



St. Leonard's CE (A) First School Newsletter

Friday 1st July 2022


'From a tiny spark to a bright flame'



'In him was life; and life was the light of men. And the light shineth in darkness'. (John 1:4-5)

Headteacher: Mrs Kelly Stanesby Chair of Governors: Mrs Sue Hey and Rev Jane Held: Designated safeguarding lead: Mrs Kelly Stanesby, Deputy safeguarding leads: Mrs Julie Amos and Miss Torr

Weekly Diary

Monday 4th July 2022	Full uniform All Laches Wood medical forms to be returned
Tuesday 5th June 2022	Full uniform
Wednesday 6th July 2022 Welly Wednesday 	Welly Wednesday, all pupils -PE kit all day
Thursday 7th July 2022	Full uniform
Friday 8th July 2022 Fitness Friday!	PE kit All payments for Laches Wood to be paid

Your lunch menu for the 4th July - 8th July 2022

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Macaroni cheese, peas and carrots	Sweet and sour chicken and rice, sweetcorn and broccoli	Roast chicken, roasted and mashed potatoes, cabbage and carrots	Beef meatballs and pasta, green beans and sweetcorn	Fish fingers, chips and peas or beans
Oaty biscuit	Muffin	Ice cream	Chocolate sponge	Flapjack

Star Awards



Congratulations are sent out to the following children who won Star Award's this week:

Headteacher award	Vienna
Star of the Week Sparks	Charlie
Star of the Week Flickers	Tobias
Star of the week Flames	Vienna
Spark to a flame Sparks Class	James
Spark to a flame Flickers Class	Sophie
Spark to a flame Flames Class	Ewan
Cooks award	Ewan
Mrs Amos award	Ezme

Laches Wood

Just a reminder to please return your child's medical forms by Monday 4th July. This will ensure that the information is as up to date as possible before the visit.

The coach will leave Manifold Primary at 9am on Monday 11th July, returning on Wednesday 13th in time for normal pick up.

If you haven't done so already please pay for the trip on Parent Pay before 8th July in order that the payment item can be archived before the end of the school year.

Please don't hesitate to get in touch if you have any queries or worries whatsoever.

Miss Torr and Mrs Stanesby will look after them!

Thank you



Special visitors

On Friday we had three very special visitors all the way from the USA. Isla, Henry and their mum Claire popped in to see us as they are over visiting family. It was so lovely to see them.

The children were able to ask them all about their new life in America, their schools, their new friends etc.

They told us about their new house with a swimming pool, their ten week summer holidays and the alligators and snakes they come across whilst cycling to school!

It sounds like they have settled very well.

Thanks for coming to see us.



Wraparound care

Letters have come home with the children regarding September's wraparound care facility.

In a nutshell wraparound care will be available from 7.30am to 6.00pm.

The sessions are now charged at various rates dependant on your child's length of stay.

This has been a huge undertaking in terms of sourcing staff, financial viability and ensuring this will be to Ofsted's exacting standards.

You very kindly completed questionnaires feeding back your requirements and we do hope we have addressed these and alleviated your childcare worries since Tiny Tots advised the ceasing of their provision.

We do hope you take advantage of what is being offered.

It has been no mean feat to get this in place for September and we have to thank our staff for agreeing to provide additional care for the children.

If you do require a place for your child from September please return the forms before the summer holidays.

Mrs Crooks has very kindly offered to manage and co-ordinate the wraparound care so any queries should be directed to:

Crook.E@st-leonards-ipstones.staffs.sch.uk



Work Experience

This week we are welcoming Emily Whilock, Sophie's older sister, to do a week of work experience at St Leonard's.

Emily was once a pupil here so it will be interesting for her to see how everything works from the other side and hopefully develop her aspiration to have a future in education.



Gardening club

On Thursday Mr Brightman returned after three weeks holiday to sort out the jungle that had grown in gardening club's absence.

He, Megan, Eva, Jacob, Corah Rae, Olivia and Eleanor set about weeding the plot and nurturing the broad beans that have grown amazingly.

They worked very hard and it looks so much better now so thank you for all their hard work in their lunch hour.



National Online Safety

Though it became a colossal hit purely on entertainment value (one in five boys in the UK, for example, name Minecraft as their favourite game), Minecraft also packs some educational credibility. It's on the curriculum at some schools in mainland Europe, in fact: as well as coding skills, it's used to teach young people about town planning and environmental issues.

Though hugely popular with children, the average age of Minecraft players is actually 24. This raises the possibility, of course, of other players using explicit language or behaving in ways that young ones ought not to witness. This guide to Minecraft breaks down potential issues in the game that trusted adults need to be aware of.

At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one of many games which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about MINECRAFT

AGE RATING 7+

Minecraft is a beloved classic of modern gaming. First released in 2011, this open-ended 'sandbox' game of building and exploration still has over 140 million players who happily return to play it at least once every month. Minecraft has also been utilised for much more than just entertainment: it's sometimes used in schools to teach children coding, and it's also employed as a tool for computer-aided design, which is another valuable skill. Encouraging creativity and problem solving, Minecraft has plenty to offer gamers of all ages, and it's available on almost all video game platforms.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

PUBLIC SERVERS

Joining a public network (called a server) lets your child potentially interact with strangers through text chat. Some servers focus on building, while others are dedicated to role-playing – encouraging direct player interaction. Anyone can join public servers and connecting to one is relatively simple. Public server IP addresses (and therefore someone's location) are easy to find with search engines.

GRIEFING

Some people in Minecraft delight in purposefully damaging or destroying another player's creation. This is called 'griefing' and is a form of bullying: it intentionally spoils someone else's experience in the game by deleting hours of their work and forcing them to start from scratch. Many public servers treat griefing as a severe offence and frequently ban offenders.

ADDICTIVENESS

Minecraft's gameplay is relatively simple, and the outcome (when a child has built something new, for instance) can be extremely gratifying. This can make the game highly addictive. It's easy to lose track of time while playing Minecraft, causing committed young players to forget about other activities like homework or enjoying family time.

SCARY ELEMENTS

The visual design and gameplay of Minecraft is purposefully child friendly, so there's nothing too untoward in the game. However, some of the 'baddies' that can be encountered might prove a little too scary for very young players. In the game, certain enemies come out at night and are accompanied by audio – such as zombie moans and skeleton bone rattles – that may unsettle young ones.

ADDITIONAL PURCHASES

After initially buying the game, players can make optional extra purchases for cosmetic items and other bonuses. Minecraft Realms is an optional online subscription (requiring regular payments) that lets users run a multiplayer server to play with their friends. Most games consoles also need an active subscription to enable online play – so online gaming can quickly become an expensive hobby.

Advice for Parents & Carers

RESEARCH CONTENT CREATORS

There are a lot of Minecraft content creators who release helpful videos about the game on YouTube and Twitch. Not all of these, however, are suitable for children. Watching these content creators' channels yourself first is a safe way to find appropriate Minecraft videos to share with your children. This also helps you learn more about the game itself, and how your child plays it.

CHOOSE THE RIGHT MODE

Selecting 'Creative' or 'Peaceful' mode allows children to play Minecraft without having to contend with enemies. It's also a great way for you to get used to playing the game with them, since the difficulty level is lower. This allows you to work together on a long-term project, creating something special without the threat of moaning zombies or creepers damaging your build.

HOST A PRIVATE SERVER

The easiest way to find a safe server for your child to play on is to make one yourself. Hosting a server prevents strangers from finding it, unless they've been given the necessary joining details. A private server also lets you control who's allowed to enter and – if necessary – to ban someone who shouldn't be there. This is the closest equivalent to parental controls in Minecraft.

ENCOURAGE BREAKS

It's easy for the hours to fly by while your child is playing Minecraft, so reminding them to take regular breaks is essential. This is a useful way for them to learn good time management, which they'll benefit from as they get older. It will also teach them to play their favourite games in moderation – limiting addictive behaviour and allowing them to manage their day better.

TALK ABOUT STRANGERS

At some point in their lives, almost everyone needs to have contact with a stranger online. Talking to your child about online safety, therefore, is essential – as is having a plan in place for dealing with any hostile or difficult strangers. Ensure that your child knows never to tell a stranger about themselves online, and that they should come to you straight away if they do encounter a problem.

Meet Our Expert

Clare Godwin (a.k.a. Lunawolf) has worked as an editor and journalist in the gaming industry since 2015, providing websites with event coverage, reviews and gaming guides. She is the owner of Lunawolf Gaming and is currently working on various gaming-related projects including game development and writing non-fiction books.

NOS National Online Safety
#WakeUpWednesday

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Reading Stars

This week there has seen some amazing reading from the children.

At this time of year it is normal for the children to be running out of steam but your little ones!

They have "wowed" us with the progress they have made in their reading and several of the children have moved up to the next book band.

We would like to thank you for all your hard work with them at home. It really does make a difference as we've seen this week.



Transition

This week, not only did our year 4 children visit their new schools, but each class has spent time in new what will be their new classroom in September.

All the children have come back from their transition sessions excited about their next learning chapter so well done to all, especially the year 4's, some of whom did their transition as the only ones from St Leonard's so were extra brave.

We're so glad you are all looking forward to it but we will be sad to see our lovely year 4's leave us.

However life moves on we wish them all the luck in the world.



Diary Dates

Wednesday 6th July - 9.00am - 1.00pm - Reception transition

Wednesday 6th July - Churnet View additional transition date for year 4 vulnerable pupils

Monday 11th July - Wednesday 13th July - Flames class visit to Laches Wood

Monday 18th June - Leaver's treat - Bowling

Tuesday 19th July - Leaver's Service-2.15pm

Tuesday 19th July - Break up for the Summer holidays - Wednesday 20 July - Friday 2 September.

INSET Days - Monday 5th and Tuesday 6th September, Children back in school on Wednesday 7th September 2022.



Attendance

Attendance Target 97%

Attendance this week -100%

Well done super stars!

Please don't forget to call or email the school before 9.00am if your child is ill.

You must inform the school every day of your child's absence.

Attendance Matters



Sparks

Sparks spent some time in Flickers class room this week to get a feel for what year 1 will be like.

They thought about what they would like to get better at and wrote their hopes for year 1 in their stars.

Esme wants to get better at Maths, James wants to do neat writing, Eleanor wants to learn more maths and writing, Charlie wants to do neat writing, Olivia wants to get good at writing and Jacob wants to learn more about the Queen and do more reading.



Flickers

Flickers have been learning all about fashion through the ages.

Mrs Goldstraw is making a fashion gallery of clothes from different eras.

She has shown the children some genuine 50's and 60's clothes that she acquired from vintage fairs.



They have also been writing about themselves and their aspirations for year. They wrote about who their friends are, what they are good at, what they liked to learn and what they wanted to get better at.



Flames

Flames class have been recreating the learning behaviour mascots for the school in the style of Hundertwasser.

They decorated proud peacock which represents respect, choosing chimp - love, persevering parrot - endeavour, slinky linky - the link to learning and exploring elephant and creative chameleon which represent curiosity.



They used keynote to create self- portraits and the year 2s (soon to be year 3's) wrote little fact files about themselves to give their new teacher an insight as to what they are like.



