



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

Friday 18th February 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: Mr Matthew Welton

Designated safeguarding lead: Mrs Kelly Stanesby, Deputy safeguarding leads: Mrs Julie Amos and Miss Torr

Weekly Diary

NO AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

Monday 28 th February 2022	INSET DAY
Tuesday 1 st March 2022 Pancake day	Children return to school after half term Full uniform
Wednesday 2 nd March 2022 Welly Wednesday 	Welly Wednesday, all pupils -PE kit all day
Thursday 3 rd March 2022 World Book Day	Come to school dressed as your favourite book character
Friday 4 th March 2022 Fitness Friday!	PE kit

Your lunch menu for the 28th February 2022 - 4th March 2022

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	Sausage, mash, peas and broccoli	Roast chicken, mashed potatoes, roast potatoes, carrots and cabbage	Sausage, chips, green beans and sweetcorn	Fish fingers, chips, peas and beans
	Pancakes	Sponge	Chocolate brownie	Ice cream

Star Awards



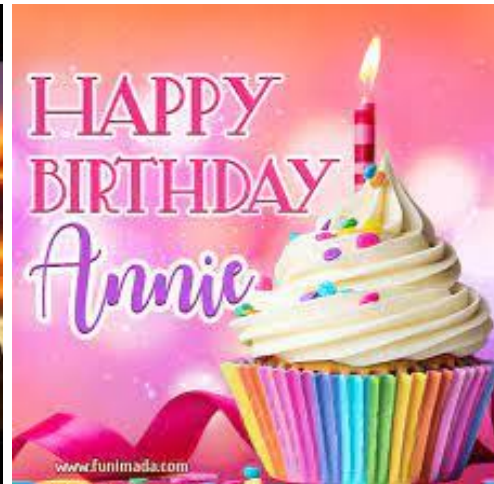
Congratulations are sent out to the following children who won Star Award's this week:

Headteacher award	Alfie
Star of the Week Sparks	Jacob
Star of the Week Flickers	Kallum
Star of the week Flames	Vienna
Spark to a flame Sparks Class	Olivia
Spark to a flame Flickers Class	Dylan
Spark to a flame Flames Class	Jack S
Reading award Flickers	Annie, Eva
Maths award Flickers	Megan
Writing award Flames	Brea
Cooks award	Tobias
Mrs Amos award	James

Happy Birthday

A very Happy Birthday to Ewan who celebrates his birthday this week and also to Annie who has a birthday in the half the holidays.

We hope you both have a lovely time.



Phone calls home

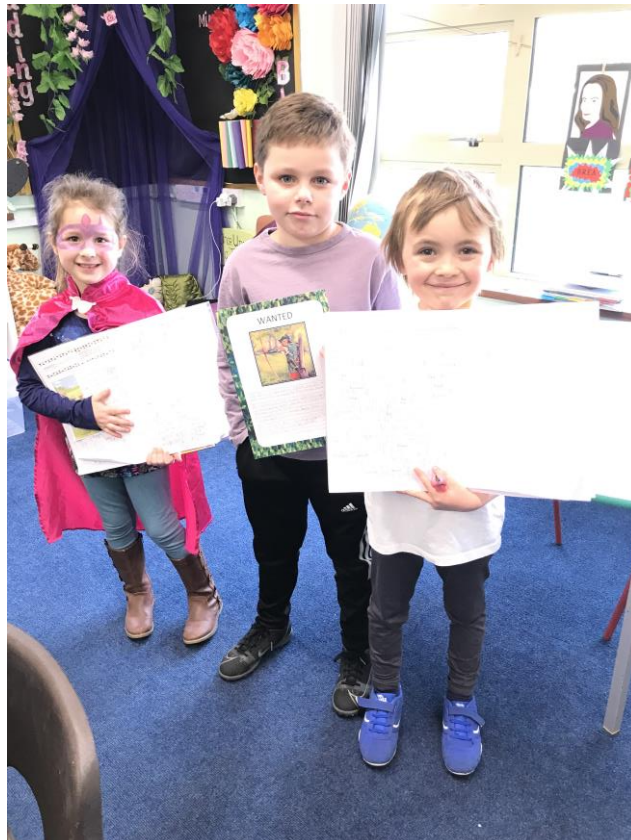
Wow, wow, wow!

We're blown away (and not because of Storm Dudley and Eunice!)

There has been such amazing work in school this week with some of the children's work really standing out to the teachers and earning them a phone call home.

There have been children getting full marks in their spelling tests, full marks in their reading tests and lots of amazing writing about Robin Hood and The Three Little Pigs!

Here are Rosa Bella, Alfie and Dylan showing off their brilliant writing.



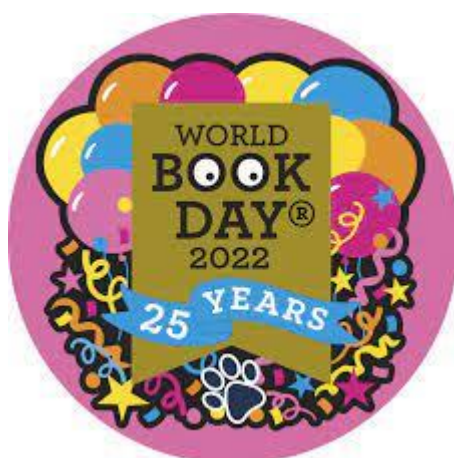
World Book Day - Thursday 3rd March 2022

This year World Book Day is celebrating 25 years of bringing a love of reading to children and young adults.

Their mission has always been to promote reading for pleasure. The message for all children this year is "You are a reader."

Children are invited to come to school dressed as their favourite book character on Thursday 3rd March and bring their books to life!

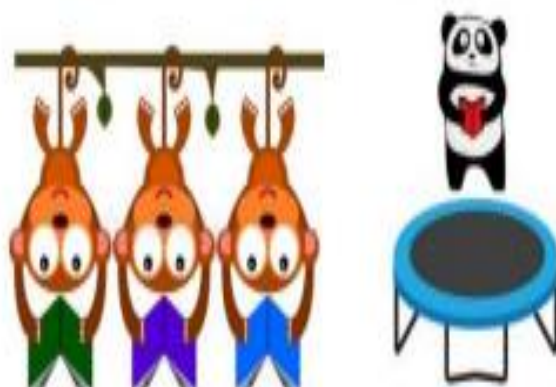
Thanks to National Book Tokens, each child will receive a £1 book token, which can be swapped for a free World Book Day book or £1 off any other book. They can be used in most bookshops and supermarkets. The tokens will be valid until 27th March 2022.



Random reading spot

Reading is the Key that Makes Learning Possible. Reading for pleasure is the basis of this and something that we are all keen to encourage at St Leonard's. Even more fun is finding somewhere crazy to do that reading! Find the most fun or unusual spot and in our half term competition. Ask an adult to take a photograph of you and send it in to us via the school office.

There will be a prize for the best "random reading spot"



Gardening Club

Mr Brightman has very kindly said he will start a lunch time gardening club again after half term.

It has been some time since the garden has been pampered so he will need many helpers!

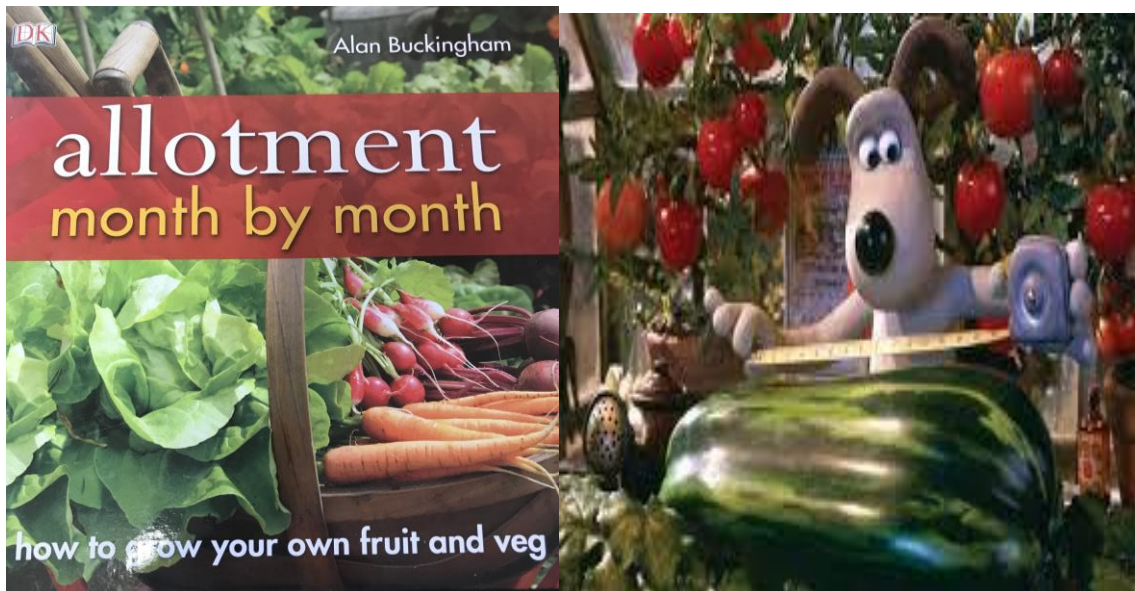
He has lots of seeds to sow and we also have a mission set by "Leek allotment and garden holders association."

They very kindly donated this month by month guide book which will give the children an idea of what they should be sowing and growing throughout the months of the year.

Once they have grown their fruit and vegetables they will be entered in to a School Garden Show which will be judged and a winning piece of fruit or vegetable will be chosen.

The gardening club had great growing success producing grapes, tomatoes, and gooseberries.

Let's see if their growing and nurturing techniques can produce a prize winning specimen!



Academy photography

Please could all photograph orders been sent back in to school by the deadline of 7th March.

Thank you.



Dress as a Superhero Day

The children were really excited to dress up on Thursday and they all looked superb!

We had Wonder Woman, Captain America, Super girl, Bat girl, cat girl. The Incredible Hulk, Spider man, Spider girl, footballers, vets and one child came dressed as their big brother.

Eleanor is unfortunately isolating at the minute so missed the Superhero day in school but mum sent in a picture dressed up at home.

You look fabulous Eleanor and get well soon.



What Parents Need to Know about Wink

Wink is a messaging app which allows children to connect and communicate with other users. In a similar style to Tinder, Wink uses the swipe method for browsing profiles and accepting or declining them. Once two users have accepted each other by swiping on each other's profile, they can then communicate and play games online together. The fact that Wink allows children to share photos, personal information and their location with other users has caused significant concern.

In the guide, you'll find tips on a number of potential risks such as grooming, cyberbullying and inappropriate content.

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 apps 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 WINK

AGE RATING 13+

Wink is a messaging app which allows children to connect and communicate with other users. In a similar style to Tinder, Wink uses the swipe method for browsing profiles and accepting or declining them. Once two users have accepted each other by swiping on one another's profile, they can then communicate and play games online together. The fact that Wink allows children to share photos, personal information and their location with other users has caused significant concern.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

POTENTIAL FOR GROOMING

Wink accounts can't be made private – so when a young person uploads images and shares their social media usernames, it's easier for potential groomers to stalk and locate them online. The fact that children prioritise having an abundance of friends is also a concern: they're more likely to accept someone just to build their friend count – possibly including users with sinister intentions.

ACCIDENTAL OVER-SHARING

Many young people don't consider privacy when they choose to share their social media usernames on their Wink profile. This allows other people to connect with them on multiple platforms, strengthening their online presence and reputation. Some children post photos which reveal aspects of their personal life to other users – showing their house, school, friends and family, for instance.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Many popular messaging apps contain profiles featuring profanity, nude or semi-nude photos and users openly looking for a "wifey" or "hook ups". Users can send messages anonymously, which engenders a sense of power and freedom. Children often engage in inappropriate behaviour more willingly when it's anonymous, even if it's not the sort of thing they would take part in normally.

CYBERBULLYING

Being anonymous online provides some users with an incentive to bully others through toxic private conversations. Anonymous bullies can send hurtful messages or pressure young people into sending inappropriate content. Being a victim of cyberbullying can result in children becoming depressed and showing low self-esteem. If your child is exhibiting these signs, it's time to step in.

EXCESSIVE SCREEN TIME

Wink encourages repeated engagement through signing in daily, making connections, building up a message 'streak' and publicly sharing stories. The reward is 'gems', which allow users to connect with more people, play games and edit their profile background. This can lead to children spending an excessive amount of screen time on the app, which of course can be detrimental to their health.

Advice for Parents & Carers

DO YOUR RESEARCH

If you do decide to allow your child to have a Wink account – or you find that they already have one – it's vital to talk to them about how to use the app responsibly and keep themselves safe. You could also consider exploring Wink yourself and becoming familiar with the app before letting your child download it, as there are no security settings or parental controls that can be put into place.

BE WARY OF SHARING

It's important that your child stays aware of what they're sharing online. Remind them about the importance of not posting personal information like their full name or which school they go to. Many users share their other social media account details on Wink to build their friend count, but we would recommend advising your child not to give strangers multiple avenues to contact them.

BALANCE SCREEN TIME

Before having a chat with your child about screen time, ask yourself if you're being a positive role model. Get your child thinking about how much time they spend on the app: is it healthy? Is it affecting their offline relationships with people? Is it impacting their mood? If so, you could suggest some activities you can do together which aren't so reliant on digital technology.

OFFER YOUR SUPPORT

While it's not always easy to talk about inappropriate content with your child, it's crucial that they understand the impact of sending or receiving it. They also need to feel that they can speak to you about it without worrying about consequences. Emphasise that, if your child receives any messages that make them feel uncomfortable, they can block the sender and report them to the app.

DISCUSS LOSS OF OWNERSHIP

It's essential that young people understand that once content goes online, the sender no longer has any control over where it will end up. While your child may feel like they can trust their online 'friend', that person is still a stranger. Even sharing one inappropriate image, for example, could then be used as leverage – as their 'friend' threatens to release it publicly unless the child sends more.

BE CAUTIOUS OF NEW CONTACTS

Remind your child that not everyone online is who they say they are, and some users have harmful intentions. If someone on Wink is asking them lots of personal questions or suggests meeting up in real life, these are definite red flags. Encourage your child to ask for help if they're unsure about a particular profile. Remember, the app has a block button: your child shouldn't be afraid to use it!

Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.

NOS National Online Safety
#WakeUpWednesday

www.nationalonlinesafety.com @natonlinesafety /NationalOnlineSafety @nationalonlinesafety

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 16.02.2022

Pancake Day

The children return to school on Tuesday 1st March which is Pancake Day.

They will be partaking in our traditional Pancake Day race.

The children will be running and flipping to see who gets to the finish line first.

This is something that we have done at St Leonard's for many years, pandemic excluded, so it's good to bring it back now things are getting back to near normal just for a bit of fun!

Where did pancake races come from?

The pancake race is thought to originate in the town of Olney in Buckinghamshire, England, where they still host a traditional ladies-only race each year.

The Olney pancake race has been run since 1445, so there is no doubt that it is the spiritual home of the event.

Whilst the reason for its invention is not certain, the most widely accepted tale is of a woman so busy making pancakes that she was about to miss a church service. On hearing the church bells she ran out of the house and had to flip the pancake in her pan to stop it burning on the way to the church.

The race in Olney has traditionally been run with the finishing line of the church steps, in keeping with this story.

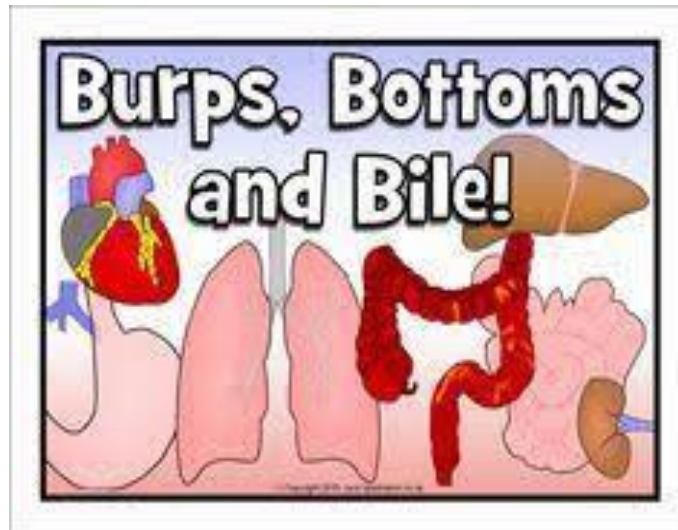


Sparks

Sparks class have been busy this week learning The Post Man and The Fire Fighter songs which seems to have inspired some of our little ones to choose their careers with Charlie wanting to be a fire fighter it would seem!

The children's learning about Superheroes this term has encapsulated all aspects of the curriculum from RE - How have super heroes brought about changes to our lives? History - Researching Super Heroes of the past, ie. Ernest Shackleton, PSHE - Who do we know who is a real life Super Hero? and English - Writing Super Hero character descriptions.

Next term's topic is "Burps, bottoms and bile!" all about the body.



Sparks have also been joining in with creating Roy Lichtenstein inspired pop art using cotton buds to delicately dab their paint on to their pictures putting their fine motor skills to the test.

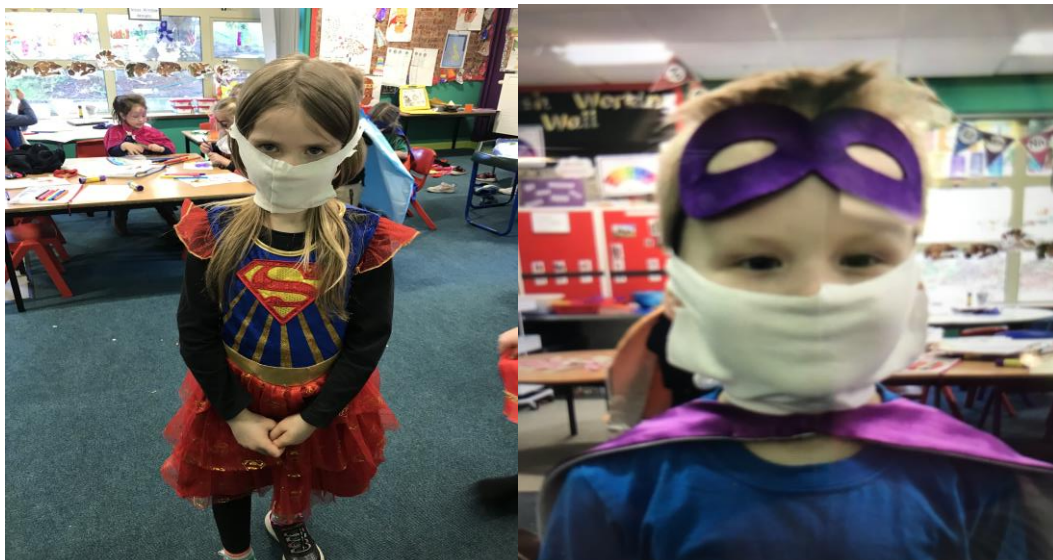


Flickers

Flickers class finished off decorating their willow heart wands with wool, ribbon and string on Welly Wednesday and they looked very pretty indeed!



They have also made their masks, thank you for sending in the materials to do so.



Flickers

Mrs Goldstraw has created a "British History Timeline" to depict all the things Flickers have been learning about this year.

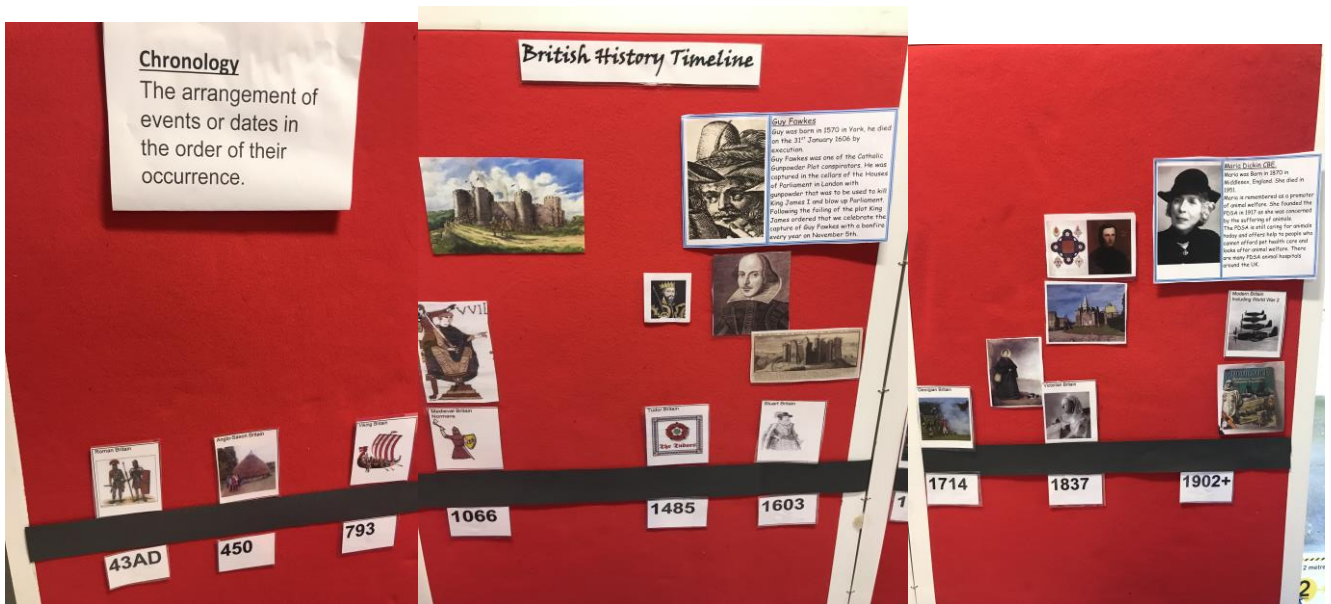
It starts as long ago as 43AD and the Roman conquest. It then moves on to the year 450 and the Egyptians.

In the year 793 the Vikings attacked Lindisfarne.

The timeline then jumps to 1066 and The Battle of Hastings, 1485 and the Tudors and 1603, the Stuarts and William Shakespeare.

Moving on then to 1714 and the Georgian era, 1837 the Victorian era and 1902, the Edwardian era.

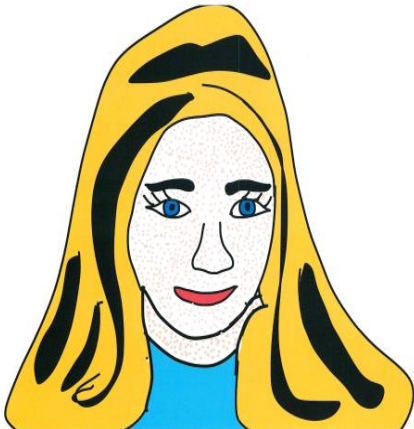
As you can see they have learnt about lots of really interesting topics delivered by someone who is really passionate and knowledgeable about History, our very own Mrs Goldstraw.



Flames

Flames class have been creating self portraits on their ipads using "key note" and in the style of pop artist Roy Litchenstein.

They're so good we're sure you'll be able to tell who is who!



Parent Pay

Please may we politely ask that you check your Parent Pay balance over the half term holidays and settle any outstanding payments.

Thank you.



Happy Half Term

Have a lovely half term break and we will see the children back in school on Tuesday 1st March.

