



St Leonard's CE Primary Academy
Linley Road
Blunsdon
Wiltshire
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5th February 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

I can't quite believe that we have reached the last week of this term already! Friday will be the end of term 3. The children will return to school on 20th February.

Following the recent letter from Nigel Daniel, DBAT Chair of Trustees, announcing the Trustee decision to transfer all the schools in DBAT to new multi academy trusts, I would like to offer you some reassurances:

- Our school is working closely with DBAT Trustees to ensure that the individual character of our school is considered in any decision making
- DBAT are working closely with the Department for Education
- DBAT will communicate regularly with any updates
- We do not anticipate staff changes due to the transfer
- New trusts have not yet been identified

Children's Mental Health Week - My Voice Matters

This week is Children's Mental Health week and we will be celebrating this throughout the week. Monday's worship will launch this week and the School Council have devised a timetable of activities to be provided each day. At the end of the week, on Friday 9th February, the last day of term, the children can wear non-school uniform. This is to support the children in expressing their own individuality.

As part of this week, we will also take the opportunity to revisit our Growth Mindset approach, which underpins our school ethos by discussion again, what this means. The videos we will be sharing with the children can be found using the link below:

<https://ideas.classdojo.com/b/growth-mindset>

NSPCC Maths Number Days reminder

Thank you for your participation in this event and your kind donations. We have raised £116.75 for the NSPCC.

PTA - Friends of St Leonard's, Blunsdon

The PTA will be holding a meet and greet session tonight, Monday 5th February, in the school hall, between 6pm and 7pm. This is a chance to meet the PTA informally and give any suggestions for further events or discuss ways in which you could support this group. Please come along at a time that is convenient for you, for a tea or coffee.

A PTA newsletter has been sent out with more information regarding the work they have been doing and details of upcoming events; this includes an Easter craft event.

Parents Evening

Parents evening will be held on 27th and 28th February for Years 1,2,4,5, and 6 only.

For children in Reception, the dates will be Wednesday 21st February and 28th February. There will be limited slots available on 21st February for the Reception class.

Parents evening will run between 3.30pm and 6pm on the allocated days. Appointments will be 10-minute slots.

Year 3 - Parent meetings will be held differently for this class. They will be held during the afternoon of Wednesday 28th February, on Teams. To enable this to happen the children will need to split for the afternoon, taking their learning to complete to other classes in the school. The appointment slots will be 10 minutes and each meeting will end automatically at the end of the allocated time. When you receive the parents' evening letter, please indicate which time slot would suit you best and we will do our best to accommodate this. Once you have been allocated a time slot you will be sent a Team's link via your email address.

Parent Academy Council Member (Governor) Vacancy

Would you like to be more involved in your child's education?

If you would, why not consider becoming an Academy Council member? There is currently a vacancy for a Parent Academy Council member at this school.

The Academy Council, with the Head and Board of Directors of the Trust, has overall responsibility for the running of the school. Their responsibilities include:

- Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction
- Holding the Head to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils
- Advising on school policies and procedures
- Helping recruit staff
- Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure its money is well spent

If you are interested in becoming a Parent Academy Council member but feel a little daunted by the responsibility you may be taking on, remember that full training will be available, and you will always act as part of a team. No special qualifications are needed, and the most important thing is to have a keen interest in the school and be prepared to play an active part in the Academy Council's work. Academy Council members also need the ability to be able to build relationships with a range of people, to be able to work as part of a team, to be able to question, and to make connections between different types of information.

If you become an Academy Council member you will be taking on the following commitments to help make sure the school is well managed:

- Share the responsibilities of the Academy Council as summarised above.
- Attend and participate in meetings on a regular basis
- Undergo appropriate training
- You may also be invited to sit on appointment panels or attend committee meetings

You will be required to sign the Code of Practice, and to apply for a DBS enhanced disclosure. Please also refer to the attached 'Qualifications and Disqualifications to serve as an Academy Council member'.

If you would like to stand for election, please complete the enclosed nomination form and return it to the school. You should also include a short personal statement to support your nomination, which should be no longer than 100 words.

The closing date for nominations is 12 noon on Friday 23rd February.

If there are more nominations than vacancies the election will be by secret ballot. If that is necessary, voting papers will be sent to all parents together with details of the ballot procedure.

Homework Year 2-6

A reminder that information about homework can be found at:

<https://www.stleonardsblunsdon.org.uk/parent-information/learning-support/>

English and Math's are set on alternate weeks. This is through "My Math's" and "Classroom Secrets".

We ask that the children read at least three times a week at home. Year 2 -4 - this should be signed and dated in the children's reading records.

T D Days for this academic year

19th Feb 2024

3rd June 2024

Yours sincerely
Mrs Warburton