



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

Friday 25<sup>th</sup> October 2024



*'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 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 lead: Miss Aimee Torr

Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> November 2024	INSET DAY – children NOT in school
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> November 2024	School Uniform Bonfire Night
Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> November 2024 Welly Wednesday	PE Kit Parent Consultations
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> November 2024	School Uniform
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> November 2024	PE Kit Enrichment Day - Careers
Attendance this week 21/10 - 25/10	98.86%

### Your lunch menu for W/C: 04.11.2024

Monday 21st Oct	Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> Oct	Wednesday 23rd Oct	Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> Oct
Pizza, wedges and vegetables	Sausage, potato and vegetables	Roast chicken, potatoes and vegetables	Savoury mince, rice and vegetables	Fish fingers & Chips, Beans or Peas
Shortbread	Sponge	Jelly	Flapjack	Ice Cream

**We are a NUT FREE school.**



# Term Dates 2024 – 2025

Autumn Term:

Half term: Mon 28<sup>th</sup> Oct - Fri 1<sup>st</sup> Nov

**Inset: Mon 4<sup>th</sup> Nov – Children not in school**

Pupils return: Tues 5<sup>th</sup> Nov

Term ends: Fri 20<sup>th</sup> Dec

Spring Term:

**Inset: Mon 6<sup>th</sup> Jan – Children not in school**

Term starts: Tues 7<sup>th</sup> Jan 2025

Half term: Mon 17<sup>th</sup> Feb - Fri 21<sup>st</sup> Feb

Pupils return: Mon 24<sup>th</sup> Feb

Term ends: Fri 11<sup>th</sup> April

Summer Term:

Term starts: Mon 28<sup>th</sup> April

May Day: Mon 5<sup>th</sup> May (school closed)

Half term: Mon 26<sup>th</sup> May - Fri 30<sup>th</sup> May

Pupils return: Mon 2<sup>nd</sup> June

Term ends: Fri 18<sup>th</sup> July

## Dates for the diary

Friday 25<sup>th</sup> Oct: Family Celebration Worship – Methodist Chapel - 9.15am-all welcome

Weds 6<sup>th</sup> Nov: Parents Consultations

Fri 8<sup>th</sup> Nov: Enrichment Day – Careers

Fri 15<sup>th</sup> Nov: Children In Need

Mon 18<sup>th</sup> Nov: Reception children weight and height checks

Thurs 21<sup>st</sup> Nov: Flu Vaccinations

Tues 26<sup>th</sup> Nov: Spiritual Development Day - Advent

Friday 29<sup>th</sup> Nov: Advent Service/Festival of Lights at St Leonard's Church

Thurs 5<sup>th</sup> Dec/Fri 6<sup>th</sup> Dec – Christmas Nativity at Ipstones Memorial Hall 6pm.

Fri 13<sup>th</sup> Dec: Christmas Coffee Morning

Thurs 19<sup>th</sup> Dec: School Christmas Lunch

Monday 16<sup>th</sup> December: Jack & The Beanstalk Pantomime

*Please note that some dates may change.*





## Celebration awards.

<p><b>Spark to a Flame</b></p> 	<p><b>Savannah</b> <b>Zara</b> <b>Jacob.L</b></p>
<p><b>Star of the Week</b></p> 	<p><b>George</b> <b>Jaycee</b> <b>Sophie.W</b> <b>Dylan</b></p>
<p><b>Reading</b></p> 	<p><b>Lily.B</b> <b>Jack</b></p>
<p><b>Lunchtime</b></p> 	<p><b>Jacob.G</b></p>
<p><b>Dojo's</b></p>	<p><b>1<sup>st</sup> – St Mark (Red) 1327</b> <b>2<sup>nd</sup> – St John (Green) 1323</b> <b>3<sup>rd</sup> – St Luke (Purple) 710</b> <b>4<sup>th</sup> – St Matthew (Yellow) 633</b></p>
<p><b>Headteacher's</b></p> 	<p><b>Dottie</b></p>

# Uniform Bank.

Please remember we do have the school uniform bank available with a various range of uniform. Please email the office if there is anything you are looking for and Mrs Crooks will have a look to see if we can help.



## Label your child's uniform!



Please ensure all of your children's belongings are labelled – Mrs Crooks can not find and return uniform if it isn't labelled!



# National Online Safety.

At National Online Safety we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information they need to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one topic of many 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.



It can be challenging for parents and carers to know whether children are spending too much time on their devices. Furthermore, it's even more of a challenge to know whether a child is addicted to the internet and social media. As technology is becoming more pervasive, children and young people are experiencing tech-related dependencies. Do we as parents and carers have the knowledge to identify and support children and young people who may be developing an addiction to their devices?



## What parents need to know about **SCREEN ADDICTION**



### HEALTH & WELLBEING

Children as young as 13 are attending 'smartphone rehab' following growing concerns over screen time. There are now help centers in the UK which deal with screen addiction for children and adults showing the seriousness of device addiction. The World Health Organisation (WHO) has officially recognised gaming addiction as a modern disease. The condition was confirmed as part of their International Classification of Diseases (ICD) which serves as an international standard for diagnosing and treating health conditions.

### LACK OF SLEEP

7 out of 10 children said they had missed out on sleep because of their online habits and 60% said they had neglected school work as a result. It is important that children get the sleep they need in order to focus the next day.

### LOSS OF INTEREST IN OTHER THINGS

Your child may become less interested in anything that does not include their device. You may notice that your child is missing school time and generally being less engaged with other activities in the home. It is important to discuss this with your child as soon as you notice a behaviour change.



### CONFIDENCE, SUPPORT & ADVICE

The Children's Commissioner report 'Life in Likes', explored how children aged 8-11 are using social media today. It showed that children are using their devices to speak to their online friends about their problems and seek acceptance and support, removing face to face interactions.

### APPS CAN BE ADDICTIVE

Apps have been designed with 'psychological tricks' to constantly keep grabbing your attention. One example of this is on the app Snapchat, where you can gain 'streaks' when interacting with your friends. If you don't respond, you lose the streak. This addictive nature of apps aims to engage children and keep them coming back for more.



## Top Tips for Parents



### LIMIT SCREEN TIME

In today's digital age, technology is an important part of a child's development so completely banning them from their device will mean they are missing out on a lot, including conversations and communication with their friends. Rather than banning them from using their devices, we suggest setting a screen time limit. Work out what you think is a suitable and healthy amount of time for your child to be on their device per week. Remember that your child may need to use devices for their school homework so only set screen limits on recreational time on their device. Once you have established this, have the conversation with them to discuss why you are implementing a screen limit. There will be others in your child's friendship group who will not have screen limits set and will be sending messages when they do not have access to their phones.

### LEAD BY EXAMPLE

Children model their behavior on their peers, so if their parents are constantly on their device, they will see this as acceptable. Try limiting your own screen time and follow the same rules you have set for them. If you have asked your child to not use their device at the table, make sure you don't. Try setting house rules that the whole family abide by.

### REMOVE DEVICES FROM THEIR BEDROOM

Setting a rule about removing devices from bedrooms will help your child to get the sleep they need and be more focused the next day at school. 20% of teenagers said that they wake up to check their social network accounts on their devices. Even by having a device switched off in their bedroom, they may be tempted to check for notifications.

### LESS TIME MEANS LESS EXPOSURE

There are many risks associated with devices, such as cyberbullying, grooming, sexting, viewing inappropriate content etc. Less time spent on a screen means that a child will be less exposed to these risks.

### STATISTICS

**52%** of children aged 3-4 go online for nearly **9hrs** a week

**82%** of children aged 5-7 go online for nearly **9.5hrs** a week

**93%** of children aged 8-11 go online for nearly **13.5hrs** a week

**99%** of children aged 12-15 go online for nearly **20.5hrs** a week

Children and Parents: Media Use and Attitudes Report 2018

### ENCOURAGE ALTERNATE ACTIVITIES

It may seem like an obvious solution, but encouraging children to play with their friends, read a book, or playing outdoors will help them realise they can have fun without their device. Playing football, trampolining, camping, going for a walk or swimming are all healthy replacements for screen time. Try to join them in their Outdoor activities to show your support.

### MOBILE-FREE MEAL TIMES

Have you tried to settle your child by giving them a tablet at the dinner table or restaurant? This may seem like a quick fix to calm them down but in reality, it is encouraging them to use their device as a distraction from conversation and dealing with their emotions. We suggest removing all technology from the dinner table and having conversations with your family about how their day has been.

# Wraparound Care.



**Breakfast club:** Arrival 7.30am – 8am: £5  
Arrival 8am: £4

*Breakfast and a drink are available to all children.*

**After school:** 3.15pm – 4.15pm: £5  
3.15pm – 5.15pm: £10.25  
3.15pm – 6pm: £14.20

*(Fridays we close at 4.15pm)*

*Children which are in club after 4.15pm, prices reflect a light tea of sandwiches, fruit and vegetable sticks and drinks.*

Fees are payable via ParentPay, alternatively we accept payment through the following voucher schemes: KiddiVouchers, Sodexo and Tax Free Childcare.

If you use a different scheme, it is most likely we will be able to accept payment through them once registered. Please speak to Mrs Crooks regarding this.

**Please ensure accounts are kept up to date to ensure the continued running of Wraparound Care – Thankyou.**



# Autumn Term Trips.



**MONDAY 16<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER**

**Cost: £13 - payable on ParentPay due 9<sup>th</sup> December.  
£5 deposit due 30<sup>th</sup> October**

*family*  
**warm  
welcome**  
*a warm space for all*

**2pm–5pm every Friday**

in the school holidays at  
the Methodist Schoolroom,  
Brookfields Road

drop in for:

- Food & Drinks
- Colouring & Crafts
- Jigsaws, Games, and Lego
- Company and Conversation

For more information about 'Warm Welcome' please contact:  
Rev'd Jane Held on 01538 262116 or Rev'd Julie Hassall on 01538 751907

Want to be part of something special in your community,  
make new friends  
...and... have LOTS of fun?

**YOUNG PHOENIX SINGERS LEEK**

**LOOKING FOR ALL MUSIC LOVERS**  
**AGED 6+**

No auditions - and your first session is on us!  
We meet at: Leek First School,  
East Street,  
ST13 6LF

Come Along!  
Every Monday  
from 6pm - 7pm  
(Excluding School Holidays)

For More Information,  
Please Contact Our Secretary Sally

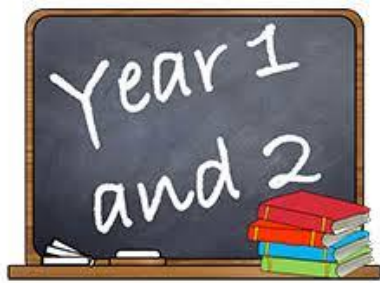
07947450596  
YP@PHOENIXSINGERSLEEK.CO.UK  
@YOUNGPHOENIXSINGERS



Registered Charity  
No. 1055240

# Spellings.

Children in year 1 and 2 will be coming home with spelling books with spellings in to practice – these books need to be returned to school on a Monday to be updated.



Mrs Hodgkins will be putting spellings into reading diaries on a Friday after the children have been tested on the previous week's spellings.



Mrs Hodgkins also asks if Year 3 and 4 children could practice numer bonds to 20 where possible:



Thankyou for your continued support.



## October Half Term.



ASM sports are offering the following clubs over October Half Term, ASM staff are well known to the children due to them providing our after-school club and being in weekly to deliver PE sessions.



**BISHOP RAWLE PRIMARY SCHOOL, CHEADLE**  
**MULTI SPORTS HOLIDAY CLUBS**

Come and join us for some sports, games and activities from **October 28 - November 01**. Our action-packed program gives children the chance to remain active, develop skills and make new friends within a safe and secure program. We provide an environment where everyone is challenged and enjoys themselves.

TEAM SPORTS



ALTERNATIVE SPORTS



MULTI SPORTS



ENRICHMENT ACTIVITIES



Alongside our regular timetable we will be offering some fantastic additional **FREE** activities within our Booster program. Please see our schedule of events on our MyASM booking portal.

**BUG CLUB**  
**INFLATABLES**  
**MUSICAL MAYHEM**  
**PUMPKIN CARVING**  
**MONSTER MASH (DISCO/PARTY)**  
**BRING A BIKE & SCOOT SKILLS**

Ofsted Registered

We accept payment of childcare vouchers from most schemes. Applies at selected venues.

From **£25.00** per day

Half-Day & Wrap-Around options available  
**Book now at [asmports.co.uk](http://asmports.co.uk)**  
 Call: 01782 366332 Email: [info@asmports.co.uk](mailto:info@asmports.co.uk)



**CRICKET MASTERCLASS**

**Cricket Cave (Unit B)**  
 The Cricket Cave  
 Fraylings Business Park, Longport, ST6 4HS

**October 29-31 | 09:00-15:30**

**Come and join us to experience the feeling of training like a professional Cricketer!**  
 John Hancock, will lead an array of high quality sessions to improve your technique, decision making and match play in all areas. This camp is suitable for club players aged 7-14 years old.

**High Class Environment & Facilities!**  
 The Cave has 5 nets, BOLA bowling machines, Merlin spin machines and the latest PitchVision video analysis camera software. We will be utilising these state of the art facilities to improve every aspect of your game; whether you are a batsman, bowler or wicket keeper.

In Association With:  
**THE CRICKET CAVE**

Price **£25.00** per day

Call: 01782 366332  
 Visit: [www.asmports.co.uk](http://www.asmports.co.uk)  
 Email: [info@asmports.co.uk](mailto:info@asmports.co.uk)

**MULTI SPORTS HOLIDAY CLUBS**

**BOOSTER SCHEDULE**

Bishop Rawle Primary School

Mon	MUSICAL MAYHEM
Tue	BUG CLUB
Wed	BRING A BIKE AND SCOOT SKILLS / INFLATABLES
Thu	PUMPKIN CARVING
Fri	MONSTER MASH (DISCO/PARTY)





Year 3 and 4's residential trip will be taking place at Gullivers Rother Valley, South Yorkshire on 23<sup>rd</sup> June – 25<sup>th</sup> June 2025.

**£30 deposit due 31<sup>st</sup> October 2024**

## Achievements outside of School.



Well done to Zara achieving her level 2 skate award!

Well done to Eleanor who attended the 'Best Kept Village awards' - she came first runner up in her age category for her poster.

## Birthday Celebrations this week!



## School admissions for September 2025 for Reception and Year 5.

Applications open online for Reception and Year 5 on the **1<sup>st</sup> November 2024.**

The easiest way to apply is online at:



[www.staffordshire.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/admissions)



You will need to make your application by 15<sup>th</sup> January 2025 and you will receive your offer on 16<sup>th</sup> April 2025.



Year 4 children will be coming home with a letter over the next few weeks with more information





All accounts on ParentPay and any Wraparound Care voucher schemes need to be cleared by the end of **Friday 25<sup>th</sup> October** for this half term.



It is vital that parents pay their relevant debts on time. If you are unsure of your outstanding payments or are struggling to clear your accounts please speak to Mrs Crooks who will be able to point you in the right direction.



If debts are not paid then money which is reserved for providing the range of activities and experiences that your children enjoy will have to be used to clear these debts, therefore putting the children at a disadvantage.

***There is an option on ParentPay for all parents to contribute to the 'School Fund Contribution'.***

**THANKYOU!**

## Parents Consultations.



Parent consultations have now been finalised and you should of received an email from Mrs Crooks confirming your time – if you have not please ask.



### St Leonard's Nativity 2024.

We can hardly believe it is that time of year again where we will be starting to give out parts for the Nativity play and starting to rehearse lines and songs!



This years nativity will be taking place at Ipstones Memorial Hall on **Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> December and Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December at 6pm.**

Nativity time is always a very exciting time within school and when your child does bring home their parts, it would be greatly appreciated if you could practise with them (this will be after half term). In the meantime if you have nativity costumes which are no longer of any use at home please send them into school to be reused.

## Wraparound Care – Online Bookings.



**W/C: 04.11.24** bookings for Wraparound Care will need to be made online and paid for at the time of booking.



They will appear on your ParentPay account as:

**St Leonard's Breakfast Club**

**St Leonard's After School Club Monday-Thursday**

**St Leonard's After School Club Friday**

Upon clicking onto any of the above you then need to click on the sessions you require and make your payment. This will then inform the office that you require a place for your child.



Last minute emergency sessions can still be booked on the day by contacting the office.

# Twycross Zoo



The school had a fantastic time on Wednesday.

We are excited to share the wonderful experience we had during our visit to Twycross Zoo, as part of our learning topic 'Paws, Claws & Whiskers'. With its rich history and commitment to conservation, Twycross Zoo provided the perfect backdrop for an educational adventure.

The highlight of the trip was undoubtedly the unique opportunity to get up close and personal with some incredible animals. The children were captivated by the delicate beauty of butterflies, a magical moment of observation that left a lasting impression. The gorillas, with their slow and deliberate movements, intrigued and excited our young learners, offering a chance to appreciate the wonders of nature. The pupils were treated to the joyful spectacle of penguins gracefully swimming through the water. The children's faces lit up with excitement as they watched these aquatic birds navigate their habitat, a truly mesmerizing sight. While lions and tigers are not always the most active during daytime, observing them at rest was a unique and awe-inspiring experience. The lively monkeys provided a playful and dynamic backdrop to the trip. We were delighted to watch these agile creatures jump around them, showcasing the boundless energy of the animal world.

They returned with not only cherished memories but also a deeper appreciation for the incredible diversity of the animal kingdom.

We were so very proud of the children's behaviour during the day. It was especially wonderful to see the older pupils supporting and caring for the younger pupils.



## 'Being a Vet'

Thankyou to Mrs Falder who came into school on Thursday to talk about being a vet. She brought lots of equipment to show and share with the children.



Lilly, Corah-Rae and Eleanor enjoyed dressing up as though they were going into surgery with an animal and Mrs Falder explained the importance of hygiene and having to 'scrub' down before entering the operating theatre for the animal.



The children also got to look at different syringes that are used depending on the size of the animal, how different animals temperatures were taken and then they all got an opportunity to wear 'Calving gloves' which were the same length as their entire arm...Mrs Falder explained the importance of them being this long!

Mrs Falder brought in her family dogs 'Brian and Lily' and they were very well behaved.



Thankyou!

## PTA



As you will be aware from the news, school budgets are being cut more and more and schools are having to slim down on a lot of things – for us at St Leonard’s this is the ‘nice’ bits that we have always been able to offer our children and families including trips at a very reduced price, enriching resources, being able to have all our lovely families in often for special days or afternoons, so WE NEED YOU!

Nicola Falder (Eleanor & Theo’s mum) is proposing to go full steam ahead with building a group of people together to hold events to raise vital funds for St Leonard’s. A decision has been made that we will try to do ‘bigger’ events rather than a lot of small ones so that a more significant profit is made each time. Also with the busy lives we all have, that a ‘PTA’ isn’t taking up everyone’s time.

If you would be interested in helping to stage various events, please speak to Nicola or Mrs Crooks so that we can come together with a plan.



## Collection time at the end of the school day.

To ease congestion at the pedestrian gate please could parents ensure that they DO NOT congregate around the gate and please move forward towards the school, whilst waiting for their child to leave the building.



If bringing dogs please wait on the right hand side of the school drive (as you look at the school) to ensure there is enough room for children to safely pass as they exit.



This is to keep EVERYONE safe.

Thankyou for your cooperation.



Happy half term to everyone! It has been a busy 8 weeks at St Leonard's but as always your children have given 150%.

Now time to have a rest and re-energise ready for the next half term – your teachers are all very busy preparing for your lessons when we are back!

HAVE FUN AND STAY SAFE!

***School reopens TUESDAY 5<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER.***



