

The Leys Primary and Nursery School Newsletter

★ Accelerating progress

★ Enriching wellbeing

★ Promoting partnerships

15/01/21

Star of the Week

	Pod	Remote
Zephaniah	Mustafa	Jack
Anderson	Allysia	Charlie
Sendak	Gusia	Fatimah
Carle	Aniela	Oliver
Hargreaves	Ava	Devon
Ahlberg	Zahid	Olivia
Dahl	Emily	Brayden
Freedman	Shikana	Alex
Strong	Chantelle	Jeremiah
Pratchett	Jessica	Ethan
Morpurgo	Leah	Kai
Tolkien	Malakai	Hannah
Lewis	Beatrice	Jenson
Rosen	Isabelle	Albert
Shakespeare	Riley	Muhammad
Dickens	Darci	Marcellino
Kipling	None in pod	Ella

PARENT/TEACHER TELEPHONE MEETINGS

Next week parents and carers will be offered Parent Teacher Telephone meetings 28th January - 12 February Timetable out next week. Please note that for Morpurgo class Miss Parry and Miss Garner will join together to have telephone meetings with you as part of the handover on the 28th and 29th January. Booking out next week

POD LEARNING ON SITE



I have been really heartened by the lovely atmosphere in school even though we are all in small pod bubbles and unable to mix. The staff here are providing great opportunities to learn and working so closely with the remote learners at home! This interaction has been really great and a fantastic example of the teams working really closely together to provide for all pupils. Please be aware that there are only limited places available in pods left.



Well done for going on this remote learning journey with us. I can see the real effort you are putting in as parents at home to ensure your children engage well with their learning. We have had such positive comments, so thank you to Mrs Khangura and the team for all your amazing efforts. I know you are being kept well informed and updated to help make it easier for you at home. We really appreciate your feedback so we can respond to any issues that come up

Class of the week	Kipling Year 2
Friendship Cup	Robert F Y1
Headteacher Awards	YEAR
Isabella T Aiden C Lettie S Odien E Gabriel L	RECEPTION
Aiden J Alfie S	SIX

SHOUT OUT

I want to give a MASSIVE shout out to ALL our FANTASTIC STAFF @the Leys!

All teaching, support and administration teams have been working around the clock to deliver great learning opportunities, support families get online, access Google classroom, organise free school meals and keep in touch with yourselves at home. This has been a big ask in the short time frame we had, so I am really in AWE of what they have achieved! We know there have been teething problems but we are responding to these as we go along. The positive messages I am receiving would indicate that you agree with me.

THANK-YOU TO YOU ALL!!!!!!

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Work Pack collection - Junior Sports Hall Next week we are sending out a letter asking you to collect new workpacks to support the next few weeks of remote learning on **Thursday 21st Jan**. Please see the times you can collect your child/children's workbooks from the Junior Hall. We are organising a staggered pick up for all families to reduce contact, we are also asking for one person to collect and line up 2 meters apart (the lines will be drawn out on the pavement) and one person at a time to enter Junior Sports Hall. You may ask another parent to collect workbooks on your behalf-if you are self-isolating (we encourage these books to be posted through their letterbox), but instructions must be emailed to admin@leys.herts.sch.uk a day before. Thank you for your support with this.

Thursday 21st Jan

9am to 10am - Year 6 families
10am to 11am - Year 5 families
11am to 12pm- Year 4 families
12pm to 1pm- Year 3 families
1pm to 2pm Year 2 families
2pm to 3pm - Year 1 & Reception families

CLASS of the WEEK - NURSERY

This week Nursery children have started a new topic called Amazing Animals. They have been asked to let their teachers know about their favourite animals they would like to learn about. Johnny has made an amazing model of an elephant. Emmy has read lots of animal books and has decided that her favourite animal is a monkey. Robyn has drawn a great picture of a donkey and wrote her name independently. Children have listened to their favourite nursery rhymes and were encouraged to move like different animals .Well done Nursery children .Keep up the great work!



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Writer of the Week-

**Isabella J - Year 5
Lewis class**

1901-1910 - Edward VII was the eldest and wisest son of Queen Victoria and Prince Albert. He was born on the 9th of November 1841 in London and died on the 6th of May 1910. He attended Heatherdown school and earned his A-levels at Gordonstoun, soon taking a gap between school to teach in New Zealand.

1910-1936 - George V was born on the 3rd of June 1865. His mother was Alexandra of Denmark and his father was Edward VII. George V actually reigned three different countries! It's crazy. He reigned the United Kingdom, and the British Dominions, he was also the emperor of India until he unfortunately died on the 20th of Jan 1936.

Jan 1936-Dec 1936 - King Edward VIII's mother was Queen Mary and his father was King George V. He was born on the 23rd of Jun 1894 with 4 brothers. His spouse was the Duchess of Windsor who sadly had previously divorced her husband, causing an abdication which meant Edward no longer reigned. He then died on the 28th of May 1872. He was later buried at the Royal Burial Ground, Frogmore.



HOW TO SUPPORT YOUR CHILDREN AT HOME DURING LOCKDOWN

It's understandable for children and adults to feel concerned or anxious about this virus and it is natural for parents to want to support and protect their children. You might do this in many different ways – giving them a hug, playing a game or having a chat. The most important thing is for your child to know that you are there for them, ready to help them if things get hard. We hope these tips help you support your child at this very difficult time.

1. Talk to your child about what is going on. You could start by asking them what they have heard about coronavirus.
2. Try to answer their questions and reassure them in an age appropriate manner. Remember, you do not need to know all the answers, but talking can help them feel calm.
3. Explain to your child that it is natural to worry sometimes and everyone does it. This feeling, like all feelings, will come and go.
4. Don't try to shield your child from the news, as it's likely they will find out somehow being online or from friends.
5. Be aware that your child will often copy your behaviour, so if you are feeling anxious or overwhelmed, you may need to limit how much you express this in front of them.
6. Reassure your child that it is unlikely they will get seriously ill, and if they do feel ill you will look after them. Your child might be concerned about who will look after you if you catch the virus. Let them know the kind of support you have as an adult so that they don't feel they need to worry about you.
7. Give some practical tips to your child about how they can look after themselves. For example, encourage them to wear a mask, wash their hands thoroughly every time they go into the house and remain distant from friends.
8. Keep as many regular routines as possible, so that your child feels safe and that things are stable.
9. Spend time doing a fun activity with your child (e.g. reading, playing, painting, cooking) to help reassure them and reduce their anxiety. This is also a great way of providing a space for them to talk

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through their concerns.

10. Encourage your child to think about the things they can do to make themselves feel safer and less worried. Help them find things that distract or relax them.

11. Be aware that your child may want more close contact with you at this time and feel anxious about separation. Try to provide this support whenever possible.

12. Remember to look after yourself too. If you are feeling worried, or anxious about coronavirus, talk to someone you trust who can listen and support you.

If you still have concerns don't forget to speak to/email their class teacher or our mental health leads - Mrs Barr or Mrs Clibbon.

Spiritual, Moral, Social, Cultural and British Values

Year 1 have been working extra hard since returning back to school remotely and in the class pod. It is all very different but the children continue to impress us each day. We are all super proud of them! The children started the new year with a writing activity all about New Year's Resolutions. The children discussed what New Year's Resolutions are with their peers and family. They also discussed these with Mrs Khangura in her weekly assembly. The children thought of many different resolutions they would like to achieve this year in school and at home.

By Zachary - Year 1 Sendak Class

By Samson - Year 1 Carle Class

Happy New

The best part of last year was...
my birthday

The best part of last year was

My New Year's resolution is...
I will be good.

This year I am excited about...
playing on my guitar

Happy New

The best part of last year was
listening to fireworks

The best part of last year was
when I received presents

My New Year's resolution is
helping my parents to set the table and baking cupcakes on my own

This year I am excited about
studying and learning online at home

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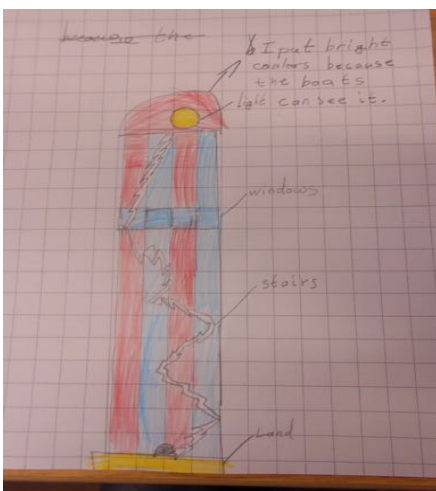
Highlights of the Week!



This week the Reception pupils have been learning about transport. They have carried out surveys about cars, and even designed their own cars at school and at home! The school pod even checked out the cars in the carpark - I'm glad they weren't checking which car was the cleanest!!!



Today all the Year 1 pupils at school and at home are learning in their PYJAMAS!!!! Even the teachers! It looks like a lot of fun to me!! Well done Year 1. Your teachers tell me you are working really hard at school and at home!



In Year 2 we have been reading 'The Lighthouse Keepers Lunch'. We looked at the features of a lighthouse and why it is important that they have certain things. We found out some interesting things including that a lighthouse is a cylinder shape as it is stronger against the waves in a storm. We then designed our own lighthouse and we will be making a model of it next week.

We all really enjoyed this, it was fun to make the lighthouses really colourful.



Year 2 just performed a fantastic talent show. We had children playing the trumpet, juggling, running, doing gymnastics, singing, doing tricks and saving goals! Devon even showed us a video of him signing along to the song 'Tomorrow' Everyone was fantastic and all the children were really supportive and appreciative of each other's talents! Well done Year 2. Fantastic!!!!

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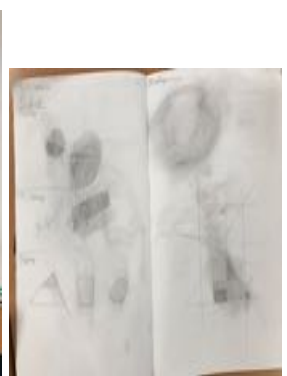
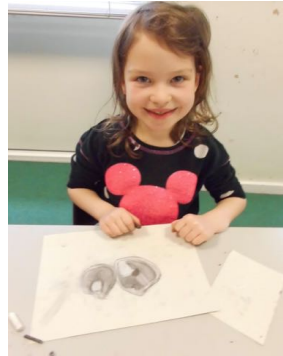
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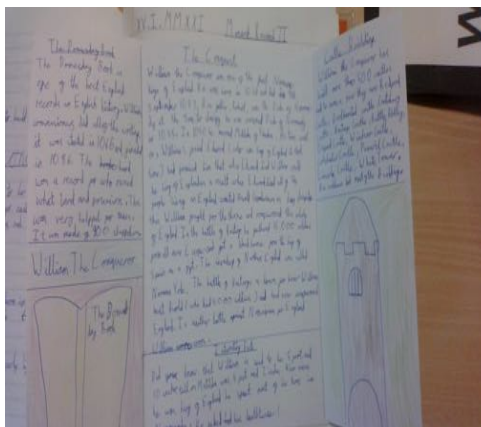
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There are so many fantastic science experiments that you can do at home and Year 3 parents have been finding out about that this week as our pupils have been learning about dissolving! Today pupils were sketching fruit. Some very talented artists I must say.



This week Year 4 has been working on our shading in art. At the beginning of the week, we learnt about hatching, cross-hatching, stippling and blending. We are spending today putting what we have learnt into practice by drawing a panda and shading him with all of the techniques that we have learnt. These are currently a work in progress.



This week Year 5 has been learning about English Monarchs! This pupil has written all about William the Conqueror! I have to say some of the stories they told me are rather gruesome! Our school pod have also been having Sports and games, so I hope everyone else at home is also getting a lot of exercise!



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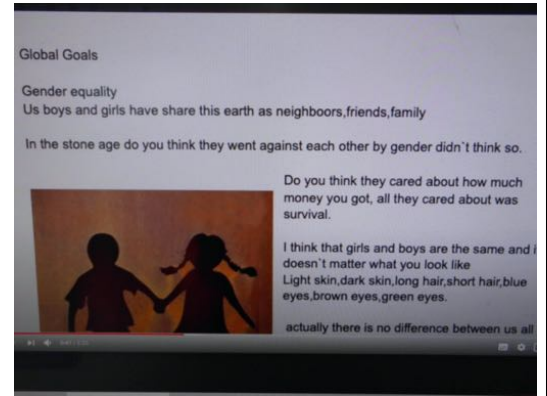
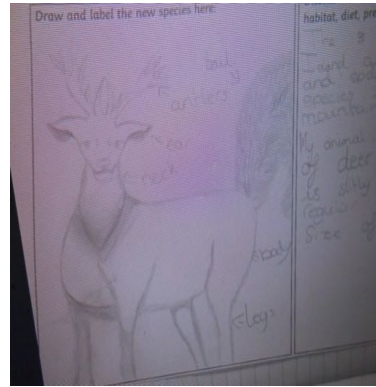
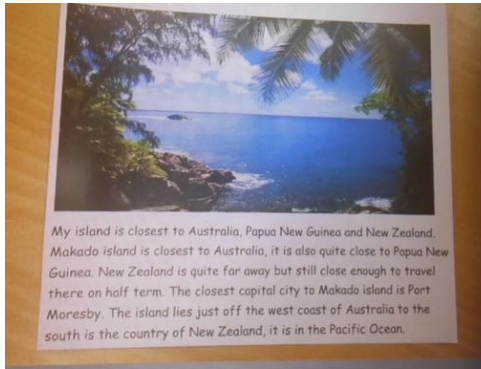
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Year 6 have had a very interesting week creating their own fantasy island! (That sounds great fun!!!!) They had to draw their own map and consider the location and weather in order to create their own species of animal as well!!!! They even had time to discuss the gender pay gap in PSHE!!!! I'm sure there was a lot of debate on this subject! Well done Year 6. I'm very impressed with your engagement in learning at school and at home. Great news!

Term dates

Start of term: 3 September 2020
Inset day: 2 September
Term: 3 September -23 October
Half term holiday: 26 October 2020 - 30 October 2020
Inset day: 2 November
Term: 3 November -18 December
Occasional Day: 7 December
Christmas holiday: 21 December 2020 - 3 January 2021

Inset day: 4 January
Term: 5 January - 12 February
Half term holiday: 15 February 2021 - 19 February 2021
Term : 22 February-26 March 2021
Easter holiday: 29 March 2021 - 9 April 2021

Term: 12 April - 28 May
Half term holiday: 31 May 2021 - 4 June 2021
Inset Day: 7 June
Term: 8 June-21 July
Inset day 22 July
Summer holiday: 23 July 2021 - 31 August 2021

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