

The Leys Primary and Nursery School

Summer, 2023 Edition

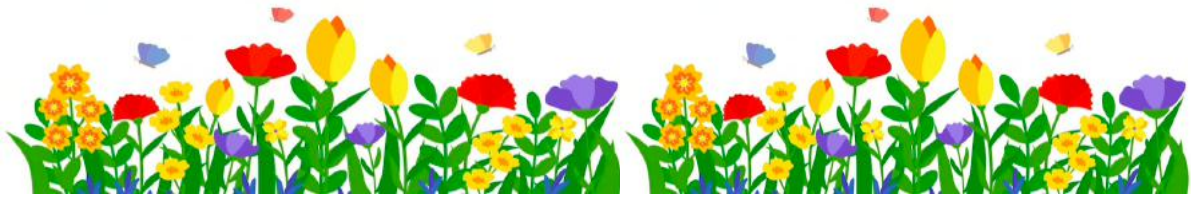
# PRESS GANG

This Year's Press Gang consists of Year 5 and 6 pupils. From year 5 we have Layla, Tiara, Tammy, Amina, Mitchell, Olive, Paris and Nancy. From Year 6 we have Kai, Elizabeth, Veda and Alys.



Throughout each term, the pupils gather images and notes about events that are taking place both inside and outside of school. They use interviews and pupil/staff voice to help gather as much information as they can. Ms Westwood and Miss Garner help to support them in their writing journey each week in order to create this newsletter.

We hope you enjoy our Summer 2023 Edition.



## Sports Day

On our sports day, each child represents a house in the school and they are participating to earn points for that house - the houses are named after 6 of the continents - Africa, Aisa, Australasia, Europe and North and South America.



The events which are included in the day are; a bean bag on the head race, hurdles, sprint and activity race. It's great to see and really builds a sense of community within the school and with everyone involved.

This year's results had been the closest for many years with Asia coming in third (just 3 points behind second place), Australasia in second (just 2 points behind the winners) and Europe taking the crown on 117 points!!



This was a great achievement so well done Europe!!

By Paris Year 5



*I'm an 11 Year Old Get  
Me Out Of Here!! Year 6  
production 2023*

Year 6 had been working hard on a very special play for weeks and the play was called 'I'm an 11 year old, get me out of here!!' This play was based on the trials and challenges that 11 year olds face at primary school and was mixed with elements of the popular TV show 'I'm a Celebrity.'. The main characters in this play are Grant (Kai Cheung) and Bex (Elizabeth Ryan), the hosts of the show. They have visited a school where the Year 6 students are leaving and to be able to do this, they need to complete challenges and win stars. Some of the challenges they faced were eating 'disgusting' school dinners, **not** getting embarrassed by your parents and also filling in missing words in a 'their, there and they're' sentence. Before the play is shown to the Year 6 parents, the rest of the school get to see it and it has been a massive success with lots of fun and laughter. Year 6 have done themselves proud and I am so pleased to have been a part of it in my last year at The Leys Primary and Nursery School and the memories will live with me forever.



*Elizabeth - Year 6*



*Eid al-Fitr*

Eid al-Fitr, which is also known as the breaking of the fast, is a celebration that marks the end of Ramadan. Did you know it is celebrated for one to three days depending on the country you're from?

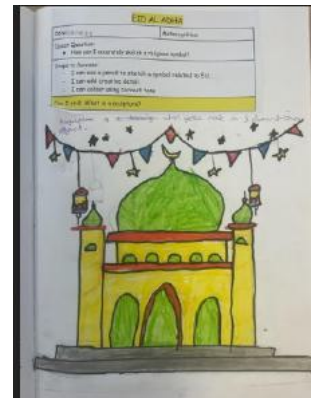
This year, Ramadan started on the 22nd of March and continued for 30 days. This can change depending on the cycles of the moon as this is also what the Islamic calendar is based on.

During Ramadan Muslims fast from sunrise until sunset, and so Eid is the time where they celebrate the end of Ramadan (which is also spelled as Ramazan). Like the beginning of Ramadan, Eid begins with the first sighting of the new moon.

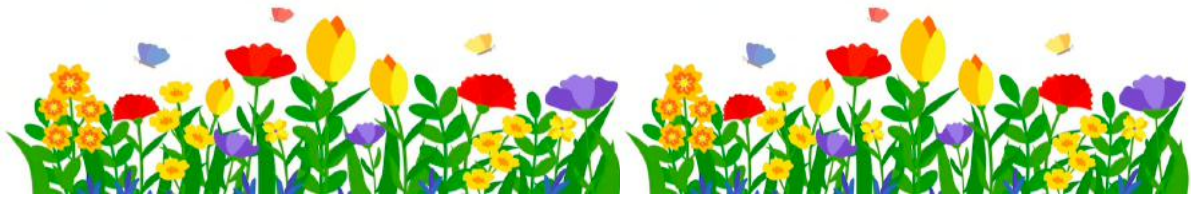
Fun facts

- During Eid al-Fitr Muslims carry out their duties toward the poor.
- It lasts for up to three days.
- Eid in Arabic means 'festival'.
- It is celebrated worldwide.

By Tammy  
and Mltchell  
- Year 5







## The King's Coronation

Since the passing of Queen Elizabeth II, back in Sept 2022, her son, Charles, had become King but had been awaiting his Coronation day.

A coronation is a celebratory event where the Sovereign is crowned and presented with numerous ceremonial objects including the Crown Jewels, the Orb and Sceptre.

The King's coronation took place recently on Saturday 6th May 2023, at Westminster Abbey (London). The ceremony saw his Majesty King Charles III crowned alongside Camilla - Queen consort! The coronation reflected on the monarch's role today and looked towards the future whilst being steeped in longstanding traditions and richness.

Over 2000 people received special invites to the coronation, including workers of the NHS and fundraisers!! This was significantly less than the number of guests at Queen Elizabeth's coronation back in 1953.

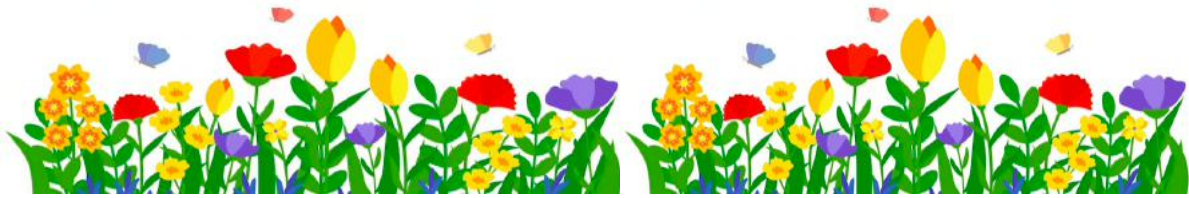
King Charles III had a coronation emblem and the Investiture took place in a 700 year old chair! The crown has been around since 1661 when our first King was crowned.

Many street parties were held across the country to celebrate such an event. Many played games, decorated buildings and shared memories from the past with each other. I wonder how long it will be until we crown the next King - William.

For the last few weeks we have been learning about the King and his Coronation. The children have been listening to Coronation music, learning new songs, drawing portraits, making crowns, watching Newsround and writing fact files about the King. This Friday, we will be having our class celebrations across the school. Next week, the Juniors will be taking part in Coronation dance workshops called Dancing through the Decades.

**By Layla**





## **Pupil Parliament**



Pupil parliament is held once a term and is an opportunity to discuss what we want to do within our school - such as activities and ways to better ourselves. On the day the whole school splits into different groups with a selection of children from each year. Year 6 pupils lead the discussion at the parliament with the support of teachers. It is a great way of making friends throughout the school and having your say on matters that are important to us as children and students of the school.

This term we discussed mindfulness activities with our 5 Ways to Wellbeing. These included activities such making daisy chains, nature walks and archery - all of this and more are ways to a healthy, relaxed you! Connect is when you make new friends, smile at them to make them feel happy and help them when they need it. Being active is when you spend more time outside, you don't need to be running, you can be playing at the park or playing with a pet. Take notice is when you take time to look around, feel happy and be calm and relaxed. Give, this creates a positive feeling helping you to connect with other people saying thank you. Keep learning is the last 5 ways to wellbeing. It's when you build up your confidence to learn something new. Skyla from Year 5 Zephaniah class said "I enjoyed pupil parliament this year because I can add new things to the school and I can also express my ideas about things".

From Naomi N.

## **Summer Fair**



The Leys summer fair was amazing this year, not to mention hot! As always there were so many wonderful stalls including hook a duck (which really "hooked" people's attention), guess the number of sweets in the jar, name the teddy and even a bouncy castle!



This day was extremely hot, perhaps even the hottest day of the year! The dancers from The Leys performed an excellent routine for the whole school near the beginning, there was a tug of war and last but not least, Mrs Khangura was gunked at the end of the day by two lucky winners - Erica and Jack from Year 2!!

As well as all this, there were two lovely tombolas which each year group within the school had donated to by bringing in either toiletries, chocolates, biscuits or bottles of drink. These proved to be very popular especially with the adults!



One of the favourite stalls there was where you could fill an animal shaped bottle with coloured sand. This was what Perla from Year 5 had to say, “The sand animals were so pretty and I’ve made them before. My favourite is the turtle.”

For when people had finished playing games and winning prizes, they could get refreshments. We had an ice cream van, tea and cakes and a food stall selling

pizza, burgers and hot dogs.

Yummy!

“This was just what we needed after playing outside in the sun. I treated myself to a piece of cake - similar to a rocky road and it was lush!” said Amber from Year 5.

The Leys choir performed a harmonious piece of music for everyone who came to the fair and there was also artwork to be put on your face and hands (known as Henna) and a skillful face painter.

It is a happy yet sad affair, as Year 6 will be leaving us and moving on to a new adventure (secondary school) soon, so this marks their last Leys fair and the end of the school year. By Olive - Year 5



### **Stevenage Sporting Futures - Lacrosse Festival June 2023**

Recently, on 17th June, students from our school were chosen to attend a Lacrosse Festival held at Barnwood School Leisure Centre. Pupils from across Year 5 spent the day out in the field learning how to put their recently learnt lacrosse skills (from after school clubs) into action.

The day started off with students mixing with other schools from across Stevenage and trying some new techniques. They spent time learning some new terminology and then took it in turns to have shots at goal, practise handling the lacrosse stick (also known as a crosse) and picking up the ball by using the well known scooping method. “Learning how to throw the ball from above our heads after scooping it up from the ground was difficult to start with, but soon, we all became better at it and enjoyed the experience so much,” commented Lilly.

After a lunch break, the students were then given the chance to put all these new found abilities into practice by holding small games with the other schools. The Leys School did so well in these and the students can be very proud of themselves. Maybe some of them have found a new sporting love!







### The King's Birthday

Today, I'll be telling you about the King's birthday and the different questions about the event. The King actually has 2 birthdays and it's because of the



weather! So let's jump into the facts about the King's special days.

#### When is the King's birthday?

The King was born on the 14th

November 1948. When it's the Monarchs birthday they have a big parade at Horse Guards Parade in their honour, each year, named "Trooping the Colour" and it's been a custom dating back to the time of Charles II in the 17th Century.

#### Why does the King have 2 birthday celebrations?

The King has 2 birthdays, but why? Well, the King has 2 birthdays because one is to celebrate when he was actually born (14th November) and the other one is celebrated on the day he was crowned (6th May). Imagine that!

By Nancy Year 5

### International week

We celebrate International Week every year to make people from all different cultures feel welcome and



to educate others about what is important to nations around the World.

On International Week this year we celebrated by each year group making projects about different areas/cultures of another country. Lots of classes discussed what the nation's flag looked like and created paintings of it. Romania was studied by Year 1, Brazil by Year 2, Year 3 got to research USA, Year 4 Pakistan and Year 5 and Year 6 researched Nigeria and Japan respectively.

At the end of International Week all the year groups chose the best projects from that year and they were shown in a whole school assembly.



Even though not everyone got to show their work it gave all of the school more knowledge about other cultures and everyone learnt a lot!

By Amina and Olive Year 5



## STEAM Week

STEAM week is designed to inspire children and teach them more about Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Maths. STEAM week is for children to get involved in and use the above to help them build something with these skills.

STEAM week is important because it encourages children to find out more about these educational areas, use scientific thinking and it also makes them better problem solvers.

At school, the theme this term was 'How high can it go?' Students were asked to build a rocket, spaceship or anything that would 'lift off' so that we could judge how high it would go off the ground or from a fixed starting point. Any materials could be used from home or outside and many people chose vinegar and baking soda, pumps attached to bottles or just straws and a balloon which you would blow into.



This is a small selection of the rockets produced in Riordan Class Year 5

There were two categories in which you could enter to win, which flew the highest and also the most creative design. This term both winners were from Riordan class in Year with Mya winning with the one which went the highest and Cyprian with the most creative design. He said, "This was so much fun to build and I got some help from my parents so it's a real joint effort!"

Cyprian's winning rocket

By Paris Year 5







## Global Goals

**Ensure healthy lives and to promote wellbeing for all ages.**

Over the last 15 years, the number of childhood deaths has been cut in half, however, we are still spending too much money and resources on fighting illnesses which can be easily treated. The new goal for worldwide Good Health promotes healthy lifestyles, preventive measures and modern, efficient healthcare for everyone of all ages.

Things you can do to help towards this Global Goal:

1. Find a relevant charity to support - make a donation or hold a sponsored event to help raise money
2. Add your name to the organ donor list
3. Vaccinate yourself and your children against disease
4. Donate your blood - it may save lives



## St Georges Day

St George's Day is a day known by almost every Englishman and woman and is celebrated on April 23rd every year. It is a day when you celebrate St George's death in 303 AD. Legend says that St George tamed and slayed a dragon who wanted human sacrifices!! St George is now known as the patron saint of England and has been since the Hundred Years' War.

Historically, St George's Day was seen as a Bank Holiday but now it is just celebrated with flags of the image of the cross which are flown on buildings, especially pubs and people might wear a red rose to symbolise it as well. On St George's day people would eat roast beef, bread and butter pudding or if you were lucky, a good tea consisting of scones, strawberry jam and some cream.

Other ways to celebrate St George's day are by watching Punch and Judy shows and going to parades, some even do morris dancing.

This is a phenomenal picture of many dancers performing the morris dance during a celebration.

How did you celebrate your St Georges day?

**By Amina S and Naomi N.**



## National Earth Day

### What is it?

National Earth day is on Saturday April 22nd 2023. It's an annual event to point out the problems that happen everyday on our planet; like global warming, pollution and deforestation. Also, about 1 billion people celebrate National Earth day, meaning that it is a very popular day. But, do you know when it was created? In 1970, the first National Earth day was held but it wasn't held globally until 1990, when everyone around the world participated.

### Why is global warming affecting us?

Global warming is terrible for us and our planet, it can overheat the world, giving us less life. When all the icebergs melt into the water, our temperature starts to increase. When this happens, we could lose all the ice in the world, so polar bears could go extinct for good and the land would be flooded.



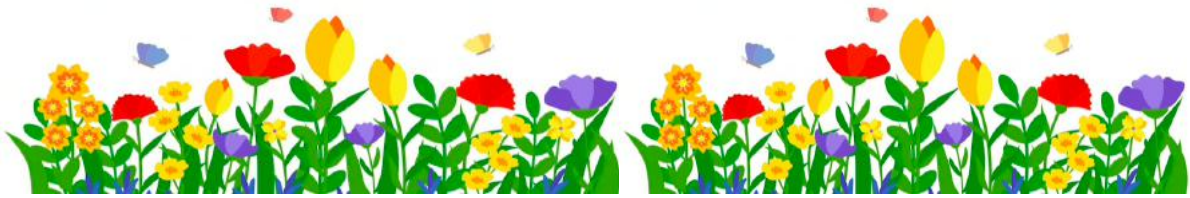
### Pollution

The world suffers from something called 'pollution' and this crisis is due to humans manufacturing items to use which is killing the Earth, little by little. We are responsible for this and if we don't undo our mistake, all of our lives could be at risk! The pollution mostly comes from industrial equipment. Pollution can be created mostly anywhere like air, sea or land! Pollution can also damage us and the Earth which can lead to human extinction. Diseases are being created by pollution and it can sometimes be deadly.

I hoped you learnt how we can save our planet or even celebrate Earth day!! 🌳



By Tiara and Nancy - Year 5



## Fancy a Writing Challenge Over the Summer holidays?

Try and complete as many of these as you can!



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Make a bucket list of things you want to do this summer. <b>Date:</b>	Write your life story. <b>Date:</b>	Go for a walk. Write five sentences about the walk you went on. <b>Date:</b>	Write a scary story. <b>Date:</b>	Write a letter to your friend or family. <b>Date:</b>
Write about the last week of school. <b>Date:</b>	Write a description of a garden using 5 senses. <b>Date:</b>	Write what you did on a rainy day. <b>Date:</b>	Write about the worst holiday of your life. <b>Date:</b>	Write swimming instructions for your younger sibling. <b>Date:</b>
Write a poem about summer. <b>Date:</b>	Write about a new exotic fruit you tasted this summer. <b>Date:</b>	Write about a picnic. <b>Date:</b>	Write about your favourite water game or activity. <b>Date:</b>	Write a recipe of your favourite food. <b>Date:</b>
Write a book review of your favourite book. <b>Date:</b>	Write about your favourite children's book author. <b>Date:</b>	Write about a magic lamp you found in the woods. <b>Date:</b>	Write a summer song. <b>Date:</b>	Write in your playhouse. <b>Date:</b>
Write a hilarious poem. <b>Date:</b>	Write about a favourite character you read in the book. <b>Date:</b>	Write a shopping list for your parents. <b>Date:</b>	Write about your favourite sport. <b>Date:</b>	Write a mystery story. <b>Date:</b>
Write a new ending for a book you read today. <b>Date:</b>	Write five interesting facts about summer. <b>Date:</b>	Write about the beach you went this summer. <b>Date:</b>	Write under the stars. <b>Date:</b>	Write what you want to achieve in your new class. <b>Date:</b>