



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

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> November 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 11 <sup>th</sup> November 2024	School Uniform <b>Remembrance Day</b> 
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> November 2024	School Uniform
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> November 2024 Welly Wednesday	PE Kit
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> November 2024	School Uniform
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> November 2024	Children in Need – Children are welcome to be dressed 'Spotty and Sporty' for a £1 donation. 
Attendance this week 04/11 – 08/11	<b>96.97%</b>

### Your lunch menu for W/C: 11.11.2024

Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> Nov
Pizza, wedges and vegetables	Cottage pie and vegetables	Roast gammon, potatoes and vegetables	Chicken curry, 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:  
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

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>James.C</b> <b>Ava</b> <b>Ursula</b></p>
<p><b>Star of the Week</b></p> 	<p><b>Theo</b> <b>Maggie</b> <b>Jacob.L</b></p>
<p><b>Reading</b></p> 	<p><b>Charlie</b></p>
<p><b>Writing</b></p> 	<p><b>Bella</b></p>
<p><b>Lunchtime</b></p> 	<p><b>Jacob.L</b></p>
<p><b>Headteacher's</b></p> 	<p><b>Bella</b> <b>Zara</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.

## 10 Top Tips for Respect Online: INSPIRING CHILDREN TO BUILD A BETTER DIGITAL WORLD

Our ability to communicate with anyone in the world, at any time, via the internet has grown at breakneck speed. For teachers and parents, it can feel impossible to keep up. Worrying about our young people is understandable, and not unjustified: in 2020, for example, one in five 10- to 15-year-olds experienced bullying online. Our tips highlight ways that adults can support young people's positive online behaviours: by adopting and following 'netiquette', we can show them how to avoid getting into difficulty as they learn to negotiate the continually evolving digital landscape.

### WHAT IS NETIQUETTE?

Just like etiquette is a set of rules which guides and governs our interactions with others in everyday life, netiquette – etiquette on the net – is the framework which helps inform how we communicate with people **online**. The rules of engagement often aren't the same as a face-to-face meeting, so it's important that we can accurately 'read' situations in the digital world and know how to act appropriately.

### 1 ACCEPT DIFFERENT RULES

A lot of our interaction with others is helped by non-verbal signals like body language and facial expressions. Online, of course, many of these clues are missing. Talk to your child about why this makes misunderstandings more likely to occur in the digital world and why keeping in mind that online communication is a very different process can help to prevent difficulties from arising.

### 2 PRESS 'PAUSE'

It's so easy to do things quickly online that most people (adults included) habitually send or respond to messages without considering the consequences. Pushing 'the pause button' buys a young person some time while they ponder the golden rule: "Would I still say this if the other person was right front of me?" You could practise this with your child on some made-up tricky situations.

### 3 THE INTERNET IS ADDICTIVE

Apps and sites use sophisticated algorithms and clever marketing to keep us engaged, while notifications to our devices are designed to draw us back in. It's no wonder that people continually return to the digital world, sometimes spending long periods of time there. You and your child could trial turning off notifications on certain apps and instead agree a time to check for updates manually.

### 4 BEWARE THE DARK SIDE

Getting a hurtful or unhelpful comment on social media or in a group chat can make the recipient feel publicly shamed. That's painful for anyone – but especially for a young person whose status in a group is integral to their sense of identity. Encourage your child to think about the best and safest way to send a message; for example, doing it as a private message rather than a public post.

### 5 HARMFUL INTERACTIONS

Unfortunately, it's very easy to send a hurtful message or to spread gossip and rumours online. We all know this happens regularly. Not having to deal with actually seeing the other person's distress usually doesn't help people to make a positive decision in the moment. It's important that trusted adults help children to visualise the potential consequences and have empathy for others.

### 6 APPRECIATE DIFFERENCES

We're all built differently; some people are simply more emotionally sensitive than others. Young people can be particularly affected by negative online communication, such as group shaming. Even a single message (which might seem trivial at face value) can cause deep anguish. Trusted adults should be prepared to be patient and listen to any difficulties their child might have had online.

### 7 ACCENTUATED ANXIETY

Young people's online lives create a lot of anxiety. Messages go into a 'black hole' until someone responds, there are more reasons to compare ourselves negatively, and social media can make us feel like we're missing out. Encourage activities such as sports and hobbies to balance this out, and remember that merely blocking out thoughts (by gaming, for instance) isn't the same as relaxation.

### 8 PRO-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

A huge positive for the internet is how it helps people to feel connected and makes being kind and helpful easy to spread. When young people get involved in pro-social behaviours online, it creates a positive feedback loop which makes them feel good. Show your child examples of when you've done or said something positive online, and praise and encourage them when they do the same.

### 9 BE A GOOD ROLE MODEL

One of the best things we can do as trusted adults is to role model positive online behaviour. Just letting your child see that you know when it's time to put your phone away and do something more productive can set a strong example. Some families set aside particular times of the week (such as mealtimes or a family walk) where digital devices aren't allowed and conversation takes precedence.

### 10 SHOW COMPASSION

Mistakes can feel much bigger online, because they're so public. If a young person does or says something regrettable on the internet, it's important to support them to forgive themselves, learn any lessons and move forward positively. Even as adults, we can often stumble when learning how things work in the fast-moving digital world, so it's important to have compassion for ourselves, too.

### Meet Our Expert

Dr Carole Francis-Smith is an experienced counselling psychologist who, through her research, specialises in promoting safe and ethical online communications. She consults with businesses and organisations to support positive and effective communication online, often by considering some of the more hidden aspects of the mediums.



#WakeUpWednesday

# 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.***

## Wraparound Care – Online Bookings.



Bookings for Wraparound Care 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.

# Autumn Term Trips.



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

**Cost: £13 - payable on ParentPay due 9<sup>th</sup> December.  
£5 deposit is now overdue – please pay as soon as possible.**

**Thankyou to those who already have.**

*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: **Come Along!**  
Leek First School, **Every Monday**  
East Street, **from 6pm - 7pm**  
ST13 6LF **(Excluding School Holidays)**

For More Information,  
Please Contact Our Secretary Sally

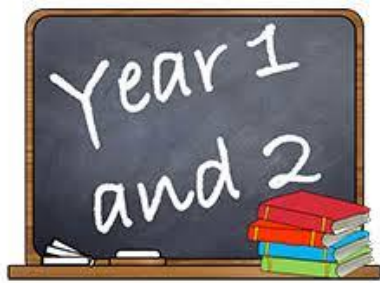
07947450596  
YP@PHOENIXSINGERSLEEK.CO.UK  
@YOUNGPHOENIXSINGERS



Registered Charity  
No. 1092542

# 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.



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 is now overdue – please pay as soon as possible.**

**Thankyou to those who already have.**

### **St Leonard's Nativity 2024.**

Parts have been given and children should of brought their scripts home (if needed) to rehearse lines and we are sure the budding stars have been singing the songs and tapping their feet!



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.**

If you have nativity costumes which are no longer of any use at home please send them into school to be reused where possible.

Mrs Crooks will be beginning to collect costumes together in the coming weeks at school so please feel free to ask if we have any of use before buying.



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

Applications are now **OPEN** online for Reception and Year 5. 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.



## 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.

## Remembrance Service



*“At the going down of the sun and in the morning. We will remember them.”*

Thankyou to all who joined us on Thursday for the Remembrance Service, as always, the children were fantastic, they read the prayers and reading beautifully, and their behaviour was outstanding – well done children!



**Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> November**

Remembrance Service at Ipstones Church 10.50am.

Children In Need – Friday 15<sup>th</sup> November



Children are welcome to come dressed 'Spotty and Sporty' on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> November for a £1 donation for Children in Need.