



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


Friday 13th January 2023

'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

Monday 16 th January 2023	Full uniform
Tuesday 17 th January 2023	Full uniform
Wednesday 18 th January 2023 Welly Wednesday 	Welly Wednesday PE kit Mrs Crooks - 9.30 - 1.00pm - Safeguarding training
Thursday 19 th January 2023	Full uniform Census day
Friday 20 th January 2023	PE kit

Your lunch menu for the 16th January 2023 - 20th January 2023

Monday 16 th January	Tuesday 17 th January	Wednesday 18 th January	Thursday 19 th January	Friday 20 th January
Pizza, potato wedges, carrots and peas	Chicken Korma, peas and green beans	Roast chicken, mashed and roasted potatoes, carrots and cabbage	American theme day Burger and chips, sweetcorn and beans 	Fish fingers, chips, beans and peas
Ice cream	Flapjack	Jelly and custard	Ice cream	Chocolate biscuit

Star Awards



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

Headteacher's Award	Charlie, Sophie F
Star of the Week Sparks	Darcy
Star of the Week Flickers	Charlie
Star of the week Flames	Eva
Spark to a flame Sparks Class	Zara
Spark to a flame Flickers Class	Sophie W
Spark to a flame Flames Class	Nina
Mrs Amos award	Darcy
Cook's Award	Dottie
Pe Award	Eleanor F, Eleanor B, Harriet, Sophie W, Kallum, Dylan

Back to school advice issued amid high levels of flu, COVID-19 and scarlet fever

As pupils have now all returned to school following the Christmas break, UKHSA is reminding people that winter illnesses continue to circulate at high levels.

Following simple steps can help protect children, minimise the spread of illness in education and childcare settings and protect wider communities.

Flu and coronavirus (COVID-19) are currently circulating at high levels and are likely to continue to increase in coming weeks.

High numbers of scarlet fever, which is caused by group A streptococcus, also continue to be reported. Professor Susan Hopkins, Chief Medical Adviser at the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA), said:

"It's important to minimise the spread of infection in schools and other education and childcare settings as much as possible. If your child is unwell and has a fever, they should stay home from school or nursery until they feel better and the fever has resolved. Helping children to learn about the importance of good hand hygiene is also key, so practice regular handwashing at home with soap and warm water. Catching coughs and sneezes in tissues then binning them is another simple way to help stop illness from spreading. Adults should also try to stay home when unwell and if you do have to go out, wear a face covering. When unwell don't visit healthcare settings or visit vulnerable people unless urgent. Remember that flu vaccination is still available for all eligible groups and is the best protection against the virus. We have seen good uptake in older age groups but vaccination among young children remains low. Flu can be very unpleasant and in some cases can lead to more serious illness. Getting your child vaccinated protects them and others they come into contact with, and it's still not too late."

Eligible children include:

- those aged 2 and 3 on 31 August 2022
- all primary school-aged children
- some secondary school-aged children You can get more information getting your child vaccinated against flu on NHS.UK.



September 2023 admissions

If you have a child who is due to start in Reception class in September 2023 please note that the admissions process will close on 15th January 2023.

School Admissions do not issue application forms as the service is keen to provide a paperless system in all its admissions processes wherever possible.

All applications should be made on-line via the Staffordshire County Council website. Staffordshire County Council will offer places on 17th April 2023.



Thank you

We would like to say thank you to the elderly community of Ipstones who have kindly donated their Froth Blowers gifts to the school. With these generous donations Mr Brightman can continue to provide a fabulous STEM after school club with the resources he needs.

We hope to hold an auction hosted by Mr Gene Goldstraw, froth blower auctioneer extraordinaire, in the near future.

More information will follow when a date has been set.

Another thank you goes out to the trustees who very kindly paid for the hire of the Memorial Hall where we held our Nativity in December.



School website survey

Thank you to all who have completed the school website survey. Your feedback is important to us and we will endeavour to adapt any necessary changes. If you haven't already and would like to complete the questionnaire follow this link;

<https://forms.office.com/e/8ZNWdZCXn2>



Christmas trees

Thank you so much to Harriet's mum and dad who have donated ten Christmas trees to the school to use on Welly Wednesdays. We have received trees also from other families so many thanks to them too!

The children use the branches and foliage for all sorts of activities including making dens, making stick figures and setting up camps.



We are looking for a team of girls and boys aged 3-12 to support our Leek Carnival and Leek & Moorlands Queen and Royalty

Help keep this longstanding Leek tradition going.

We are looking for a team of girls and boys aged 3-12 years to support our Leek Carnival and Leek & Moorlands Queen and Royalty during their reign as attendants, Rosebud, Petal, Princess, Prince and Junior Queens.

This is open to all children in Leek and surrounding Staffordshire Moorlands area.

Attending local competitions around Staffordshire and Derbyshire and most importantly helping to fundraise for local charities.

Please contact leekcarnival@gmail.com for further information and details

The poster features several photographs of children in royal costumes, a large crown graphic, and Union Jack flags. The background is decorated with colorful streamers and stars.

After school club

This week in after school club Mr Walker taught the children how to play crazy golf.

He set up an obstacle course for them to tackle which they found challenging but enjoyable!



A special commendation!

A special commendation this week for Charlie whose pencil sketch of a sheep's skull was absolutely amazing! Mrs Goldstraw was so impressed with the detail and the shading that she took Charlie round to each class to show off his fabulous art work!

Well done Charlie!



Dates for the diary

Spring Term 2023

Census Day - Thursday 19th January

Term ends - Friday 17th February

Term starts - Monday 27th February

Year 3 and 4 - Bikeability - Thursday 2nd March

Mother's Day activity and tea afternoon Thursday 16th March

Term ends - Friday 31st March

Easter holidays - Monday 3rd April - Friday 14th April

Summer Term

Term starts - Monday 17th April

May Day - 1st May

Coronation celebration at Manifold Primary School - Friday 5th May

King's Coronation bank holiday - Monday 8th May

Term ends - Friday 26th May

Term starts - Monday 5th June

Term ends - Friday 21st July

The list of dates is not exhaustive at this time of the year . We will, of course, keep you up to date.



World of Warcraft originally launched way back in 2004, and since then the game has blossomed into a major entertainment property. It's spawned spin-off novels, merchandise and even a Hollywood movie adaptation ... but why are we still talking about it in 2023? World of Warcraft's most recent iteration, Dragonflight, launched last November and marks the game's ninth major expansion. This latest addition has attracted a whole host of lapsed players back to the game - as well as newcomers jumping into the realm of Azeroth for the first time.

In the guide, you'll find tips on a number of potential risks such as the potential for online addiction, in-game purchases and simulated violence.

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 game 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 OF WORLD WARCRAFT

AGE RESTRICTION
12+

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

World of Warcraft originally launched way back in 2004, and since then the game has blossomed into a major entertainment property. It's spawned spin-off novels, merchandise and even a Hollywood movie adaptation ... but why are we still talking about it in 2023? World of Warcraft's most recent iteration, Dragonflight, launched last November and marks the game's ninth major expansion. This latest addition has attracted a whole host of lapsed players back to the game - as well as newcomers jumping into the realm of Azeroth for the first time.

ALWAYS ONLINE

World of Warcraft is an MMORPG, which stands for Massively Multiplayer Online Role-Playing Game. Players create a character and head off on mythical quests to earn rewards and become more powerful. The game's environment is absolutely vast, and it can only be played online on PC or Mac - so there's a high probability of young Warcraft fans wanting to monopolise the family computer.

REGULAR EXPANSIONS

As is common with many MMORPGs, World of Warcraft's developers, Blizzard, release regular expansions for the game (usually every 18 months to two years). So although there's still plenty of content for young players to experience right now, there will almost inevitably be a requirement to continue buying future expansion packs, which tend to cost around £50.

IN-GAME PURCHASES AND SUBSCRIPTIONS

Just like its genre contemporary Final Fantasy XIV, World of Warcraft requires a monthly subscription fee to play. It's currently £9.99 per month (although you can get it cheaper by signing up to a longer subscription). There are also many items which can be purchased from the in-game store that don't affect gameplay, but instead offer cosmetic alterations to a player's character.

VOICE AND TEXT CHAT

Because World of Warcraft is played exclusively on PCs and Macs, it's easy for users to type out text messages if they aren't comfortable using voice chat. If you'll forgive the pun, that's a double-edged sword because - although there's less chance of them being harassed verbally - it puts young players at increased risk of being trolled or receiving spam through the in-game messaging function.

SIMULATED VIOLENCE

The fact that World of Warcraft is almost 20 years old means that even its most violent battles look slightly cartoonish compared with the level of authenticity in many more modern games. The exception tends to be Warcraft's in-game cutscenes: animated sections which move the plot onto the next stage. These offer more realistic visuals, but they still aren't overly gory or scary.

POTENTIAL FOR ADDICTION

World of Warcraft can trigger a powerful "just one more quest" mentality in players (especially young ones) as they rush to secure the next dopamine hit from levelling their character up or earning a new item or weapon. It's also a game that doesn't have a definite "end" - because as soon as a player finishes levelling up one character, they can start afresh with another one.

Advice for Parents & Carers

MANAGE PLAYTIME

World of Warcraft can be an extremely enjoyable game to play with friends, but it's important that your child doesn't let their adventures crowd out school work, socialising or anything else they also enjoy. You could, for example, consider imposing playtime limits - such as a set number of hours to play Warcraft per week, or restricting it to particular days or just weekends.

MAKE IT A REWARD

If your child is excited about getting the next World of Warcraft expansion, you could consider using it as a reward for completing their weekly tasks (you could even call them "quests") like tidying their room or doing their homework. This will demonstrate that you're happy for them to play the game but will also help them to build good, productive habits, reinforcing that hard work earns rewards.

SIGN UP FOR THE FREE TRIAL

Warcraft's monthly subscription effectively "pays" for the regular new content, but there's also a sizeable free trial that lets new players explore the world of Azeroth without paying a penny. Players can play up until Level 20 for free, which is easily several hours' worth of gameplay. If your child does take this option, we'd suggest minimising in-game spending by not linking a bank card to their account.

REMEMBER THE AGE RATING

Due to mild violence and the occasional use of offensive language, World of Warcraft has been rated as appropriate for players aged 12 and over by PEGI (the Pan-European Game Information system, which gives games their age certificate). It isn't really suitable for anyone below that age, so you may potentially have to explain this reasoning to your younger children if they want to play it.

ADVENTURE TOGETHER

Warcraft can certainly be addictive, but playing it together is also a great way to spend time with your child. The game's focus on cooperative questing and battling enemies can make it feel like you've accomplished something as a team, and you'll also be in a prime position to spot any early signs of addiction. Just remember to apply gaming time limits to yourself as well as your young ones!

Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Goombes is Games Editor of technology and entertainment website Dexerto and has been working in the gaming media for three years. A long-time gaming enthusiast, he is also a parent and therefore a keen advocate of online safety. Writing mainly about tech and fitness, his articles have also been published on influential sites including iGEM and TechRadar, among others.

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Source: <https://www.theguardian.com/technology/2021/aug/29/world-of-warcraft-video-game-addict> <https://worldofwarcraft.com/en-us/start>

www.nationalonlinesafety.com @natonlinesafety /NationalOnlineSafety @nationalonlinesafety

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 11.01.2023

Online Safety

It has recently been in the news about an eleven year old girl being groomed despite having parental controls set up, regularly read messages and their apps checked regularly.

It happened through Spotify, an app without direct messaging but this is how the communication is happening.

People are creating empty playlists with the title being the message they want to send.

They can then share the playlist with the intended recipient.

The recipient replies by doing the same.

You can set up your own photographs as the play list as artwork and thumbnail.

This is all public. This is not private messages.

Through this very public channel a child has been asked to share some very explicit photographs of herself.

She was also asked for her phone number and email.

Thankfully Spotify deleted the account for breaching policy which is how the parents were notified. The police have been involved and a specialised team are involved. Spotify have been alerted to the fact that this is happening.

Both the police and Spotify had not come across grooming on this platform before.



Sparks

Sparks class have been reading the book "The Cave".

"There is a cave.

A cave that is home to a creature.

A creature that never leaves its cave...

Because of a wolf!"

The wolf tries everything to get the creature to leave the cave, to no avail. But what will happen when he's finally successful?

Sparks have made caves with googly eyes to recreate the cave in the book. They have decorated salt dough doughnuts with paint and sprinkles. This is the surprise that finally lured out the creature from the cave.



Flickers

This week in RE the children have been learning about forgiveness.

They learned that when people forgive, they are kind to those who are not kind to them. When people forgive, they try to show respect to those who have not shown respect to them. When people forgive, they try to be generous to those who have not been generous to them.

They learned "Why is it important to forgive?"

Forgiving others can help us to move on and feel at peace within ourselves. Forgiving someone doesn't always mean that we keep the person in our lives after they've wronged us; you can decide that they are not someone you want to be close to you and forgive them, but let them go. In other situations, you may forgive a person and want to keep a friendship with them. This has to be decided on a case by case basis and whatever is best for you.

They drew their own forgiving fingers pictures;



Flames

Here are Flames Ice Age versions of hunters in the snow. They used a mixture of paints, watercolour, acrylic and poster paint to achieve the different effects for different parts of the picture.

In Maths they measured parts of their bodies and recorded them in cm and mm.

