

School opens - Monday 31 October

Term ends: Friday 16 December

Holiday: Monday 19 December - Monday 2 January

### *Spring Term 2023*

Inset Day: Tuesday 3 January

Term starts: Wednesday 4 January

Half Term: Monday 20 February - Friday 24 February

School opens - 27 February

Term ends: Friday 31 March

Holiday: Monday 3 April - Friday 14 April

### *Summer Term 2023*

Term starts: Monday 17 April

May Day: Monday 1 May

Half Term: Monday 29 May - Friday 2 June

Term ends: Friday 21 July

Holiday: Monday 24 July - Friday 1 September

### Key Dates

1<sup>st</sup> November 2022 - Admissions open for Reception September 2023 and Year 4 transfer to middle school

15<sup>th</sup> January 2023 - Admissions close

17<sup>th</sup> April 2023 - National offers day



Devices like smartphones, tablets and computers aren't quite as disposable as we'd like. Sometimes, they're simply thrown away and end up as landfill; often, components such as lead or mercury contribute to pollution of our soil; and even if we *think* we're being green by recycling, old tech can still be harmful to those people who physically handle it.

This guide provides tips on how we can be greener with unwanted gadgets and gizmos - from disposing of batteries safely or supporting environmental charities to repurposing old phones as TV remotes or security cameras. Check out our ideas and do your bit to help the planet!

At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one of many issues which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit [www.nationalonlinesafety.com](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com) for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

# 10 tips for parents and carers

## HOW TO BE GREEN WITH YOUR TECH

Right now, humans aren't living sustainably: we're taking too many resources and not leaving the world in a fit state for future generations. Old tech products are a clear example: if we throw them away, the poisonous lead and mercury inside can get into the food chain through the soil. Recycling tech, though, has its own issues: it's often exported to countries where the law doesn't protect people from hazards. Whole villages (including children) sort through discarded devices to remove useful parts and substances like gold, silver and copper - often putting their health at risk. Finding ways to re-use tech is the greenest option.

So what can we do with those cupboards and drawers full of old phones and unwanted computers?

### Reuse, recycle, donate or sell them!

- 1 DONATE THEM TO CHARITY**  
There are lots of charities that redistribute unwanted tech to worthy causes, either in the UK or in developing nations. If your old products are still working, this is a great option - as it means that new products don't have to be made. Search online for your nearest place that does this.
- 2 REMEMBER THE BATTERIES**  
Almost all batteries can be recycled - even the little 'button' ones from smaller gadgets. You could choose a box at home or school to keep used batteries in, and then take them to a designated place that collects them. Be very careful, though - button cells can be deadly if eaten by small children or pets.
- 3 USE YOUR ONLINE SAFETY KNOWLEDGE**  
If you're recycling, selling or repurposing any of your devices, make sure that all your personal data, private photos and so on have been deleted before the tech leaves your hands or is connected online.
- 4 REUSE THEM**  
Old smartphones can be used as webcams, security cameras, baby monitors or pet cams: there are apps that will configure them to do this. You can also turn an outdated phone into a TV remote control, an alarm clock that wakes you up with your favourite track, or a media centre you can take to places where you wouldn't risk your new phone.
- 5 TURN IT INTO SOMETHING NEW**  
Smartphones are more powerful than most older computers. If you have an unwanted android phone, it's quite easy to create a new computer - you could use an old TV as a monitor, meaning you just need a mouse and keyboard. There are also small devices you can buy which let you do the same with iPhones.
- 6 RETURN THEM**  
Return devices to the manufacturer or retailer you bought them from. Some manufacturers take responsibility for their products and accept them back, to refurbish and redistribute. If they don't, you could contact them and ask why: the more consumer pressure there is on shops and manufacturers, the more likely they are to act in a greener way.
- 7 SUPPORT SCIENCE**  
Let your old devices help modern research. Scientists currently investigating topics like far-off star systems, cancer treatment and earthquakes need enormous computing power. If your unwanted device is WiFi enabled, for example, you can connect it to a network so that it can boost scientists' research.
- 8 SELL THEM**  
This is also a green option as it means that fewer devices have to be produced. On top of that, you could also donate some of the money you make to an environmental charity.
- 9 RESEARCH DISPOSAL METHODS**  
If your device is beyond repair and no one wants it, get rid of it safely through a specialist tech disposal company. Check that your device won't be shipped off to another country for processing.
- 10 KEEP THINKING**  
There's no such thing as 'too many' ways to help our planet! If you come up with a better idea than ours, contact National Online Safety and tell us.

**Meet Our Expert**  
Neil Atkin teaches scientific literacy through his non-profit organisation, Rubbish Science, which engages people in working together to live more sustainably and creatively uses waste to help address real-life problems. There are a range of environmental activities you may like to try on their website: [www.rubbishscience.com](http://www.rubbishscience.com).

**National Online Safety**  
#WakeUpWednesday

[www.nationalonlinesafety.com](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com) @natonlinesafety /NationalOnlineSafety @nationalonlinesafety

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## Safeguarding - Huggy Wuggy character

We have been alerted to a character called Huggy Wuggy which young children have been exposed to via the internet. While the name sounds like a loveable character, it is not and has the potential for exploitation of young children across different media platforms.

### Who is Huggy Wuggy?

Poppy Playtime is a PC horror game that involves an unnamed protagonist investigating a mystery in an abandoned toy factory. As the player, you roam around the factory and collect VHS tapes to solve the mystery of what happened. You must solve puzzles while trying to survive the "vengeful toys" left behind.

"Huggy Wuggy" is one of the game's most popular - and visually disturbing - characters. It's a giant, horrifying blue creature with bulging eyes, wide red lips, and long limbs who actively follows you around as you try to complete the game. He appears in the dark unexpectedly to try and catch you. If you get caught, Huggy Wuggy bears his wide and sinister grin and eats you. Huggy Wuggy Warnings Although Poppy Playtime was released last year, there has been a recent surge in the creation of Huggy Wuggy-related content, alongside reported playground-style challenges based on the character. Some created videos feature songs alongside animation, designed to be upsetting and 'creepy'. Others feature jumpscare animations. The videos appear across several popular platforms, in particular on TikTok and YouTube. The hashtag 'huggywuggy' has over 2.9B views on TikTok. Due to the name of the character, these videos are often 'slipping through the net' of platforms' safeguarding measures like content filtering and age-restrictions. Police have also reported that some schools have seen children recreating scenes in the playground, hugging and whispering "nasty things" in the recipient's ear. New Game Release Expected One potential reason for the recent increase in content and popularity may be that a second version of the game is rumoured to be released very soon. A new trailer has been released, alongside 'teaser' clips and many fan-made videos on YouTube discussing the potential changes. Amongst the information that developers have released, is the addition of new characters, including Mommy Long Legs and Kissy Missy. Like Huggy Wuggy, these new characters have arguably 'innocent' names that may sound child-friendly but could be visually disturbing and upsetting for children.

### What are the risks?

There are multiple risks that can arise from children and young people being exposed to frightening content before they are prepared.

- Added anxiety and stress - Children and young people are still growing and learning. They may not be at a level of emotional maturity that would be able to process frightening content, even if it is intentional. Horror games could hamper that growth by creating unnecessary anxiety and stress.
- Intrusive thoughts - Everyone has the 'thing that goes bump in the night.' If children play this game or watch it, the Boogeyman could easily be replaced with characters like Huggy Wuggy. This could cause children to lose focus or sleep and could interrupt family rest cycles.
- New fears - The manipulation of child-friendly items into threatening characters exploits the sense of security a child would feel around these things. They may suddenly be terrified of something that had never been a worry before.

### Online safety useful links

There are some really good websites out there providing tips and advice on online safety, from how to discuss online safety to managing parental controls.

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/#guides>

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/>

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/guide-and-resource/parents-and-carers>



### Dates for the diary

Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> November 2022 - Full governor's meeting

Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> November - Open date for admissions to primary and middle schools

Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2022 - Mrs Amos training - pm

Friday 4<sup>th</sup> November 2022 - Miss Milward safeguarding training all day.

Monday 7<sup>th</sup> November 2022 - Enrichment day - ASM

Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> November 2022 - 3.30pm - 6.30pm - Parent consultation evening. Appointments are live on the school website on the home page under the "Parent consultation booking" green button. Please select your child's class teacher from the drop down list.

Friday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2022 - Remembrance service at St Leonard's Church cemetery @ 2.00pm. Parents welcome.

Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> November 2022- Children invited to St Leonard's Church service at 10.50am. Please let us know if you are attending as Reverend Jane would like some of the children to say a prayer.

Friday 18<sup>th</sup> November 2022 - Children in need

Friday 25<sup>th</sup> November 2022 - Advent service in school

Friday 25<sup>th</sup> November 2022 - Ipstones lights night

Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> December - Dress rehearsal for school nativity

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> December 2022 - Nativity play at The Memorial Hall

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> December 2022 - Christmas jumper day

Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2022 - Ipstones entertains

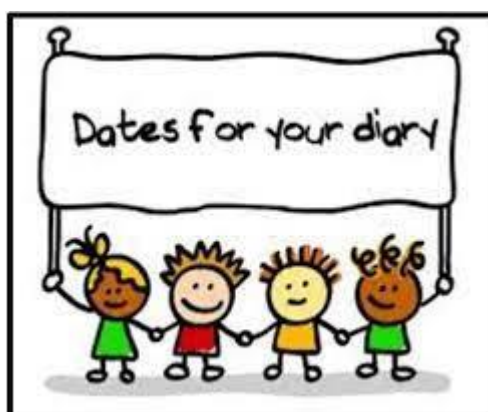
Monday 12<sup>th</sup> December - Christingle service

Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> Whole school trip to the Peter Pan pantomime at The Regent Theatre - TBC

Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2022 - Christmas dinner

Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December - A visit from Santa and break up for the holidays.

Please note that some of these dates may be subject to change.







## St. Edward's Church of England Academy

Westwood Road, Leek, ST13 8DN

Telephone: 01538 714740

Principal: Mr. T. Hutchinson

<http://stedwards.academy>

28th September 2022

Dear Prospective Parents/Carers,

### Open Day Event

I would like to extend a warm invitation to you to attend our Open Days on **Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> October from 10:00am to 1:00pm**. There will be a short talk in the school hall where we will give you details about school life at St Edward's CofE Academy, including the curriculum and the pastoral system. The talks will be split into 3 sessions 10:00 am, 11:00am or 12:00pm which can be booked via the Microsoft form link below:

In addition, there will be an opportunity for you to see the facilities the Academy has to offer and to meet the pastoral team, SENCo, staff and pupils.

The Senior Leadership Team and I will be available throughout the day to answer any questions you may have.

We will also be holding an Open Evening on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> November for any parents/carers who cannot make the Open Day.

I look forward to meeting you and welcoming you to our Academy.

### **REGISTER FOR OPEN DAY:**

### [Open Day Booking Form](#)

Yours sincerely,

Mr. T Hutchinson  
Principal



Companies House number: 08316327

## Sparks

Sparks have been very busy this week.

They have been making hedgehogs using fir cones and googly eyes and learning about why they hibernate. They have made witches wands for Halloween and have been understanding and re enacting emotions.





## Flickers

This week Flickers have been making their moon buggies.

They used recycled items to create their buggies and were also figuring out how to attach different materials to each other. For example, how could they get plastic to stick to tin foil?

Here are some of their "out of this world" creations!





## Flames

This week Flames went on a mushroom hunt on the school field. They found many different varieties of fungi.

They learned that some mushrooms are poisonous and they should not pick those ones.

They also learned that they grow really quickly but also they can disappear quickly as in Autumn they provide food for the animals.

Mrs Goldstraw brought in a ginormous mushroom which she had come across on a morning walk.

She made a spore picture from it by simply placing it gill side down and leaving it overnight.

Some of the children were inspired to do their own mushroom hunt that night and make their own spore picture too!

