



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

Friday 3rd December 2021

'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)

Headteacher: Mrs Kelly Stanesby Chair of governors: Mr Matthew Welton

Designated safeguarding lead: Mrs Kelly Stanesby, Deputy safeguarding leads: Mrs Julie Amos and Miss Torr

Weekly Diary

NO AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

Monday 6th December 2021	Christmas jumper day, normal uniform for bottom half. 1.00pm - 1.30pm - Christmas parade and carol singing (weather permitting). Stops on Brookfields Road, memorial hall and the shop
Tuesday 7th December 2021	Full uniform.
Wednesday 8th December 2021 Welly Wednesday 	Welly Wednesday, all pupils -PE kit all day
Thursday 9th December 2021	PE kit plus hats, scarves, gloves and wellies Trip to The Snow Dome
Friday 10th December 2021 Fitness Friday!	PE kit

Your lunch menu for the 6th December - 10th December 2021

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Pizza, dough balls, sweetcorn and carrots	Hot chicken sandwich with potato wedges, sweetcorn and broccoli	Roast gammon, mashed and roasted potatoes, carrots and cabbage	Trip to The Snow Dome	Fish fingers, chips and peas or beans
Oatie biscuit	Sponge cake	Ice cream		Crispy snow bar

Star Awards



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

Headteacher award	Vienna
Star of the Week Sparks	Ezme
Star of the Week Flickers	Dylan
Star of the week Flames	Oscar
Spark to a flame Sparks Class	Jacob
Spark to a flame Flickers Class	Rosa Bella
Spark to a flame Flames Class	Ewan
Reading award- Flames	Polly, Brea and Alice
Cooks award	Ezme
Mrs Amos award	Mrs Stanesby, Mrs Goldstraw, Mrs Barks, Mrs Belfield and Rosanna

Attendance matters

Managing attendance during a pandemic is challenging but it is also imperative.

It is important that the school and parents work together to ensure your child has the best possible start in life with a good education.

Being in the classroom is an important family responsibility. Ensure your child is engage in school by:

- Proactively scheduling doctors, dentist appointments around school hours
- Communication with your child the importance of being in school every day
- Utilising school resources like breakfast club to make getting to school easier.

Aside from the rules regulating attendance due to Covid we appreciate children do get poorly and are best to stay at home to become well again.

However we will be monitoring attendance and sending communication out to parents if we feel your child's attendance is low. We will take individual circumstances in to consideration.

In the first instance communication will be more for information purposes to alert parents if their child's attendance had dropped to 90% or below and to assist in any way we can to increase your child's attendance.

Our school attendance expectation is 96%.

If you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact us.

Attendance colour codes

Attendance	Description
98%	4 school days off each year
96%	Attendance is 96% School Performance Expectation
95%	Further absence needs to be avoided - 5 School Days off each year
94%	Requires improvement - 11 School Days off each year
93%	Requires improvement are needed - 12 School Days off each year
92%	92% - Four (4) or more are classified as persistently absent (PAs) - 20 School Days off each year - 8 more persistently absent may be issued if the attendance percentage continues to fall
90%	Requires Improvement - 20 School Days off each year



It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas!

It looks like the Christmas fairies have been in to St Leonard's and brought some festive cheer!

Even Sir David Attenborough is getting in to the Christmas spirit!



Shelter

Tonight's the night for your front room sleepover, although after last week's power cut in the village we're sure you're only too aware of being cold and no luxuries feels like!

If you do feel like you want to do it all over again (but stay warm this time!) please send us your photos of your sleepover shenanigans and let us know how it felt.

You can donate via the following link:

https://england.shelter.org.uk/donate?reserved_appeal_code=47&qclid=EAIaIQobChMI74Gmiduz9AIVEJBoCR3-dgHIEAAYASABEqIhfvD_BwE&qclsrc=aw.ds

Good luck Sleepover Squad!



Christmas fair

Thank you to all who supported our school by visiting our stall on Friday at the Christmas Fair. The sale of the children's lovely products generated £167.10 for the school fund.

Items are still available in school if you didn't get the chance to purchase.

The mugs are £8 and the calendars are £7.

Thank you also to Mrs Stanesby, Miss Torr and Mrs Goldstraw who manned the school stall.

Well done to Jack C's mum for guessing the name of the hare correctly and winning the trophy head.

Thank you also to Mrs Goldstraw's daughter, Georgia, for donating the beautiful crocheted prizes.



SMS texting service

We have invested in the parent pay messaging service which means we can text you as well as email with important information.

This is likely to become our preferred method of communication going forward.

A test was sent out to all parent mobile numbers that are stored on our information management system on Tuesday afternoon.

If you haven't received the test please let us know and we will check we have the correct contact number.

The text will come from "Parent pay".

We hope this will be a more effective channel of communication.

Please don't forget to let us know if you change your mobile number.

Thank you.



How to set up your child's new devices this Christmas

Christmas means a lot of new connected tech around homes and inevitable stack of user manuals and terms and conditions to read.

It can be hard to take it all in, especially when a child just wants to start playing on Christmas morning.

Here is a useful link that covers setting up controls on gaming consoles (Nintendo Switch, Xbox series X and Play station 5), Smart speakers (Google home and nest, Amazon echo dot), phones, tablets and Apple devices, android devices and Amazon fire for kids.

Though parental controls can be a useful tool, they don't eliminate risk completely. Ensuring your child can recognise and respond to challenges is the best way of helping them gain digital resilience.

<https://parentzone.org.uk/article/how-set-your-childs-new-devices-christmas>



Parent Governor Vacancy

We currently have a Parent Governor vacancy.

Becoming a Governor is a very rewarding experience. As a Parent Governor you will be working with the Governing body to ensure it effectively carries out its duties. You will also play a vital role in ensuring that the Governing Body is connected with, and is aware of the views of parents and the local community.

Parent Governors serve a four year term of office. Parent governors may continue to hold the office until the end of their term even if their child leaves the school.

As a Governor you will be expected to

Prepare for meetings by reading all paper work before hand.

Attend the Full Governing body meetings (one per term) and a non clerked meeting (one perm term). Six meetings a year in total.

Actively fulfil duties assigned to you.

Attend new governor training (mostly virtual at the moment)

Abide by the Code of Conduct, eg. Confidentiality, social media use

Undertake an enhance DBS and section 28 management check

Show a commitment to promoting British Values.

If you feel you may be interested please contact Mrs Amos in the school office.

Thankyou.



Flu vaccinations

Well Done to all the children who received their flu vaccinations this week. They were all very brave.

If your child missed their vaccination for any reason there are clinics held in the local area on Saturdays.

You can call the School Immunisation Team to book an appointment for your child on

0300 124 0366



Christmas Trips

We are still awaiting payments for the Christmas trips.

Please could you make your outstanding payment as soon as possible.

If you need any assistance funding the trips please contact the school office confidentially.

If you require school sandwiches for the trip from Mrs Barks please let us know by the end of today.

The sandwich option is ham or cheese.

Thank you.



Face masks

The government have issued new mandatory rules regarding wearing face coverings.

In light of this please may we ask that you wear a face covering when dropping off or collecting your child from school.

Thank you



St Leonard's First School PTA



Ipstones Christmas Window Competition

**Decorate your front window, garden or lamppost with a
lovely seasonal theme.**

Let's end 2021 in style in Ipstones !

**Window displays must be ready and entry forms submitted by
Saturday 4th December 2021.**

Judging will be carried out w/c 6th December 2021.

**£3 to enter and all proceeds go directly to the children of St Leonard's School,
Ipstones**

We would like to enter into the Ipstones Christmas Window competition 2021

Name

Address

.....

Display name

**Put this form and your £3 in an envelope and pop through the door of
4 Churchfield Court, 9 Brookfields Road or 8 Ruelow Meadows**

"Inappropriate" means different things to different people. What's acceptable for one age group, for example, may be unsuitable for a slightly younger audience. Online, young people can chance upon inappropriate content in various way - from pop-up ads to TikTok videos. The increasingly young age at which children become active in the digital world heightens the risk of them innocently running into something that they find upsetting or frightening. Trusted adults need to be able to help children be aware of what to do if they're exposed to age-inappropriate content.

In the guide, you'll find tips on a number of potential risks such as social media, gaming and adverts.

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 issue of many which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

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WHERE IS IT FOUND?

SOCIAL MEDIA

Age-inappropriate content is easily accessible through many social media platforms. TikTok, for instance, is hugely popular with young people but is arguably best known for clips featuring sexualised dancing or profanity. Some social media users also express hate speech or promote eating disorders and self-harm, which could cause lasting damage to a child's emotional and mental health.

GAMING

Gaming is an enjoyable source of entertainment, but many popular titles can expose children to inappropriate material such as violence, horror, gambling or sexually explicit content. Playing games unsuitable for their age risks normalising to children what they are seeing. Some games also include in-game chat, where other (usually older) online players often use language that you probably wouldn't want your child to hear or repeat.

STREAMING

The range of video streaming services available online means that users can find almost anything they want to watch on demand. Children are therefore at risk of viewing TV shows and movies which contain nudity, drug and alcohol abuse, explicit language and extreme violence. Unfortunately, these streaming platforms can't always determine that it's not an adult who's watching.

ADVERTS

Online adverts frequently include age-inappropriate content, usually gambling and nudity or partial nudity, although adverts for alcohol or e-cigarettes are also common. Some search engines also feature adverts that are responsive to your search history: so if you've recently looked up a new horror movie, shopped for lingerie or ordered alcohol online, then the ads appearing on screen could reflect this the next time your child borrows your device.

18 Advice for Parents & Carers

TALK IT THROUGH

Embarrassment or fear of getting into trouble can make it difficult for children to talk openly about age-inappropriate content they've watched. Remind your child they can always come to you if they're troubled by something they've seen online, without worrying about consequences. Before offering advice, discuss what they saw, how they felt and how they came to find the content in question.



CONNECT, DON'T CORRECT

If your child's been particularly distressed by exposure to content that wasn't suitable for their age, it's important to offer guidance to prevent them from repeating the same mistake - but it's equally vital to help them deal with the emotions that the situation has raised. You could tell them about any similar experiences you might have had at their age, and how you dealt with it.



BLOCK, REPORT, CONTROL

After discussing the problem, you and your child can take action together. This could include blocking any inappropriate sites and reporting any content which violates a platform's rules. To further safeguard your child online, set up parental controls on internet-enabled devices that they use. This will significantly reduce the chances of your child being exposed to age-inappropriate content in future.



GET SPECIALIST HELP

Age-inappropriate content can potentially have a negative impact on a child's mental health, which is sometimes displayed through changes in their behaviour. If the problem becomes more severe, you might consider reaching out to a mental health professional or an expert in this field who can provide you and your child with the proper support.



STAY CALM

Even though it is obviously difficult to stay rational in a situation where your child has been put at risk, it's essential to think before you react. Your child may well have hesitated to open up to you about watching inappropriate content for fear of the consequences, so being calm and supportive will reinforce the notion that it would be easy to talk to you about similar issues in the future.



Meet Our Expert

Cayley Jorgensen is a Registered Counsellor with The Health Professions Council of South Africa, and she runs a private practice offering counselling to children, teenagers and families. Her main focus is creating awareness and educating the community on the mental health pressures of today's world, as well as resources and techniques to understand and cope better.



Source: <https://www.education.gov.au/documents/2020/06/gamgms/bu/18tips/18inappropriate.pdf> <https://www.education.gov.au/education-training-professionals/professionals-learning-program/teachers/inappropriate-content-factsheet> <https://www.research.gov.uk/doi/abs/10.1080/13602025.2019.1641880>

Stoke city

Don't worry if you didn't bring your ticket requests in to school for the Stoke v Middleborough match on 11th December.

If you still want to attend all you have to do is take your ticket order to the Ticket Office at the bet365 Stadium or call 01782 592217 to place a telephone order

On match day SCFC will welcome the pupils to the stadium by displaying the school badge on their jumbo TV screens inside the stadium, something for the kids to look out for!



Christmas Parade

On Monday the children will parade around the village singing Christmas carols wearing their Christmas jumpers and Christmas hats.

The parade will start at approximately 1.00pm until 1.30pm and we will be stopping on Brookfield Road, The Memorial Hall and the shop.

As mentioned Monday is also Christmas jumper day and Christmas hat day.

There will be a prize for the best Christmas hat!



Welly Wednesday

On Welly Wednesday the children did a bird trail on the school field. They had a key with different species of bird they needed to spot. When they were looking for a Robin Red Breast, as if by magic, one flew down and sat watching them close by!

The children also made fairy gardens using natural resources.



December diary

With a busy month ahead here's a little reminder of what's happening leading up to the festive season;

Monday 6th December - Christmas jumper day and Christmas parade around the village

Monday 6th December - Phonics screening assessments for KS1.

Thursday 9th December - Trip to The Snowdome

Tuesday 14th December - Trip to the pantomime at Buxton Opera House

Wednesday 15th December - Making Christingles

Thursday 16th December - Christmas service and Christmas lunch

Friday 17th December - Party lunch and break up for Christmas

Wednesday 5th January 2022 - Children return to school (Monday 3rd January 2022 - Bank holiday, Tuesday 4th January 2022 Inset day for staff only)

Climate Change

Here is this week's top tip on ways to reduce our carbon footprint

Washing the dishes by hand.

Whether you've had a takeaway or cooked, doing the washing up by hand leads to carbon emissions ranging from 360g CO₂e to 3kg CO₂e.

A 50 degree cycle in a dishwasher on the other hand is quicker and comes in at 460g CO₂e.

Make a difference

If you wash up by hand always use a plug or washing up bowl rather than leaving the tap running.

Run a full dishwasher instead if you can.

Make the eco setting your default dishwasher choice.



Prickly Hay

Please could all costumes be brought in to school by Monday 6th December at the latest if they haven't been already.

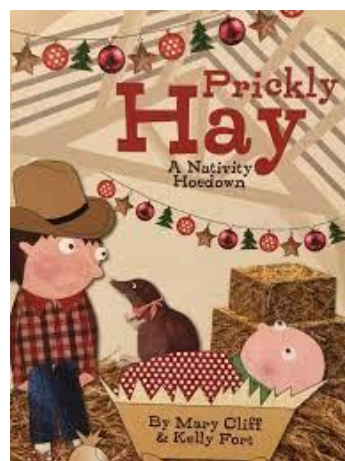
Please could these be on a coat named cost hanger.

We do have some spare costumes so please let us know if you need us to find one from school.

Miss Torr has put the songs on the school website so that the children can learn at home.

These are under Home Learning, Prickly Hay songs.

<https://www.stleonardsfirstschoolipstones.com/prickly-hay-songs>



What have we been up to?

Spark class have been playing in their igloo, fishing in their penguin pond and playing with real blocks of ice

Thank you to Rosie for lending the little ones her Frozen castle. They've loved it!

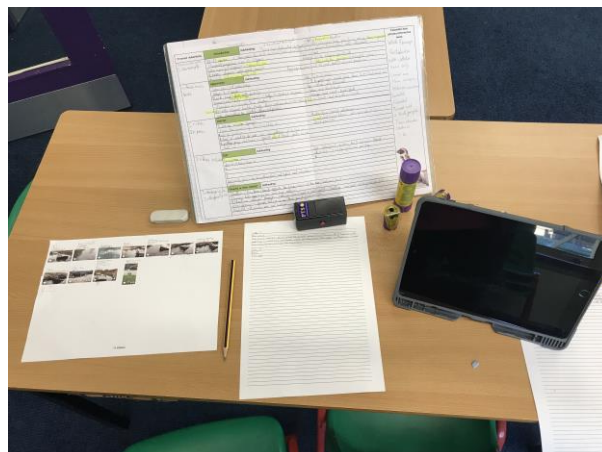


Flickers have been learning about money this week. They did some post office role play to get to grips with pennies and pounds. They have also written letters to Santa!



Flames class have been making their David Attenborough style videos with footage taken from our Peak Wildlife trip.

They have written a draft script, created a story board and are editing their clips together.





11 A.M.

• ST. LEONARD'S CHURCH •

Sunday 5th December, 2021

Christingles

This is a very informal service lasting a maximum of 30 minutes, followed by an activity, & refreshments. We look forward to welcoming you.