



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

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> September 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 23rd September 2024	School Uniform
Tuesday 24th September 2024	School Uniform  Sparks Class – Stay & Play 9am-10am (Please let Mrs Crooks know if you can attend.)
Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> September 2024 Welly Wednesday	PE Kit
Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> September 2024	School Uniform
Friday 27th September 2024	PE Kit  Mr Simpson (Churnet View Middle School PE Lead) in to deliver a PE session with Flames Class.

### Your lunch menu for the 23rd Septmber – 27<sup>th</sup> September

Monday 16th Sept	Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Wednesday 18th Sept	Thursday 19th Sept	Friday 20th Sept
Pizza, wedges and vegetables	Sausage and Mash with vegetables	Roast Chicken, potatoes and vegetables	Savoury Mince and Rice, with vegetables	Fish fingers & Chips, Beans or Peas
Shortbread	Sponge	Jelly	Flapjack	Ice Cream

# Miss Milward and Poppy!



On Thursday we had a lovely visit from Miss Milward and Poppy. All the children were very excited to see them both and everyone thought Poppy was gorgeous and the staff enjoyed having a cuddle with Poppy. Poppy wasn't fazed by the noises in school and even fell asleep whilst the children were talking to her!

We hope to see Poppy again very soon.



# 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. 1055174

## Well Done!



A big 'Well Done' to Jack for completing stage 2 at skating and is now working towards stage 3!

# Term Dates 2024 – 2025

Autumn Term:

Term starts: Weds 4<sup>th</sup> Sept 2024

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:

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

W/C: Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> Sept: Design & Technology week in school

Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> Sept: EYFS Stay & Play for parent's 9am – 10am

Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> Oct: St Leonards Open Day

Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> Oct: Flu Vaccinations – more information to follow

Friday 11<sup>th</sup> Oct: PSHE Enrichment Day – Friendship

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

Thurs 7<sup>th</sup> Nov: Parents Consultations

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

Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> October: Twycross Zoo

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

*Please note that some dates may change.*





# National Online Safety

At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit [nationalcollege.com](https://nationalcollege.com).

## What Parents & Educators Need to Know about FINAL FANTASY XIV

### WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

The video game Final Fantasy XIV launched in 2010, and, despite being critically panned, it saw an overhaul that has made it one of the biggest success stories in gaming. Its huge world, epic story and versatile combat system have continued to draw in new players, but there's a lot that trusted adults need to be aware of – not least the cost of paying monthly to play.

AGE RESTRICTION  
PEGI  
16

### ALWAYS ONLINE

Final Fantasy XIV is an MMORPG, which stands for Massively Multiplayer Online Role-Playing Game. Much like World of Warcraft, players create a character in a chosen class and level up by completing quests to gain power and items. The game requires a constant internet connection, whether you're playing on PC, Mac, PlayStation or Xbox, and there's no option to play offline.

### REGULAR EXPANSIONS

As with similar titles in the genre, players can purchase expansions to unlock additional content for the game. Those without the expansions will be locked out of certain new quests and activities, meaning that young people who play regularly will potentially have the next release earmarked on their calendar, ready to buy it as soon as possible.

### IN-GAME PURCHASES & SUBSCRIPTION FEE

Users need to pay £8.99 per month to play Final Fantasy XIV, but there is a free trial. If someone stops paying, they'll lose access to their character (although they'll be able to pick up the payments again and resume where they left off). If a player forgets to cancel their payments, however, those subscription fees will continue rolling on automatically.

### VOICE & TEXT CHAT

Final Fantasy XIV lets players send chat messages in-game or speak to each other over voice chat. On the one hand, that provides plenty of choice for how those enjoying the game can interact with their fellow fans. On the other hand, however, it's easier than in many games to receive unprompted messages from a stranger, with whom you constantly share your play space.

### VIOLENCE

While Final Fantasy XIV has a fairly light tone throughout some of its quests, many involve killing enemies and sometimes even wild animals. The violence isn't especially strong – more comparable to a cartoon or anime style – but the act alone may make some children feel uncomfortable, if they're not yet able to separate fictional harm from the real kind.

### POTENTIAL FOR ADDICTION

As with World of Warcraft, there's an element of addiction to Final Fantasy XIV. The gameplay loop can be quite engrossing, as minutes turn into hours and hours into days while playing alone or with friends. This can potentially lead to missing real-life events, a lack of interest in any activities not related to the game and procrastination around responsibilities like schoolwork.

FREE TRIAL

## Advice for Parents & Educators

### MANAGE PLAYTIME

Playtime limits are a great way to counter the addictive qualities of games like Final Fantasy XIV. They allow you discuss why it's still important to enjoy things outside of gaming while still letting a child enjoy playing online with their friends when it makes sense to do so. It's all well and good to have fun with a game, so long as they're able to step away and reconnect with the real world.

### PLAY TOGETHER

The free trial makes it extremely easy to jump into Final Fantasy XIV and play alongside a child, provided they're old enough. Not only does that help you ensure that settings are adjusted for their privacy and safety, but it may also end up becoming a bonding experience for you both and any other family members that want to try it out.

### MAKE USE OF THE FREE TRIAL

The Final Fantasy XIV free trial is a generous one, with no limits on how long someone can play until their character hits level 70. That's easily dozens of hours for a child to go through the game, complete quests, and see if they enjoy it before purchasing expansions or subscribing to a membership. They may well move on to something else before you need to spend so much as a penny.

### REMEMBER, IT'S A PEGI 16

Despite its often-relaxing nature, Final Fantasy XIV carries a PEGI 16 rating for violence and drugs (although the latter is due to a character smoking a pipe on occasion). There's minimal blood, but characters can attack enemies (and other players) with weapons and spells. Take a look at some gameplay videos to see if the content is appropriate for a younger player.

### Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is the Editor-in-Chief of GGRecon, and has been working in the gaming and tech industry for five years. A longtime fan of online games, he's also a parent, and therefore understands the importance of online safety. Writing mainly about tech and fitness, his work has previously been published at sites including IGN, TechRadar and plenty more.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/final-fantasy-14>



@wake\_up\_weds



/www.thenationalcollege



@wake.up.wednesday



@wake.up.weds

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# Charity Bike Ride!

SUNDAY 29<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER.

1 WEEK TO GO – A BIG thankyou to Mrs Falder for organising.



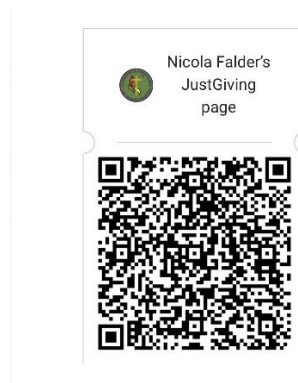
The (*now annual!!*) charity bike ride will happen this year on **Sunday 29th September.**

For those who weren't involved last time (but might be keen to this time!), the plan is to do a sponsored bike ride this time heading to the Tissington Trail.



We will again be raising funds for the school and will also raising money for the Oxford University Development Trust (funding vital research into encephalitis autoimmune disease at the Nuffield department of clinical neuroscience). This is in memory of Ezme's grandfather...a worthy cause I'm sure you'll all agree.

Participants can do as much or as little cycling as they like on the Tissington Trail but please can all who are keen bring a responsible adult along with them.



Scan the above QR code to donate.

Please let Eleanor Falder's mum (Nicola) know if you're interested on 07734448231 - let's see if we can raise over £2000 again!!



# Wraparound Care.

As always, we will try to be as flexible as possible to fit in with your family's needs. As of September, sessions will be charged at the following:

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

***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.**





## **NUT FREE SCHOOL!**

When sending packed lunches in with your child or a snack for morning snack time please remember we are a **'NUT FREE SCHOOL'** and morning snacks need to be an 'Healthy Option'.

## **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.







## Celebration awards.

<p><b>Spark to a Flame</b></p> 	<p><b>Seth</b> <b>Bella</b> <b>Annie</b></p>
<p><b>Star of the Week</b></p> 	<p><b>Stanley</b> <b>Autumn</b> <b>Harriet</b></p>
<p><b>Reading</b></p> 	<p><b>Dylan</b></p>
<p><b>Lunchtime</b></p> 	<p><b>Corah-Rae</b></p>
<p><b>Maths</b></p> 	<p><b>Eva</b></p>
<p><b>Headteacher's</b></p> 	<p><b>Eva</b> <b>Ursula</b></p>

# Autumn Term Trips.



**WEDNESDAY 23<sup>rd</sup> OCTOBER**

To support the children's learning of 'Paws, Claws, Whiskers and Wings'.  
We will be leaving school at 8.30am and returning at 5pm (traffic dependent). Children will need to be in school for 8.20am to allow a prompt departure.

Packed lunch is required and can be ordered from the kitchen (Reception, Y1 and Y2's can receive these free of cost). Please let Mrs Crooks know if you require a lunch via the office email or by filling in the form in reception - there will be a choice of ham or cheese sandwiches.

**Cost: £8 - payable on ParentPay.**



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

We will be departing school at 12noon and returning at 4.15pm. An early lunch will be provided before the children leave school.

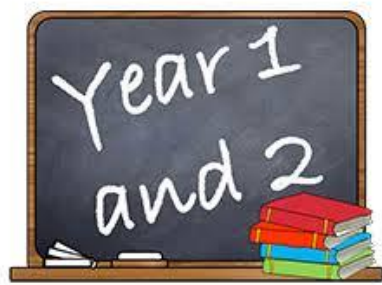
**Cost: £13 - payable on ParentPay.**

*After school club can still be available for both trips if required but please confirm you will require it with Mrs Crooks so she can confirm numbers with ASM.*

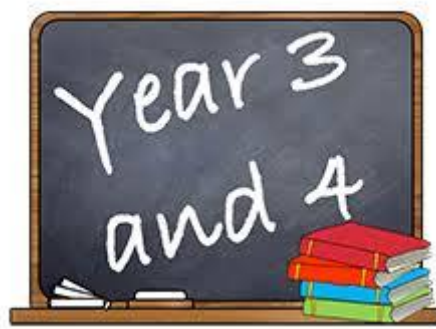
*Thankyou.*

# 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 using SeeSaw for year 3 and 4's spellings, but until this is up and running spellings will be coming home with your children in their bags.



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



Thankyou for your continued support.



## Free School Meals – (Reception – Year 4).



**Please apply online at gov.uk if you think you may be eligible:**

Your child may be able to get free school meals if you get any of the following:

- Income Support
- income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- the guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit - if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)

Children who get paid these benefits directly, instead of through a parent or guardian, can also get free school meals.

Your child may also get free school meals if you get any of these benefits and your child is both:

- younger than the [compulsory age for starting school](#)
- in full-time education

If your child is eligible for free school meals, they'll also qualify for the [Holiday Activity and Food Programme](#). Food vouchers may also be available through the [Household Support Fund](#). Find out more by [contacting your local council](#).

***By claiming 'Free School Meals' the school is also eligible to claim 'Pupil Premium' funding for your child:***

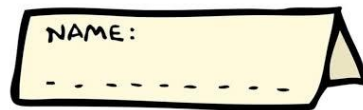
What is it for? The Pupil Premium grant is an amount per child, and it is intended that schools use this money to close the gap in attainment between pupils and their peers. This does not mean that each pupil directly receives the grant.; all spending decisions rest with the school.

**If you are unsure if you could claim please speak to Mrs Crooks.**

## HOUSEKEEPING.



- ✓ All uniform and bottles to be labelled with child's name – including coats.



- ✓ A pair of wellies to be brought every Wednesday for 'Welly Wednesday' – ideally to be left at school.



- ✓ If bringing own snack for morning break to be a 'healthy' snack and nut free.



- ✓ A suitable coat to be brought every day suitable for the days weather – as we like to be outside as much as possible.

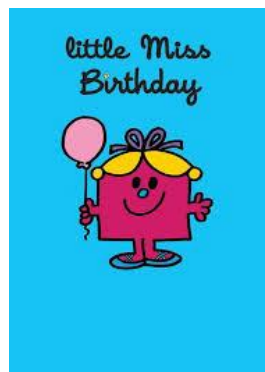


# Birthdays

Have a wonderful time celebrating!



This week birthday wishes go to:  
Miss Torr & Miss Milward (21 again!)



and Harriet AKA Strawbs!







## 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 [asmsports.co.uk](http://asmsports.co.uk)**  
 Call: 01782 366332 Email: [info@asmsports.co.uk](mailto:info@asmsports.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, Merlyn 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.asmsports.co.uk](http://www.asmsports.co.uk)  
 Email: [info@asmsports.co.uk](mailto:info@asmsports.co.uk)



## School Harvest Festival



This years School Harvest Festival will be taking place at St Leonard's Church on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> October at 11am.

All children are welcome to attend, please let Mrs Crooks know if you can as we will be giving out readings for the children to do through the service.

Any harvest donations are welcome on the day but if you are not able to attend and would still like to donate, please bring these to school by Friday 4<sup>th</sup> October.





## Welly Wednesday



On Welly Wednesday the children made 'Blobsters' with Mrs Goldstraw they listened to the story of 'Mama Africa'

"Once upon a time, Mama Africa was sitting all alone in the plains, dreaming and breathing, dreaming and breathing. There were no animals then, no insects buzzing around. No creepies crawling. No lions roaring. As the sun warmed the earth and the rains watered the land, all kinds of plants grew up around Mama Africa. She gazed at them in wonder.

One day Mama Africa pushed her strong hands down into the friendly earth and felt around. She felt something cool, moist and squidgy. When she pulled her hands back out she had some clay in them. She loved the clay and made all kinds of shapes from it. Into the clay she stuck different shaped parts from the plants around her - seeds, buds, branches and twigs. Onto the clay she pressed all kinds of colours and patterns from the plants and rocks.

After she had finished each creation, she put it in the sun to dry. When they were all dry, Mama Africa gave each of them a name and breathed on them. The clay figures came to life and went off to live amongst the plants, walking on the land, flying through blue skies and digging burrows into the earth. And that's how it came to be that all the animals and people came to live in Africa and some say, deep in the rainforest she is still there, making new creatures every day."

