



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

Friday 28th January 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)

Headteacher: Mrs Kelly Stanesby Designated safeguarding lead: Mrs Kelly Stanesby, Deputy safeguarding leads: Mrs Julie Amos and Miss Torr Chair of Governors Mr Matthew Welton

Weekly Diary

Monday 31 st January 2022	Full uniform
Tuesday 1 st February 2022 Chinese New Year	Full uniform Mrs Stanesby - Safer recruitment training - AM Miss Torr - Online Safety training - All day
Wednesday 2 nd February 2022 Welly Wednesday 	Welly Wednesday all day, all pupils - Clothing suitable for PE
Thursday 3 rd February 2022	Full uniform
Friday 4 th February 2022 Fitness Friday	PE kit all day, all pupils

Your lunch menu for the 31st January 2022 - 4th February January 2022

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Macaroni cheese, carrots and sweetcorn	Sausage, mash and gravy with peas and broccoli	Roast chicken, mash, roast potatoes, carrots and cabbage	Lasagne, garlic bread, green beans and sweetcorn	Fish fingers, chips, peas or beans
Flapjack	Shortbread	Sponge	Chocolate brownie	Ice cream

Star Awards



This week's star awards go to everyone in school this week.

This week has been mainly about resilience and survival due to the number of teachers and children being off, poorly with Covid.

This could have been very disruptive for the children but as usual they have kept calm and carried on!
Well Done!

It has also been a busy busy week for the teachers so a huge well done also to them for ensuring a seamless learning experience for the children in challenging circumstances.

Sparks class have been making "Get Well Soon" cards for their friends to cheer them up so thank you to them for being so thoughtful.

We wish everyone a speedy recovery and can't wait to see you back in school when you're better.



Covid Update

At St Leonard's we believe it's important we stay focused and vigilant as we do continue to see Covid cases popping up. As a school we are still being very careful in terms of how we approach things to try and reduce the risk of transmission as much as possible because we know how disruptive testing and isolations can be for you at home. Whilst it is good to hear of the potential for fewer national statutory restrictions being in place, it is important that as a school we will be following local guidelines and these may remain more stringent than the national guidelines, especially as case numbers continue to be high in the Staffordshire Moorlands. With two members of staff now Covid positive and three families affected also vigilance is even more important. We have been in contact with the Local Outbreak Team to update them on the current situation and at present they have advised not to step up to the next level of measures. In the meantime staff will be wearing masks and would be grateful if parents did too at pick up and drop off time. We ask also that you continue to lateral flow test your children regularly. We will always update you with any changes as soon as we have the guidance to pass on. Please bear with us.

Thank you



Flu vaccinations

We have had a few queries this week regarding children's flu vaccinations. We would like to reassure parents that if you gave consent for your child to have their flu vaccination/nasal spray, in school, and they were in school that day, they have had it, so there is no need to go to the doctors. Apparently, the NHS site has not been brought up to date, due to COVID issues.

If you do wish to speak to the school immunisation team to double check you can call them on

0300 124 0366

or email;

school.immunisation@mpft.nhs.uk



Happy Birthday

Happy birthday to Oscar who celebrates his birthday this week.

Have a great time Oscar.



Squid Game

This week at break time a some of the children were talking about Squid Game and re-enacting some scenes.

The show itself features some scenes of brutal violence and is rated a 15.

Please may we ask that you keep a watchful eye on the content your children are viewing as it has consequences when brought in to school.

Many Thanks



Free school meals

Apply for Free School Meals by clicking on the link below. Your child could benefit from free lunches for the duration of their Primary years, support with trips and events, plus much needed additional funding for the school. It only takes a minute to complete!

<https://apps2.staffordshire.gov.uk/web/fsmweb/>

We encourage all parents from Reception to Year 4 to apply.

Could your child be entitled to a
FREE school meal?



Winter Olympics

The Winter Olympics will be held at Beijing, China, with the opening ceremony on 4th February and the closing ceremony on 20th February.

There will be lots of exciting sports to watch including:



Luge



Nordic Combined



Short Track Speed Skating



Skeleton



Ski Jumping



Snowboard



Speed Skating



Alpine Skiing



Biathlon



Bobsleigh



Cross-Country Skiing



Curling



Figure Skating



Freestyle Skiing



Ice Hockey

Check out the you tube clip below to give you all the cool kids facts about the Winter Olympics

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FPdKq-MXQIk>



Chinese New Year

The children will be learning about The Chinese New Year this week.

This year is the year of the tiger.

Did you know?

- Chinese New Year falls on a different day each year.
The date is usually worked out by the "New Moon". This is when there is a new lunar cycle and is the first phase of the moon when the moon when it is a crescent.
- It is also known as "The Spring Festival" because it signals the start of Spring and celebrates the start of a new life.
- In China each year is linked with a different animal. The Chinese calendar goes in a cycle of 12 years and each year is symbolised by a different animal. It is believed that if you are born in a particular year then you will have some of the characteristics of that animal.
- The celebrations last for 15 days and end when there is a full moon with a lantern festival.
- "Guo Nian Hao" means "Happy New Year!"
- Children receive red envelopes with money inside them instead of gifts.
- Chinese New Year ends with a lantern festival which represents reconciliation, peace and forgiveness.
- Before the celebration it is tradition to spring clean the home to get rid of bad luck.
- Lion and dragon dances are very popular as it is believed they bring good fortune to the local area. During these dances you hear lots of loud drums which is believed to drive all bad luck and spirits away.
- Fireworks are set off at midnight. There is a beast called Nian who doesn't like loud noises or fire so these are to scare the beast off!



YouTube is a video sharing social media platform that allows billions of people around the world to watch, share and upload their videos with a vast range of content, including sport, entertainment, education and lots more. It's a superb space for people to consume content that they're interested in. As a result, this astronomically popular platform has a huge social impact influencing online culture on a global scale and creating new celebrities.

In this guide you will find tips on a potential number of risks such as connecting with strangers, inappropriate content and high visibility.

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 apps that 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 YOUTUBE

YouTube is a video-sharing social media platform that allows billions of people around the world to watch, share and upload their own videos with a vast range of content – including sport, entertainment, education and lots more. It's a superb space for people to consume content that they're interested in. As a result, this astronomically popular platform has had a huge social impact: Influencing online culture on a global scale and creating new celebrities.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

YouTube is free and can be accessed via numerous devices, even without creating a YouTube account. Some content is flagged as 'age-restricted' (requiring the user to be logged into an account with a verified age of 18), but children can still view some mildly inappropriate material. This can include profanity and violence, which some young users may find upsetting.

HIGH VISIBILITY

Content creators can also be put at risk – especially young ones who try to make their online presence as visible as possible. Creating and uploading content exposes children to potential harassment and toxicity from the comments section, along with the possibility of direct messaging from strangers. Videos posted publicly can be watched by anyone in the world.

CONNECT WITH STRANGERS

YouTube is a social media platform which allows people to interact with other (usually unknown) users. Account holders can leave comments on any video they have access to, as well as messaging other users directly. Connecting with strangers online, of course, can potentially lead to children being exposed to adult language, to cyberbullying and even to encountering online predators.

TRENDS AND CHALLENGES

YouTube is teeming with trends, challenges and memes that are fun to watch and join in with. Children often find these immensely entertaining and might want to try them out. Most challenges tend to be safe, but many others may harm children through either watching or copying. The painful 'salt and ice challenge', which can cause injuries very quickly, is just one of many such examples.

SUGGESTED CONTENT

YouTube recommends videos related to what the user has previously watched on their account, aiming to provide content that will interest them. This is intended to be helpful but can also lead to binge-watching and the risk of screen addiction, especially if 'auto-play' is activated. Users without an account are shown popular videos from the last 24 hours, which might not always be suitable for children.

SNEAKY SCAMMERS

Popular YouTube channels regularly have scammers posing as a well-known influencer in the comments section, attempting to lure users into clicking on their phishing links. Scammers impersonate YouTubers by adopting their names and profile images, and sometimes offer cash gifts or 'get rich quick' schemes. Children may not realise that these users are not who they claim to be.

Advice for Parents & Carers

APPLY RESTRICTED MODE

Restricted Mode is an optional setting that prevents YouTube from showing inappropriate content (such as drug and alcohol abuse, graphic violence and sexual situations) to underage viewers. To prevent your child from chancing across age-inappropriate content on the platform, we would recommend enabling Restricted Mode on each device that your child uses to access YouTube.

TRY GOOGLE FAMILY

Creating a Google Family account allows you to monitor what your child is watching, uploading and sharing with other users. It will also display their recently watched videos, searches and recommended videos. In general, a Google Family account gives you an oversight of how your child is using sites like YouTube and helps you ensure they are only accessing appropriate content.

CHECK PRIVACY SETTINGS

YouTube gives users the option of uploading videos as 'private' or 'unlisted' – so they could be shared exclusively with family and friends, for example. Comments on videos can also be disabled and channels that your child is subscribed to can be hidden. If your child is only uploading videos that are protected as 'private', they are far less likely to receive direct messages from strangers.

CHECK OTHER PLATFORMS

Influential content creators usually have other social media accounts which they encourage their fans to follow. Having an open discussion about this with your child makes it easier to find out how else they might be following a particular creator online. It also opens up avenues for you to check out that creator's other channels to see what type of content your child is being exposed to.

MONITOR ENGAGEMENT

YouTube is the online viewing platform of choice for billions of people, many of them children. Younger children will watch different content to older ones, of course, and react to content differently. You may want to keep an eye on how your child interacts with content on YouTube – and, if applicable, with content creators – to understand the types of videos they are interested in.

LIMIT SPENDING

Although YouTube is free, it does offer some in-app purchases: users can rent and buy TV shows and movies to watch, for example. If you're not comfortable with your child purchasing content online, limit their access to your bank cards and online payment methods. Many parents have discovered to their cost that a child happily devouring a paid-for series quickly leads to an unexpected bill!

Meet Our Expert

Claire Godwin (a.k.a. Lunawolf) has worked as an editor and journalist in the gaming industry since 2015, providing websites with event coverage, reviews and gaming guides. She is the owner of Lunawolf Gaming and is currently working on various gaming-related projects including game development and writing non-fiction books.

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NSPCC - Speak out, stay safe

The NSPCC have launched this year's speak out, stay safe programme.

Speak out, stay safe is a safeguarding programme aimed at children between the ages of 5-11 years old. It helps children understand abuse in all forms and to recognise the signs of abuse in a child friendly way. Children are taught to speak out if they are worried leaving the children feeling empowered, knowing they can speak out and stay safe.

Childline under 12's website

Childline have a website with age appropriate advice for primary school children on topics such as bullying. It also has games and other interactive tools. You can visit it at;

www.childline.org.uk/kids

Talking PANTS

Talking PANTS with your children is a simple conversation to help keep your child safe from sexual abuse. From P through to S, each letter of PANTS provides a simple but valuable rule that can keep your child safe.

Talking PANTS with your children is a simple but valuable rule that can help keep your child safe.

You can find out more and download free resources at

www.nspcc.org.uk/pants





11 A.M.

• ST. LEONARD'S CHURCH •

Sunday 6th February , 2022

Birds of the air

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

Sparks

This week Sparks have been making their own fire engine and ambulance out of ginormous cardboard boxes to enjoy in their role play.

We apologise for the Red Hand Gang that came home on Thursday evening! However they had lots of fun doing it.

Who needs toys when there are cardboard boxes to play with?!

They were also working hard to learn their phonics.

They had finger lights to point at their letters and sounds which made for exciting learning.



Flickers

Flickers class have been recreating a picture of "Endurance", Ernest Shackleton's ship using a pop art style influenced by the 1960's pop artist, Ray Lichtenstein. They copied an old picture from many years ago and made their own modern version.



Flames

Flames class have been finishing off their sculptures of animals worshipped by different civilisations using recycled materials.

They look great!



They also donned their lab coats for their latest Science lesson studying solids, liquids and gases.



Dates for the diary

There have been a few updates to diary dates from the LEP (Leek Education Partnership) who have advised of additional inset days and a change to the end of term date.

Tuesday 1st February - Chinese New Year

Friday 4th February - Winter Olympics begin

Tuesday 8th February - Safer internet day

Thursday 17th February - Dress up as a Super hero day

Friday 18th February - Break up for half term

Monday 28th February - INSET day

Tuesday 1st March - Children back in school after half term

Tuesday 1st March - Pancake Day

Thursday 3rd March - World Book Day

Sunday 27th March - Mother's Day

For future reference **Monday 6th June 2022** is also an INSET day and the last day of term is **Tuesday 19th July 2022**.

