



ST LEONARD'S CE PRIMARY ACADEMY
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International
 School Award
 FOUNDATION



Newsletter 5.04.17

Dear Parent/Carer

Values for Life

Our value for this term is *Hope*. Christians see their hope in God's promise 'that love and goodness have, and will ultimately, overcome all evil'. This hope is manifested in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Staff Changes

I am delighted to congratulate Miss Mills, on her appointment as the next Head Teacher of St Leonard's. It is a very well-deserved promotion and I know that she will do an excellent job.

I am sorry to say that Mrs Pickford will be leaving us at the end of this term. We are very grateful for all Mrs Pickford's hard work, both in Class 4 and across the school, and wish her every success for the future. Dr Bardar will replace Mrs Pickford in Class 4 after the Easter break. Miss Maundrell will also be joining us after Easter as 1:1 Teaching Assistant in Class One.



We were all very sorry to say goodbye to Rev David Caporn last month. David helped to run Kids Church in school, as well as other Christian based activities, and was very popular with the children. David left to become vicar of All Saints Church in Sidmouth. We wish him the very best in his new post.

School Boiler/Heating System Bid

I am delighted to say that, following a successful bid, the school will be fully funded by the Education Funding Agency, to replace the existing boiler and heating system throughout the school. The existing system is very old and unreliable and this will make a huge difference to heating and repair costs as well as ensuring that all pupils and staff are kept warm during cold weather. The works will take place between now and September.



Fundraising

Mrs Fruin and The School Council have worked hard to organise fundraising events for charity this year and their efforts have raised: £356.00 for Number Day; £441.42 for Water Aid and £341.99 for Red Nose Day. Well done to Mrs Fruin and the School Council. Thank you to everyone who sent in cakes and/or money for our charitable events.



Living and Learning Together with God's Help



School Dinners

Chartwells have served notice that they will no longer be able to provide hot school meals for us, with effect from the end of the summer term; it is not cost effective for them to continue. Please be assured that talks are in hand with several catering companies and it is hoped that there will be a smooth transition from one company to another between now and September.

Health and Safety

Car Park: There are still some parents/carers who are driving into the school car park, before, during and after school. Please note that parents/carers are **not allowed** to drive into the car park, whether to turn their car around, drop off/collect for Big A, bring a late child to school or just 'dropping something off' during the school day. Thank you.

Chicken Pox: please be aware that we have had a number of cases of Chicken Pox reported in Key Stage One recently and it appears to be common across several schools in Swindon.

Scarlet Fever: this also appears to be prevalent across Swindon at the moment and can sometimes be confused with slapped cheek.

Safer Internet Day

This took place on Tuesday 7th February. Once again there was a whole school focus where pupils were reminded about safe use of the internet.

Cycling Proficiency

All Year 6 pupils were invited to take part in a cycling proficiency course this term and I am pleased to say that all pupils who took part have passed their Cycling Proficiency Award. Well done Year 6.

Football in front of the School

Although this takes place outside school hours, and is not on our premises, may I please ask parents/carers/pupils to be mindful of pedestrians and cars coming in and out of the school car park, as well as people walking down the alleyway? I have received complaints about adults and children being hit by footballs, as well as experiencing children dashing straight across the school driveway without looking and narrowly being run over. Thank you for your co-operation in this matter.

Sport

Highworth Warneford

We have been very lucky to be able to use Highworth Warneford's new sports hall for a variety of activities this year including: Multi-skills for Year 5 and Year 2 and Fundamentals for Year 1. These events enable us to extend PE provision for the pupils as well as allowing the children to meet other pupils from the Highworth schools. Alice Sharps, Highworth Warneford PE teacher, has also visited St Leonard's to teach PE lessons to different classes. Year 4 have been swimming this term, and several children have achieved distance swimming awards.

School Football

I am very pleased to say that Mr Easterbrook has finalised some dates for football training during the summer term. Training will be for all Year 4 and Year 5 (girls and boys) in the first instance with a view to selection of 12 children for the school football squad (A and B teams) next academic year. Training sessions will be as follows:

Tuesday lunchtime: 2nd May; 9th May; 16th May and 23rd May

Thursday after school: 27th April; 4th May; 11th May and 18th May

Please complete, and return to school, the reply slip at the bottom of this letter if your child is interested in trying out for the football squad.

Church/School Links

Lent Lunches

Year 5 and Year 6 pupils have been enjoying the Lent lunches of homemade soups at the Blunsdon Methodist Church and some children were so keen they have been more than once! We are very pleased to be invited to share in the Lent lunch programme; it gives the pupils the opportunity to think about others and to reflect upon the meaning of the Easter story.

Lent Trail

Six of our Year 6 pupils were invited to St Michael's church in Highworth, to be trained to deliver the Easter story in school. Thank you to Dexter, Freya, Gracie, Joshua, Millie and Patrick for doing a great job delivering the Easter story, via our Lent Trail, to the rest of the school.

Thursday 6th April End of Term/Easter Service: This will take place in St Leonard's Church at 9:30 am. As ever, all parents/carers, friends and family are warmly invited to join us as we celebrate Easter together. We look forward to seeing you there.

Chinese New Year: Once again we celebrated the Chinese New Year with a variety of activities including learning about this year's animal (The Rooster). This is always a popular celebration which the children look forward to.

Japanese Activity Morning

We are very grateful to the Japanese mums and friends who visited school to teach Reception class about Japanese culture; it was a very rewarding day for the children.

World Book Day

Well done to everyone who dressed up as a book character for World Book Day; there were some very imaginative and creative costumes.

Basic Skills

Once again we have achieved the Basic Skills Award for achievement in Teaching and Learning in Maths and Literacy. The auditor spoke to staff, pupils, parents/carers and governors, and recognised the good learning and positive attitude evident across the school. Pupils talked about their love of learning and could articulate their targets and next steps for success.

Parent/Carer Interviews

Thank you to all those parents/carers who came to the recent parent/carers interviews; we had a 96% attendance.

Parent/Carer Helpers

We are always keen to encourage parents/carers/grandparents to come into school to share your talents - whether it is helping with Creative Hour, listening to readers, 'eyes' for swimming, keeping the library books tidy - or whatever talent you would like to offer us. We would be very grateful to hear from you, some parents/carers/grandparents offer a weekly slot, and others offer a 'job-share' with another person (i.e. alternating weeks). Please contact Miss Mills if you are available at all. Thank you.

With very best wishes for a Happy and Peaceful Easter.

Jane Wheatley

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School Football Squad

Please return to school by Wednesday 26th April, thank you.

My child: Class: would like to take part in the preliminary football training starting on Thursday 27th April. I understand that this does not guarantee my child selection for the school football squad.

Signed: Parent/Carer

Date: