



Newsletter from St Leonard's CE Primary Academy

Welcome back!

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we approach the end of another busy and successful school year, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our wonderful children for their continued hard work and enthusiasm throughout the term. They have shown fantastic resilience, particularly during the exceptionally hot weather we experienced over the past week, and we are incredibly proud of the way they have continued to learn, support one another and uphold our school values.

I would also like to extend my sincere thanks to all of our parents and carers for your understanding and support when we had to close the school for a couple of days. As shared in our previous communication, any decisions to close the school are never taken lightly. The wellbeing and safety of our children and staff will always remain our highest priority, and we greatly appreciate your patience and cooperation.

As previously communicated, we have had to postpone our Summer Fete, which will now take place on **Friday, 3rd July**. We are incredibly grateful to our PTFA, who continue to work tirelessly to organise this wonderful community event despite the change of date. We hope to see as many children, parents, carers and members of our wider school community there as possible to support this fantastic cause and enjoy a fun-filled afternoon together.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support of St Leonard's CE Primary Academy. I hope you enjoy reading this edition of our newsletter and celebrating the many achievements and memorable moments from across our school.

With best wishes,

Mrs Johnson

Our School Value: Respect

At St Leonard's CE Primary Academy, respect is at the heart of everything we do. Respect means treating others with kindness, valuing everyone's thoughts and feelings, celebrating our differences, and caring for the world around us. When we show respect, we build positive relationships, create a safe and happy learning environment, and help every member of our school community to flourish.

Respect in School

Every day, our children demonstrate respect by listening carefully to others, using kind words, taking turns, looking after our school environment and treating everyone with fairness and compassion.

Respect also means accepting that we may have different opinions or backgrounds while recognising that every person is valued and made in God's image. By showing respect to one another, our children help to make St Leonard's a welcoming place where everyone feels they belong.

Respect at Home

Parents and carers play a vital role in nurturing respect beyond the school gates. Children learn so much from the adults around them, and simple actions such as speaking kindly, listening to one another, showing good manners and resolving disagreements calmly all model respectful behaviour. Encouraging children to consider other people's feelings, appreciate differences and treat everyone with kindness helps them to develop into respectful, responsible members of our community.

Celebrations

We would like to say a huge congratulations to all of our **Year 1** children who recently completed their **Phonics Screening Check**. They have worked incredibly hard throughout the year to develop their phonics knowledge and reading skills, and we are so proud of the determination and resilience they have shown.

Congratulations also to all of our **Year 4** children who have completed their **Multiplication Tables Check**. They have shown great commitment in practising their times tables and approached the assessment with confidence and perseverance.

Well done to every child involved. We are immensely proud of your hard work, positive attitudes and the effort you have put into achieving your very best.

Education Foundation Grant

I wanted to share with you some fantastic news. This week we have found out that we have successfully won a grant of £50,000 to spend on a number of projects in school by the Diocesan Board of Education. This project will be split into two phases – phase one will start this year and phase 2 will be next year.

The focus of this initiative:

Developing a whole-school culture of belonging, resilience, inclusion and spiritual flourishing through emotionally supportive environments, inclusive play opportunities and reflective spaces.

To do this, we will be focusing on the following:

- Implementation and development of the OPAL programme to improve the quality and inclusivity of playtimes.
- Restoration and enhancement of the school forest area to create a safe and engaging outdoor learning and reflection space.
- Creation of regulation stations and sensory circuits within classrooms to support emotional wellbeing, focus and self-regulation.
- Development of reflective spaces and calm areas across the school to encourage spiritual reflection, mindfulness and emotional support.

- Delivery of a programme of religious festivals and cultural celebrations throughout the year.
- Engagement of visitors, faith representatives and workshop leaders to provide interactive experiences and deepen pupils' understanding of different beliefs, cultures and traditions.
- Staff development and training to ensure sustainable whole-school approaches to inclusion, resilience and wellbeing.

We are incredibly excited for this opportunity and look forward to starting this in the new academic year. We will share updates as we go.

Allergy Information and Benedict's Law

As communicated in our previous newsletter, updated national guidance, often referred to as Benedict's Law, requires schools to ensure that clear and up-to-date allergy information is collected and maintained for every pupil.

To support this, we recently sent an allergy information form home with every child. **We are still awaiting the return of some of these forms.** Whether your child has an allergy or not, it is essential that **every family** completes and returns the form, as this enables us to maintain accurate records and ensure the safety and wellbeing of all our pupils.

If you have not yet returned your child's form, please do so as soon as possible. If you have misplaced it, please contact the school office, where a member of staff will be happy to provide you with another copy.

Thank you for your support in helping us keep all of our children safe.

Free School Meals

In our previous newsletter, we shared that there has been an important update to the eligibility criteria for Free School Meals following changes to the national guidance. We have since sent information home to all families explaining the current eligibility criteria.

We believe these changes mean that more children may now be able to access Free School Meals. We therefore encourage all families to complete the Free School Meals form and return it to the school office as soon as possible. Even if you are unsure whether you are eligible, we encourage you to apply, as it could provide valuable support for your child and the school.

If you cannot find the information or application form that was sent home, please speak to Miss Williams, who will be happy to provide you with another copy.

Sports Day

Sports day will be on Friday 10th July and will be similar to the way that it was planned last year.

Sports Day will start at 09.30am and finish by 11.30am. (We will need to lock the gates at 08.30am as usual – we will reopen them at 09.15 approximately – once set up is complete). **Please park considerably.** Ensure that no residents driveways or garages are blocked.

Following the Sports Day we would like to hold a Family picnic. At this point you will be able to collect your child from their class teacher to join you.

We will send out a final letter nearer to the time. The event will go ahead as planned, unless there is extreme weather, in which case it may need to be cancelled. If this were to happen, we would let you know as soon as possible.

Key Dates

- **Monday 6th July – TD Day**
- Wednesday 8th July – Y6 Leaver's Production – matinee and evening performance – details to follow
- Friday 10th July – Sports Day
- Tuesday 14th July – Parent meeting to go over the curriculum changes
- Thursday 16th July – Transition morning for all classes
- Friday 17th July – Reports out to parents
- Tuesday 21st July – Y6 Leavers Assembly
- Wednesday 22nd July – Last day of term 1pm finish