



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

Friday 1st December 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 4 th December 2023	Full uniform 9.30 - Dress rehearsal at The Memorial Hall
Tuesday 5 th December 2023	Full uniform
Wednesday 6 th December 2023 Welly Wednesday 	Welly Wednesday PE kit
Thursday 7 th December 2023	Full uniform Christmas Show - Straw and Order - 6.00pm - 8.00pm.
Friday 8 th December 2023	PE kit

Your lunch menu for the 4th December 2023 - 8th December 2023

Monday 4 th December 2023	Tuesday 5 th December 2023	Wednesday 6 th December 2023	Thursday 7 th December 2023	Friday 8 th December 2023
Sausage and mash	Chicken and rice	Roast of the day, mashed and roasted potatoes	Pasta and bolognaise	Fish fingers, chips
Ice cream	Shortbread	Jelly	Banana custard	Chocolate shortbread

Happy Birthday

A very Happy Birthday to Ava who celebrates her birthday this weekend.

Have a lovely day Ava.



Well Done

Well done to Lily who donated gifts to The Dunelm Christmas Tree Appeal.

This appeal delivers gifts to people in the local community who may otherwise do without.

What a lovely thing to do Lily. I'm sure you will deliver happiness to many.



Advent service

Last Friday the children attended the Advent service at the church.

They lit the advent candle and read readings from the bible to celebrate the beginning of Advent and the wait for Jesus' birthday.

Thank you to all who attended.



Gloves

Mrs Walker has asked that all children bring in gloves for their outdoor PE lessons please.

Unless it's rainy or dangerous conditions Mr Walker likes to get the children outside as much as possible so in this current climate gloves will be an essential for the children.



Christmas tree blessing

On Tuesday we had a visit from Reverend Julie of the Methodist church.

Rev Julie held a service and talked about getting ready for Christmas. She handed out memory ribbons and the children thought about someone they may have lost. They hung the ribbons on the Christmas tree in memory of missed ones. There are more ribbons in the office foyer and we invite parents and families to add more to the tree in the run up to Christmas.

Thank you to Mrs Belfield and Mrs Crooks for decorating the tree. It looks lovely.



Breakfast Club

Here is a glimpse of some of the things the children get up to during breakfast club. They draw, they play, they talk and they get ready for the day with a drink and cereal or toast.

If you ever need to book your child in please contact Mrs Crooks. It is available from 7.30am.



Thank you

We are very lucky here at St Leonard's to have wonderful volunteers!

Mr Brightman has been coming into school for many many years. He runs Gardening club, STEM club and reads with the children each week.

Mrs Cluer visits every Thursday and reads with the children, also helping out on trips, art projects (as she is amazing at Art) and in the classroom.

We are very grateful for their time and the children love seeing them!

Thank you!



Welly Wednesday

Taking advantage of the weather this week the children have made an ice sculpture.

Following on from their art last week made from leaves, twigs and branches. They have mounted their natural resources in a tray and filled it with water and are watching it freeze, turning in to a beautiful icy art!



Attendance



Attendance target - 96%

This week's attendance -96%

Please remember to let the school know before 9.00am if your child will be absent from school.

If your child has suffered from sickness and/or diarrhoea, they must remain absent from school for 48 hours after the last time they were sick or had diarrhoea.

Wherever possible please try to arrange dentist and doctors' appointments out of school hours. We appreciate this is not always possible but it does affect your child's attendance.

Weekly attendance reports are produced and any persistent absences or a low attendance rate will result in communication from the school to ensure all is well and offer any assistance if required.

Thank you.

Christmas Show - Straw and Order - Thursday 7th December at 6pm

Thank you to all who have purchased tickets to the Christmas Show. We have a full house!

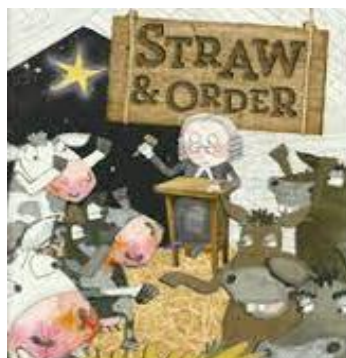
Just a reminder to please bring the children to The Memorial Hall for 5.40pm dressed in their costumes.

Refreshments will be available to purchase during the interval.

Please bring change for you purchases.

The Christmas show USB will be available to purchase via Parentpay. The cost is £15.

The last day for ordering is Friday 15th December.



The National Forest Adventure Farm - Thursday 14th December

Monday 4th December is the last day to order sandwiches for the trip to The National Forest Adventure farm.

You can do so via the following link;

<https://forms.office.com/e/VQvMF4f5Qt>

If your child doesn't require a school packed lunch please send them in with one from home.

The deadline for payment for the trip is Monday 11th December please. The cost is £17, payable via Parentpay.

Thank you.

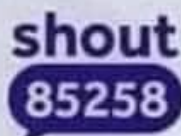


COPING AT CHRISTMAS

Christmas can be tough. That's why it's important to know there's always someone you can talk to.



☎ 0300 123 3393
📞 Helpline
🌐 mind.org.uk



☎ Text SHOUT to 85258
📞 24/7 text service
🌐 giveusashout.org



☎ 116 123
📞 24/7 helpline
🌐 samaritans.org



☎ Text YM to 85258
📞 24/7 text service
🌐 youngminds.org.uk



☎ 0800 58 58 58
📞 Helpline for men
🌐 thecalmzone.net



☎ 0800 068 4141
📞 Under 35s Helpline
🌐 papyrus-uk.org

The Nutcracker

What an amazing spectacular show it was. Unfortunately we weren't allowed to take photographs but it really was as colourful, special and magical as it looks in these pictures. The children were thrilled with magic tricks, ballerinas and the kingdom of sweets!

They were not impressed by Queen Mouse who wanted to kidnap the Sugarplum fairy but was rescued by the heroic Nutcracker. However, before she was defeated she turned the Sugarplum fairy in to wood. The Nutcracker lifted the curse from the sugarplum fairy but it was passed on to him and he became wooden once again.



Dates for the diary

Thursday 7th December - Christmas show at The Memorial Hall

Thursday 14th December - Christmas trip to the National Adventure Farm - All day

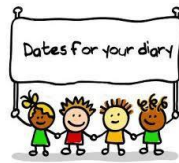
Friday 15th December - Dress down day for chocolate

Tuesday 19th December - Christmas coffee morning

Thursday 21st December - Christmas dinner and Christmas jumper day

Friday 22nd December - 9.15am - Christingle service

Dates may change.



2023 - 2024 Term dates

Term ends: Friday 22 December

Holiday: Monday 25 December - Friday 5 January

Spring Term 2024

Inset Day : Monday 8 January

Term Starts: Tuesday 9 January

Holiday: Monday 12 February – Friday 16 February

Term Ends: Friday 22 March

Holiday: Monday 25 March – Friday 5 April

Easter Sunday: Sunday 31 March

Summer Term 2024

Term Starts: Monday 8 April

May Day: Monday 6 May

Holiday: Monday 27 May – Friday 31 May

Term Ends: Friday 19th July

National online safety

Protecting children, blocking illegal material, removing harmful content on major platforms. Those are the three main goals of the Online Safety Act, which entered UK law in October. While demanding more accountability from social media companies in particular, the act revises – rather than replaces – the current digital safeguarding duties placed on schools.

With changes including the creation of new criminal offences and greater options when raising an issue with a platform, there's plenty for educators to take on board. The guide this week provides a bite-size introduction to the Online Safety Act – and highlights some of the key points that schools need to be familiar with in the short term.

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 issues which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit nationalcollege.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

What Schools Need to Know about THE ONLINE SAFETY ACT

The Online Safety Act was passed into UK law in October 2023, with the aim of establishing major new layers of protection for children when they're online. The government has pledged "a zero-tolerance approach to protecting children from online harm" – and the act certainly includes more powerful legislation which should help to safeguard young people in the digital world. Our guide summarises the key points for schools ...

WHAT THE ACT WILL DO

HARMFUL CONTENT

Social media sites must rapidly remove illegal and/or harmful content such as bullying or harassing comments; pornography; and content that supports extremist activity or encourages or depicts violence, suicide, self-harm or eating disorders. If they fail to do so, they can be fined up to 10% of their global revenue while their executives may even face jail time.

ANIMAL CRUELTY

Content featuring cruelty to animals is now prohibited, even if it originates from abroad (where the law may be different). Again, it is the platform's responsibility to remove this.

MORE TRANSPARENCY

Sites must be transparent about the hazards that any children using them could encounter – by publishing risk assessments for their platforms, for instance.

HOSTING MISLEADING ADVERTS

Scams and fraudulent adverts must be blocked or removed, or the hosting companies are liable to be fined.

NON-CONSENSUAL SHARING

It's now easier to convict online abusers or people who share intimate images without consent, while legislation on the criminality of deepfakes has been clarified. The new laws also relate to any individuals who even threaten to share such images. This should help to protect women and girls in particular online.

REPORTING AND FILTERING

Sites should have easy reporting mechanisms for children (or their parents and carers) to flag up problems quickly. They must also provide options to filter out unwanted content.

AGE-RESTRICTED MATERIAL

Sites must prevent children from accessing age-inappropriate material. This includes enforcing age limits and implementing robust age verification.

What this means for you

The act has some specific implications for schools: it's essential that leaders understand the new legislation's scope and limitations. The act is certainly a positive step, but as artificial intelligence and other advances in tech continue to produce new challenges, schools will still need to remain extremely vigilant.

KNOW WHERE TO GET HELP

Look out for the Code of Conduct that Ofcom is creating in response to the Online Safety Act. Note that the new legislation doesn't mean an instant change: many of its elements will only come into force at the end of 2023. An Ofcom consultation on 'protecting people from illegal harms online' will be running until February 2024.

REMEMBER THE ESSENTIALS

Remain mindful of your organisation's own online activities: the legal duty for schools to maintain appropriate software monitoring and filtering, for example, will not change.

WATCH FOR FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS

There are some issues on which the legislation remains less clear for now: whether it's possible for Ofcom to scan encrypted private messages (such as on WhatsApp) has yet to be resolved, for instance – making this an area where, for the moment, young people have less legal protection.

UNDERSTAND AND EXPLAIN

Staff should learn how to raise concerns with tech companies whose platforms contain anything upsetting or unpleasant. Students also need to be made aware of the newly strengthened laws relating to cyber-bullying, sexting or posting inappropriate content. Young people do make mistakes online – so the clearer their understanding of the possible consequences, the better.

ENGAGE WITH PARENTS

Schools should also explain to parents and carers the new possibilities that the Online Safety Act affords them in terms of protecting their children. Many parents may have previously felt that there was little they could do about changing online platforms' content; they now have a far greater level of support when complaining about a company or the behaviour of an individual.

Meet Our Expert

Luke Rameed is Senior Deputy Headmaster and Director of Safeguarding for the St Benedict's family of schools. He is a regular speaker at conferences and writes in the TES (among other journals) on school leadership, pastoral care and safeguarding. In 2022, he was named Pastoral Leader of the Year at the National Awards for Pastoral Care in Education.



National Online Safety

#WakeUpWednesday

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Sparks

Sparks class have been learning about "Our Wonderful World" by practising recycling. They used empty milk bottles to make "Elmer the elephants". They put little Santa hats on them to make them look festive! They learned all about the magnificent creatures and their countries of origin. They used word trays to spell out lots of different words and they learned about The Nativity Story.

They placed the Nativity character in the order of who they thought was the most important.

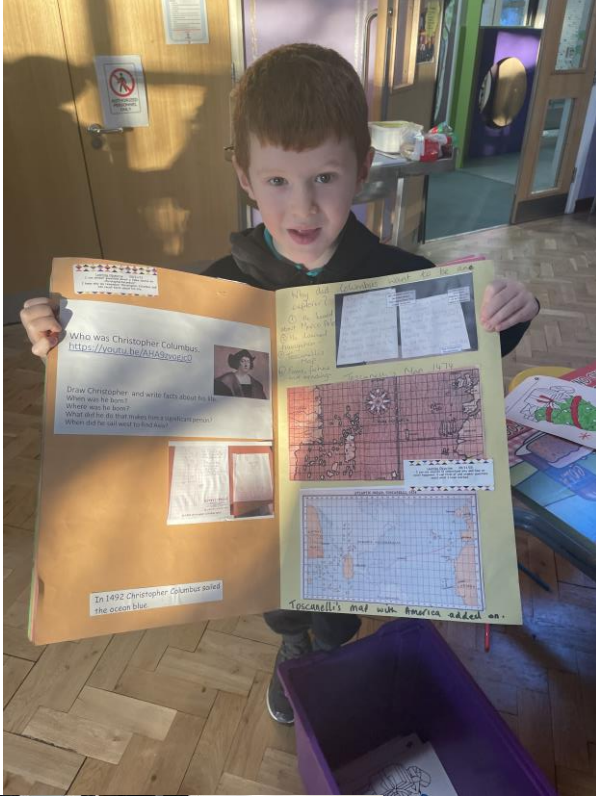


Flickers

This week in History Flickers have been learning about Christopher Columbus.

Mrs Goldstraw taught them a rhyme to remember. "IN 1492 In fourteen hundred ninety-two Columbus sailed the ocean blue...." They studied the Toscanelli map which Christopher Columbus used. They have also been taking Flat Stanley on lots of adventures. It would be lovely to see what they have been up to with Flat Stanley so please feel free to send in pictures. Please could the children bring their Flat Stanley journals back to school next week.

They have finished their creations built out of rubbish. Darcy, Sophie and Sam all built castles.



Flames

This week Flames class have been doing some super duper difficult Maths. They have been doing column additions with thousands! They said they found it easy!

They learned about what sort of jobs people would have had in Ancient Egypt and learned about Pharaohs.

They believed if they weren't a good ruler The Nile wouldn't rise. They had a snake on his hat that could breathe out fire! They put a photo of the Pharaoh on Chatterpix and pretended that they were them and their peers asked them questions.

