



The Leys Primary & Nursery School Newsletter

Learning Today ...Leading Tomorrow

Friday 24th November 2023

DATES COMING UP!
(please note all dates are subject to change)

- 30 Nov -Year N&R Parents in Partnership Meeting 9-10am
- 1 Dec -Enterprise Day 2 - 4pm
- new earlier start time of 2pm
- 8 Dec -Occasional Day school closed
- 12 Dec -Nursery Christmas Come and Play sessions 11 am -11.45am & 2pm - 2.45pm
- 13 Dec -Flu Vaccination (2nd visit)
-Reception Christmas Come and Play session 2pm -2.45pm
- 14 Dec -Year 1 Christmas Performance 9.30am - 10.30am
-Year 2 Christmas Performance 2pm - 3pm
- 15 Dec -Christmas jumper day
-Christmas dinner
- 18 Dec -Junior Christmas Performances. 1pm for Year 3 & 4. 2pm for Year 5 & 6
- 19 Dec - All years Christmas parties
- 20 Dec -Last day of term 1:30pm finish
-Non-uniform day

Star of the Week	
Class	Pupil
Benjamin	Florence
Murphy	Alex
Kerr	Sabur
Bryon	Lily
Donaldson	Isabella M
Soundar	Shayah-Lee
Dahl	Ocean
Gavin	Olivia D
Mante	Lexie
Morpurgo	Trystan
Riordan	Syeda Fiza
Zephaniah	Darcie
Malala	Ivy
Blackman	Becca



Times Tables Leaders
Well done to...

Poppy F
Ava Mai
Naomi

For most improved time (playing in the Studio area) over the past 7 days

Friendship Award	Muku and Amaya for being a good friend to Eniola
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Headteachers Awards

Year 2	Scarlett
Year 3	Jack, Marnie
Year 4	Olivia, Trystan, Todi
Year 5	Grace, Liam, Joel, Emma
Year 6	Bailey C

Attendance Wheel of Reward

Each week in assembly the wheel will be spun for **most improved class attendance**



Be here to have a go!

This week's winners & rewards:

Kerr - Class Disco

Morpurgo - Yes day

Riordan - Break the Rules Day

UPDATE

Music

🎵 There is a lot of music happening at The Leys this half term. 🎵
“It’s beginning to look a lot like Christmas ...” or maybe that should be:
It’s beginning to **sound** a lot like Christmas! 🎄

All classes are very busy learning new songs for their Christmas Presentations:-

The Reception children’s Christmas Performance is on 13th December at 2pm.

Y1 will perform their play, “The Little Blue Star,” at 9.30am on 14th December.

The Y2 Production, “A Wiggly Nativity” is also on 14th December at 2pm.

KS2 and our School Choir will be singing songs as part of their Christmas Festivities on 18th December - Y3 & Y4 at 1pm, and Y5 & Y6 at 2pm.

All of the above will be at school in The Infant Hall. So there is lots of music for everyone to enjoy!

Our Leys School Choir will be singing next **Saturday, 2nd December, at the community celebrations for St Nicholas Day at the Community Centre from 1.30pm. Everyone is welcome to come along.**

The Choir are also hoping to share their joy of music with some older people in our community, who live in local care homes. This Christmas sing-song is always a wonderfully happy occasion.

I hope to see you at a musical event very soon!

Mrs Gwinnett

CLASS OF THE WEEK:
Morpurgo



On Thursday we had a visit from Greg, the director of 52 Lives, who taught us about empathy, being considerate, generous and friendly. He told us how if we are kind to one person it will spread to 125 people. We made kindness gifts for family or friends. Some of us made cards, pictures, letters and a kindness cube where when it is shaken a note will fall out with a kind message on it. We are all really excited to share our makes with our family and friends and spread as much kindness as we can.



Class: Dahl

An extract from a historical diary entry by Dylan.

Year 860

The gladiators are coming in. The warrior, named Thor, burst in and the other gladiator named Maximum came in feeling a bit worried. Both gladiators showing off muscular bodies to the audience. When I shouted ‘fight’, the warriors started wrestling each other. Meanwhile, Thor thrust his sword into Maximus. They were fighting fiercely and soon the first gladiator put his sword to the other's chest.

Empathy

Inclusivity

Respect

Aspirations

Determination

Empowerment

Scientist of the Month



Serah in Year 4, has shown an excellent knowledge in our new topic of animals including humans. She knows the 7 life processes of living things and the acronym MRS GREN which we use to remember them.



Whole school attendance target = 97%

Whole school attendance this week = 94.9%

Best class attendance this week = Riordan



The Leys Have Talent

Aaradhya in year 2 is an amazing dancer, she performed a fantastic Indian Onam cultural cinematic dance, which was truly stunning. She also performed on Diwali day, dressed as Lord Krishna and won a prize.

Well done Aaradhya!



WELLBEING



At the start of term we informed you about the inspirational man, Greig Trout, who spoke to staff on the INSET day about his life and not only surviving both physical and mental ill health setbacks but going on to inspire others to develop their own wellbeing. Yesterday he came to school and delivered a workshop about the importance of Kindness to children in Year 2 to 6. They all made kindness gifts during the afternoon and some of the older children were clearly moved by what they heard. The staff will be looking out for random acts of kindness over the next few weeks and giving children pencils (from Greig) where we see this.

If you would like to know more about the Charity Greig works for here are the links.

<https://www.whenyousurvive.com/the-idea/>

<https://inspirekindness.com/blog/kindness-101>

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Year 5/6 Futsal Competition

On Wednesday 22nd November, 7 year 5/6 students attended a futsal competition at Barnwell leisure centre. We were joined by 11 other schools in Stevenage and the surrounding areas. After 5 games we had won 4 and lost 1, this meant we were into the final 4 playing for 3rd and 4th place. After a great match vs St Ippolyts school we managed to beat them 3-1 which meant we came 3rd overall and won bronze medals! This is a great achievement for our school at the very first futsal competition.

A big well done from Mr Newlands! ⚽

Spiritual, Moral, Social, Cultural and British Values

On Wednesday, Soundar were handing over their kindness letters that they had written for each other. Everyone was told to keep their letter and not look at it until they had all been handed out, and then we would all read them at the same time. Each child was excited to receive their own letter and were very grateful to read positive things about them!



NSPCC

The NSPCC now has a Child Protection Sports Unit which has a parent hub page available to parents on their website.

This has a link to 'Keeping Your Child Safe in Sport' which is a short, free e-learning course which can help parents understand how to be part of the bigger safeguarding picture in sport.

<https://thecpsu.org.uk/parents>

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Thank you for all your generous donations to Children in Need last Friday.

Together we raised an amazing £356

WESTGATE CHRISTMAS TRAIL

This trail was organised by our school as lead school for the Stevenage Creative Network, in partnership with the Westgate Shopping Centre and nine other Stevenage schools.

The trail runs from Monday 20th November – Friday 15th December.

Collect a trail booklet from the Westgate Centre (a copy is being sent in our week correspondence this week too) and search the shop windows for ten Christmas trees. The trees were created by ten different Stevenage schools. Our children created one of the trees – see if you can spot it!

There are prizes to be won – a hamper for first prize and ten runners up will receive a chocolate selection pack.

Northern Lights

Last Night Mrs House managed to get a great photo of the Northern Lights from her i-phone. She uses an app called 'Aurora Watch' to get notified when activity is high. Although they are not visible to the naked eye in Stevenage, they ARE with a camera using nightmode! Give it a go with your child(ren) and see how you get on, we'd love to see any pictures you take.



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Term dates 2023-2024

AUTUMN TERM	SPRING TERM	SUMMER TERM
<p>Start of term: 4 September 2023 Inset day: 1 September 2023 Term: 1 September - 19 October 2023 Inset day: 20 October 2023 <u>Half term holiday: 23 October - 27 October 2023</u></p> <p>Occasional day: 8 December 2023</p> <p>Term: 30 October - 20 December 2023 <u>Christmas holiday: 21 December - 3 January 2024</u></p>	<p>Inset day: 4 January 2024 Term: 5 January - 16 February 2024 <u>Half term holiday: 19 February - 23 February 2024</u> Term : 26 February- 28 March 2024 <u>Easter holiday: 29 March - 12 April 2024</u></p>	<p>Term: 15 April - 24 May 2024 Bank Holiday: 6 May 2024 <u>Half term holiday: 27 May - 31 May 2024</u> Inset day: 3 June 2024 Term: 4 June - 23 July 2024 Inset day: 12 July 2024 <u>Summer holiday: 24 July 2024 - 30 August 2024</u></p> <p><u>Inset Days 2023 - 2024</u> 1 September 2023 20 October 2023 8 December (Occasional day) 2023 4 January 2024 3 June 2024 12 July 2024</p>

Term dates 2024-2025

AUTUMN TERM	SPRING TERM	SUMMER TERM
<p>Start of term: 3 September 2024 Inset day: 2 September 2024 25 October 2024 Term: 2 September - 25 October 2024 <u>Half term holiday: 28 October - 1 November 2024</u></p> <p>Occasional day: 2 December 2024 Term: 4 November - 20 December 2024 <u>Christmas holiday: 23 December - 3 January 2025</u></p>	<p>Inset day: 6 January 2025 Term: 6 January - 14 February 2025 <u>Half term holiday: 17 February - 21 February 2025</u> Term : 24 February- 4 April 2025 <u>Easter holiday: 7 April - 21 April 2025</u></p>	<p>Term: 22 April - 23 May 2025 Bank Holiday: 5 May 2025 <u>Half term holiday: 26 May - 30 May 2025</u> Inset day: 11 July 2025 23 July 2025 Term: 2 June - 23 July 2025 <u>Summer holiday: 24 July 2025 - 29 August 2025</u></p> <p><u>Inset Days 2024 - 2025</u> 2 September 2024 25 October 2024 2 December (Occasional day) 2024 6 January 2025 11 July 2025 23 July 2025</p>

