



# The Leys Primary & Nursery School Newsletter

Learning Today ...Leading Tomorrow

## Friday 8th December 2023

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

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.  
Year 3 9:15 -10:15am  
Year 4 10:30-11:30am  
Year 5 1-2pm  
Year 6 2-3pm.

19 Dec - All years Christmas parties

20 Dec -Last day of term  
1:30pm finish  
-Non-uniform day

4 Jan -INSET Day school closed

5 Jan -Back to school

26 Jan -Yr4 Trip

Star of the Week	
Class	Pupil
Benjamin	Qasim
Murphy	Brody
Kerr	Carla
Bryon	Charlie
Donaldson	Jake
Soundar	Eddie
Dahl	Odin
Gavin	Haylie M
Mante	Lilly D
Morpurgo	Lily
Riordan	Anthony
Zephaniah	Grace
Malala	Layla
Blackman	Elliot



### Times Tables Leaders

Well done to...

**Charlie I**  
**Austin**  
**Naeem**

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

Friendship Award	Harleen
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### Headteachers Awards

Year 2	Eddie, Robyn, Antonia, Mayra, Iris
Year 5	Alfie, Nathan, Chelsea, Nellie, Isla, Lily, Delilah, George, Ethan, Logan

### 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:

**Donaldson** - popcorn and movie

**Dahl** - no pencil day

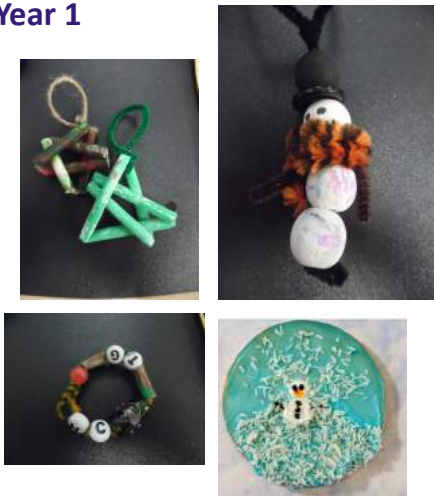
**Malala** - class disco

# UPDATE

## Enterprise Day (All years)

Thank you to everyone that came along and supported our Enterprise Day, it was another huge success.

Year 1



Year 2



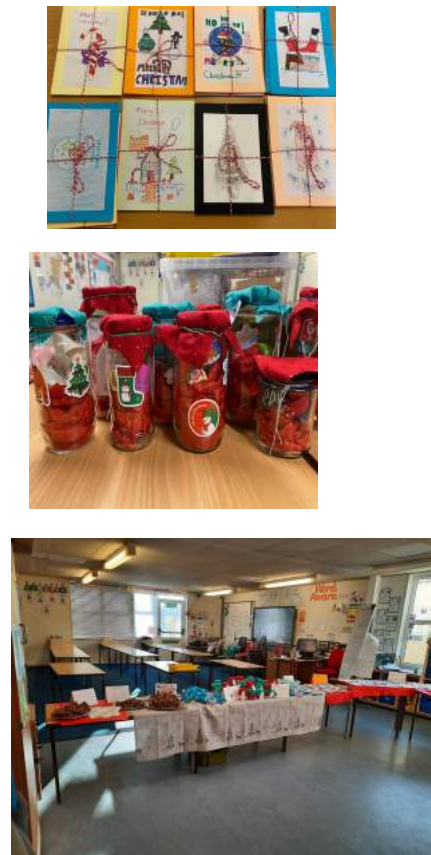
Year 3



Year 4



Year 5



Year 6



Empathy

Inclusivity

Respect

Aspirations

Determination

Empowerment

CLASS OF THE WEEK:  
Bryon



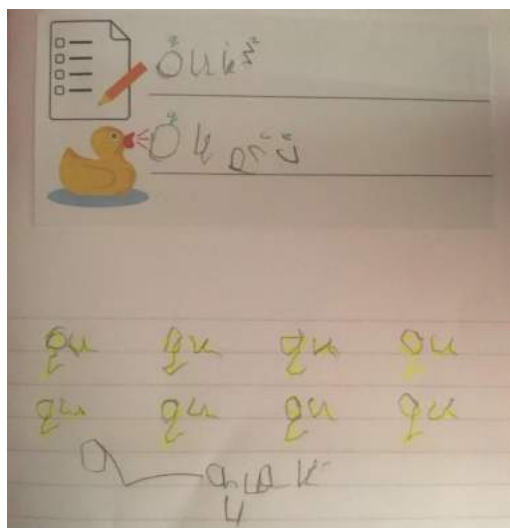
In Bryon class we have been working very hard on a number of different areas of our learning. We are busy practising for our school play that we can't wait to show you next Thursday! In maths, we have been focusing on subtracting we have been using maths equipment and number lines to help us.

During English, we have been busy writing about all the different animals we have seen on our safari in Africa. We have been focusing on trying to include exciting adjectives into our work.

We enjoyed looking at different materials in our classroom during Science and carrying out an experiment to see if they would float or sink.



Class: Murphy



Well done to Brody who has been working really hard in phonics to be able to form all of the graphemes we have been learning. After finding this a little tricky, Brody has been showing fantastic resilience and has made some great progress in his work! We are so proud of you Brody! Keep up the great work.

Reader of the Month



Well done to Ronnie in Murphy Class, who has been working really hard to read at home so that he can get his first reading certificate. He was so proud when he was awarded in assembly.

Keep up the great work Ronnie!



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**We are seeing an increasing number of children bringing items in their lunch boxes that contain nuts. Particularly Nutella sandwiches and biscuits/bars with nuts in them.**

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Please be reminded that we are a **NUT FREE** school and have children in various year groups with nut allergies.



Whole school attendance target  
= **97%**

Whole school attendance this  
week = **92.9%**

Best class attendance this week  
= **Morpurgo**

## The Leys Have Talent

Mia in Year 5, is a fantastic swimmer. She has completed all her swimming stages and will now be joining the Hertford swim team.

Absolutely amazing Mia, well done!



## MUSIC UPDATE

Last Saturday, The Leys School Choir, sang as part of the St Nicholas Day Celebrations locally. Although quite a few members were unable to attend, those that did come along sang brilliantly! They were even rewarded with some chocolates from St Nicholas himself!

Afterwards, I received many compliments for them from all sorts of people who were there.

Even the Lady Mayor of Stevenage was in attendance!

It was a great community event with people from many different faiths attending to share peace, love and joy with each other this Winter.



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**A big thank you to all the children who came, and their carers too who braved the freezing cold weather to support this event and their children. Well done everyone!  
Mrs Gwinnett**



# MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID TRAINING

**1 DAY CHAMPION COURSE  
FOR PARENTS & CARERS OF  
8 TO 18-YEAR-OLDS  
FREE TRAINING  
09:30AM - 16:00PM**



This training is being offered on 30/1/24 and 7/3/24 FREE for any parents who want to gain;  
An understanding of common mental health issues and how they can affect young people  
An ability to spot signs of mental ill health in young people and guide them to a place of support  
Knowledge and confidence to advocate for mental health awareness  
Skills to support positive wellbeing  
For further information please contact: [hweicbhv.schoolsmh@nhs.net](mailto:hweicbhv.schoolsmh@nhs.net)

**HUGE thanks to Katy and our other helpers in supporting Enterprise Day and setting up our Santa's Grotto for our pupils to enjoy!**

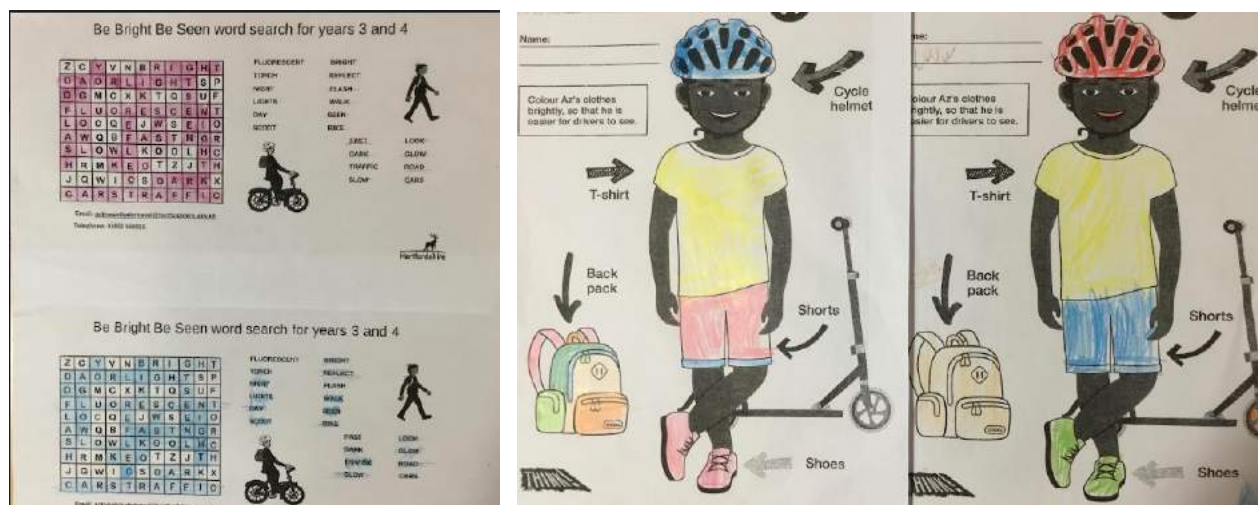


Empathy	Inclusivity	Respect	Aspirations	Determination	Empowerment
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## Spiritual, Moral, Social, Cultural and British Values

As part of our school travel plan we have been thinking about the importance of safer travel. It's that time of the year again and 'Be Bright Be Seen' is an important message for all our pupils and the whole school community. The Active and Safer Travel Team are continuing to promote this as a key part of the road safety and active travel programme, especially over the Autumn and Winter months.

As the days are getting shorter, now is a good time to remind everyone of the importance of wearing bright and reflective clothing when out and about, to make them more visible to traffic. Following an assembly with Mrs Khangura the children completed an activity in class.



## **Financial education workshops**

On Monday and Tuesday, staff from HSBC made a return visit to the school to run further workshops from their financial education outreach programme. This programme was set up following research which showed over half of children aged 7-14 years old did not have a good

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understanding of personal finance terms such as debt, interest or fraud.



Every year group, from Reception through to Year 6 participated in a session which followed the learning framework of 'introduce, discuss and use', allowing for interactive learning and ongoing development of ideas beyond the session itself. Topics discussed included:

Yr1: The Treasure Hunt

Yr3: The Birthday Party - Keeping a Record

Yrs 5 & 6: Guarding Against Fraud



**PEGI helps parents to make informed decisions when buying video games**

PEGI provides age classifications for video games in 38 European countries. The age rating confirms that the game content is appropriate for players of certain age. PEGI considers the age suitability of a game, not the level of difficulty.

<https://pegi.info/>

Empathy	Inclusivity	Respect	Aspirations	Determination	Empowerment
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Starlight Children's Foundation  
Third Floor, 227 Shepherds Bush Road  
London, W6 7AU T 020 7262 2881 [starlight.org.uk](http://starlight.org.uk)

Dear all,

Thank you for supporting Starlight this winter!  
Your support means we can help so many more children.

By supporting our work, you are all Protectors of Play and part of the Starlight family!

We would love to keep working with you so please do reach out.

Warm regards

**Samiya**  
Community Fundraising Manager  
[samiya.rashd@starlight.org.uk](mailto:samiya.rashd@starlight.org.uk)

Patron: HRH Princess Alexandra  
Company limited by guarantee 2038895. Registered charity 296058 (England & Wales) SC047680 (Scotland)



New information sessions for parents now available - Jan and Feb  
<https://www.eventbrite.com/o/hct-childrens-wellbeing-practitioners-33494371787>

Resilience

Self esteem

Sleep

Emotional Wellbeing and Regulation

Empathy

Inclusivity

Respect

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# Scan the QR code to have a look at our SEN information report

- Bitesize information - parent
- Easy straight forward language - parent
- What you need to know - parent



## SEN Information Report 2023-2024

### 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><b>Occasional day: 8 December 2023</b></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  <b>8 December (Occasional day) 2023</b>                      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>

