



The Leys Primary and Nursery School

Spring, 2024 Edition

PRESS GANG

This Year's Press Gang consists of Year 5 and 6 pupils. From Year 5 we have Emma, Mia, Millie, Chelsea, Liam, Nellie, Isla, Grace and Year 6 is represented by Olive, Naomi, Amina, Archie, Rebecca, Mitchell, Amber and Tammy,



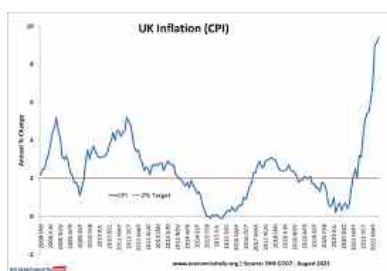
Throughout each term, the pupils gather images and notes about events that are taking place both inside and outside of school. They use interviews and pupil/staff voice to help gather as much information as they can. Mrs Westwood helps support them in their writing journey each week in order to create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

“Start writing, no matter what. The water does not flow until the faucet is turned on.” — Louis L'Amour



Why did it start?

Since late 202, you may have noticed that prices have been increasing, this is because shops have had to increase prices to get back the money that they lost in covid. It is expected to ease this year but wages compared to prices are only



predicted to be back to 2021 level in 2027.

What is the Cost of Living Crisis and who has it affected?

The cost of living crisis is where everyday essentials like food and bills go up faster than the average household income. The cost of living crisis severely affects people with a low income or no income. It has affected everyone but people on lower incomes have been affected the most. It has severely affected people with a low income or no income. It also has had an impact on businesses because workers want more pay.

Pupil Parliament

What is pupil parliament, you ask? Well it is when children are invited to meet and discuss what can happen in their school. In these sessions, pupils make important suggestions on rules and activities that the school can take part in.

This term, we discussed how important *diversity* is and what it means. The dictionary meaning of diversity is: "the practice or quality of including or involving people from a range of different social and ethnic backgrounds and of different genders, sexual orientations etc."

However, what it means to us personally, is that no matter who you are or what you look like you matter and all 'groups' of people should be included. A quote from Dr Christie on the meaning of *diversity*, "A wide range of differences all taking part together." Miss Luzzi commented, "I think that pupil parliament is a great chance for all the year groups to discuss important opinions."

Following on from this we have a special extract from the mayor's recent speech at our school on the meaning of *diversity*. She commented, "No matter your background you matter to society. Look at your hand. It joins with different lengths, but take a finger away, then you will find it hard to use your hand."

At every Pupil Parliament, Year 5 collect Year 2 and Year 6 collect Year 1 to take them to their appropriate station for the meeting.



Where can you find help?

There are many charities and schemes that have been set up to help people in need of help.

They can provide you with ideas to save money, provide free food for struggling families or even provide shelter. Some examples are Citizens Advice, The Prince's Trust and StepChange. If you are having trouble paying bills or are falling into debt with current financial dealings you might be able to find help with Step Change.



This session was more of a practical one than previous ones and the Year groups were given different activities.

Year 5 & 6 collectively wrote *diverse* poems using special words to describe what it means, how it can be achieved and how it is viewed in different cultures.

This is one example of the poems written:

Whilst we were busy with our project, Year 1-4 created *diversity* posters using pictures to depict the meaning of diversity. They came up with many great ideas and this is an extra special one:



By Amina



ESafety

What is E-safety?

E Safety is about being safe online and being aware of the possible dangers that can occur online, and how to deal with them. Internet safety is an important topic for everyone. It is essential to know how to protect yourself from potential dangers. Here are some rules to keep you safe (SMART rules).

The **SMART** Rules!

S=Safety, Keep safe by not giving out personal information, such as your name, email address and home address to people online.

M=Meeting, Meeting someone you only know online can be very dangerous. You should only do this when a parent or carer gives you permission to do so and they must be present at the time.

A=Acceptable, Accepting emails, messages or opening pictures and files from unknown people can lead to problems, they might contain viruses or nasty messages!

R=Reliable, Some information online might be untrue or someone online could be lying about who they are.

T=Tell, You should tell a trusted adult or parent/carers if something or someone online is making you feel uncomfortable or if someone you know is being bullied.



NSPCC Number Day 2024

NSPCC Number Day was on February 2nd this year. Schools, organisations and individuals across the UK came together to take part in lots of different maths-related activities and this helped raise funds to support the charity's ongoing work for children. All Years in our school participated one way or another. Year 3 looked at how they can save and use their pocket money wisely, Year 4, 5 and 6 had a couple of different activities with one being a code breaker - Buddy's Key Challenge. They would answer some questions and for each correct answer



Extra facts to help you online!

- Inform your parents or a guardian if anyone bullies you online
- Ask your parents or guardian before filling in online forms
- Only use apps or games that are suitable for your age group



- Keep your passwords to yourself, never share them!
- Don't talk to strangers, it can be dangerous!
- Never open random links, they could be scams, or even worse, they could hack your device!
- Make sure the passwords you use are strong to make sure hackers can't get in
- If you can get a VPN (That stands for virtual private network!) because it will protect your online activity, hide your IP addresses and keep your data safe from strangers.

At school

At school, we do learn a lot about online safety. Sometimes we learn about online safety in PSHE. A while ago, we did computer safety in PSHE and we were identifying different social media apps and what ages they were suitable for. It was a surprise to us with some of them, especially WhatsApp, being designed for 12 years and over. If you are ever unsure, consult your responsible adult before downloading any of them.

By Rebecca Iacob

they got a puzzle piece which showed a



picture of a key with the NSPCC logo on

it. They worked in teams and had to

problem solve which is very important in

Maths and general life skills. It was lots of

fun and raised good awareness for the

Charity. We raised £100 from the parents

and carers at the school so a big thank

you to all who donated.

Naomi - Year 6

NSPCC 
Cruelty to children must stop. FULL STOP.



THE GLOBAL GOALS

For Sustainable Development

What are Global Goals?

The Global Goals are a set of 17 dedications made by 193 world leaders, to end extreme poverty, inequality and climate change around the world by 2030. They are important because they are a call to action to ensure that all people enjoy health, justice and prosperity especially in today's world and it's critical that no one is left behind.

5th Global Goal - Gender Equality

Achieve Gender Equality and empower all women and girls.

Gender bias is undermining and devalues all of us. It is a human rights issue and by denying women equal rights, half of the population do not get to live the life they wish. Political, economic and social equality for women will benefit all the world. In today's society, gender equality should be automatic and we must work hard

Poetry Day

Every term we have a poetry competition across the whole of the school to celebrate Poetry Day!!

POETRY IS THE
RHYTHMICAL CREATION
OF BEAUTY IN WORDS.

EDGAR ALLAN POE
ABOUTEDGARALLANPOE.COM

What is poetry day all about?

Poetry day is a day about honouring poets, to promote the reading, writing and teaching of poetry and to raise awareness of poetry in the media and socially, especially in this day and age of electronics. It is also lots of fun! It also improves your poem skills and if you work in a group then it can improve your teamwork with others as well.

What are the terms of poetry day in our school?

So, on poetry day you can choose to work on your own or in small groups of maybe 2 or 3, to create your own Easter poem. The staff then choose the winners and they get to read their poem out in assembly and the best will get a special chocolate surprise!

How are the winners chosen?

The winners are based on the most creative poem so children are encouraged to let their imagination run wild. It is also based on the actual



together to ensure things change and women are treated in the same way as men.

An example of the targets set to help end Gender Inequality

END DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS

End all forms of discrimination against all women and girls everywhere.

END ALL VIOLENCE AGAINST AND EXPLOITATION OF WOMEN AND GIRLS

Eliminate all forms of violence against all women and girls in the public including trafficking and inappropriate and other types of exploitation.

ELIMINATE FORCED MARRIAGES AND GENITAL MUTILATION

Eliminate all harmful violence, such as child abuse , and forced marriage and female genital mutilation.

ENSURE FULL PARTICIPATION IN LEADERSHIP AND DECISION-MAKING

Ensure women's full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision-making in economic and public life.

BY Mitchell Year 6

content of the poem itself and must be about Easter.

Why do we host a poetry competition each term?

We host a poetry competition each term because it helps with creative writing which is a huge area of our curriculum and also helps with English skills. The poetry competition also helps with building confidence in speaking in front of our peers because you have to be loud for everyone to hear your amazing poem!

Olive in Year 6 wrote this wonderful work for the competition:

Here comes Easter,
Chocolate munching,
Chocolate chocolate crunching,
Here comes Easter,
Bunting hung,
Bees are back (ouch that stung),

Here comes Easter,
Coloured eggs hidden well,
If you find them be sure not to tell,
Here comes Easter,
Bunnies hop,
Through and through they never stop,

There goes Easter,
Through the night,
It will be gone by the time it's light.



By Paris and Archie



Tips for a better Environment - Archie Bowen Yr 6

How can we keep our Environment and planet healthy and sustainable for our future generations?



Don't litter, it's not right and our planet doesn't deserve it! The fewer single-use products you buy, the less rubbish you create. You can make an extra effort to place your rubbish in the nearest bin. Keep refuse bins and recycling boxes tightly covered to prevent litter from being blown away and potentially harming animals nearby.

1. Reduce, reuse, and recycle and cut down on what you throw away
2. Volunteer for clean ups in your streets, communities and rivers or get a better understanding of how to help tidy up for a better community
3. If people can't get clean water help them and let them fill their cup or bottle with fresh clean water or you can give them a water bottle
4. You can help educate people about how to keep the environment clean and safe for our future generations
5. If you are selling food you need to make sure to have a selling licence which will ensure you tidy up after yourself fully and keep the towns and villages free from litter
6. You should shop wisely, maybe from charity shops or second-hand selling sites, to help yourself with saving money and it would also mean less clothes are dumped in landfill
7. Use energy saving light bulbs which will last longer than normal ones and it will therefore save you money overall!



World Book Day 2024

By Olive and Naomi Year 6



What is World Book Day?

World Book Day is where everyone dresses up as their favourite character from a book of their choice to celebrate the importance of books in our lives and the joy they can bring to us. For example you could dress up as Snow White or maybe Fantastic Mr Fox. Whatever it is, it's to inspire a love of reading in children.

What day and when did it start?

It started in 1995 on the 23rd of April by UNESCO. If you didn't know, UNESCO stands for the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation. World Book Day was on Thursday the 7th of March this year.



What other people think about world book day

Miss Westwood, an amazing TA, says, "World Book Day is a fantastic event to encourage children of all ages to be more involved with all aspects of reading and to learn how to express themselves"

Another comment from Shaylen in Year 6 is, "World Book Day is a day where you can express your interest and love in books."

Our Poem in honour of WBD - created by Olive and Naomi

World book day, a day full of imagination,
Celebrated across many a nation,

A wonderful time,
As good as this rhyme
A time to celebrate books world wide,



Books are like shells brought in by the tide,

They are full of inspiration,
used in school for education.

Books are awesome, fantastic and great,
That's why we all celebrate!



What are we doing as a school?

Lou Kuenzier (a dyslexic children's author whose books include: *Eat Your People, My Family and Other Ghosts* and *The Return of the Railway Children*) was coming to talk to us and sign copies of her books. We also took the opportunity to spend time reading to other children within the school. Each year group visited a different year and paired up with someone and they would read to each other. This really helps to build confidence in the individual children and allow them to express themselves with people they wouldn't normally.

Some children also decided to dress up as their favourite book character and show their inventive side - some outfits were bought and some even hand-made.





STEAM Week - Spring Term

By Liam Voss Year 5

From the 11th - 15th March the school took part in STEAM week. This is a regular event where schools across the country celebrate all things involving: Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Mathematics (STEAM). This term the topic was **A Whole New World - Animals**. We made new species of animals that could be discovered by joining two different animals together. So, for example, a lion and giraffe, a cat, rat and bat or even a turtle and a jellyfish.

We had to think about things like its habitat, diet, if it was a predator or prey and its defences. We were put in pairs and together designed, drew and labelled an animal showing all the above elements. Then we made a 3D model of our animal out of tin foil, paper and card or even playdough



On the 15th of March all the animals from the whole school were displayed in the hall for parents to come in and see after school. Classes had designed their own background, either individually or as a class, to show the habitats these animals would live in.



Also, at the Science Fair was an amazing display of all the projects which had been submitted regarding the homework on "Why is this Science?" The children were set the task of recording themselves doing something which was based on science and then explaining how this was the case. The entries across the school were fantastic and Miss Luzzi had the horrid task of choosing 4 winners from across all the year groups. Congratulations (in no particular order) to:

Robyn Richardson - Year 2, Harry Richardson - Year 3, Will Kendall - Rec and Chase Roberston - Year 6





ANTI BULLYING

BY MIA AND MILLIE

BULLYING IS WHEN SOMEONE IS REPEATEDLY HURTING YOU MENTALLY OR EVEN PHYSICALLY. THEY CAN DO THIS BY CALLING YOU NAMES, MAKING RACIST COMMENTS, PICKING ON YOU, SHOUTING AT YOU FOR NO REASON AND NOT CARING ABOUT YOUR FEELINGS.

THIS IS NOT RIGHT!!!

BULLYING CAN BE HURTFUL AND HARD TO TALK ABOUT BUT YOU SHOULD ALWAYS SHARE WHAT IS HAPPENING EVEN WHEN IT IS DIFFICULT. IT WILL HELP YOU AND MAYBE EVEN STOP IT HAPPENING TO SOMEONE ELSE.

**HAVE YOU HEARD OF
ANTI-BULLYING WEEK?**

ANTI-BULLYING WEEK IS AN ENTIRE WEEK DEDICATED TO PREVENTING BULLYING AND LOOKING AT HOW WE CAN HELP PEOPLE WHO HAVE BEEN AFFECTED BY BULLYING. AT OUR SCHOOL, ANTI-BULLYING IS VERY SERIOUS AND WE ARE ALWAYS LOOKING FOR WAYS TO ENGAGE OUR CHILDREN AND TEACH THEM MORE ABOUT RIGHT AND WRONG. RECENTLY, ALL YEAR GROUPS TOOK PART IN AN



EASTER

By

**Nellie, Chelsea and Isla
Year 5**

Easter actually originated as an ancient pagan celebration of the spring equinox. In Christianity, the day was dedicated to observing the resurrection of Jesus Christ, on the third day after his crucifixion. It is celebrated around the time of the Jewish Passover.



Christians often refer to the week before Easter as Holy Week and prior to this have invested time in observing LENT - where they give up



ASSEMBLY AND WERE TREATED TO A PIECE OF DRAMA FROM 'GRIPPING YARNS' WHICH TOLD A VERY EMOTIVE STORY ON BULLYING. THEY THEN ANSWERED QUESTIONS ON IT, DISCUSSED HOW IT MADE THEM FEEL AND HOW BULLYING WOULD MAKE SOMEONE ELSE FEEL. AFTER THIS, YEAR 6 WERE ASKED TO PRODUCE A POSTER ON THEIR KNOWLEDGE OF ANTI- BULLYING AND WHAT WE CAN DO TO PREVENT BULLYING IN THE FIRST PLACE AND TO ALSO SHOW HOW EVERYONE SHOULD BE INCLUDED NO MATTER WHERE THEY COME FROM OR WHAT THEY LOOK LIKE.. IT REALLY LINKS INTO THE DIVERSITY WORK WE HAVE BEEN DOING AS A SCHOOL AS WELL. KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK EVERYONE!



something for 40 days and nights to celebrate Jesus' time spent fasting in the desert.

Is this something you observed? If so, what did you give up?

When Easter Sunday comes, it's a reason to feast on all your favourite eggs given by friends and family.

Easter is a time of joy for people all around the world

Easter is a public holiday when the legendary Easter Bunny comes round and is believed to hide chocolate eggs around the place for you to hunt for and then eat! Are you looking out for him?

Have fun and enjoy your Easter holiday!





Show Racism the Red Card

Racism isn't kind and it can affect someone's mental stability because they might feel like they aren't worthy due to them being bullied because of their skin colour. Show Racism the **Red Card** is a phrase, taken from the game of football, and it means send off racism from the pitch and anywhere else it may occur in life. The aim is for racism to disappear forever and everyone can then feel good about themselves.

What is Racism (dictionary)?

Racism is the belief that different races possess distinct characteristics, abilities, or qualities, especially so as to discriminate them as inferior or superior to one another.

How can we stop racism?

We can stop racism by not making fun of people's skin tone and being kind. Imagine how you would feel you were constantly bullied because of the colour of your skin!

DON'T BE MEAN!!!



What did The Leys Nursery and Primary do to stop Racism?

On the 19th of January, we wore red clothes in honour of showing **red** to racism and we had an assembly where some people from the Stevenage FC Foundation came in to talk to us about why racism is not okay, why people are racist and we watched a video to make us think about how a person might feel when they are discriminated against. They asked questions and gave whoever answered correctly a sticker. After the assembly, the whole school left and class by class we made pictures with writing around them on how to comfort someone after experiencing racism. Later,



Year 5 and 6 took part in some activities to discuss how they could support a friend who was experiencing racism. They filled in 'appropriate' words around a picture of a footballer and continued to discuss how they would like things to change in the future.



Who started black power?

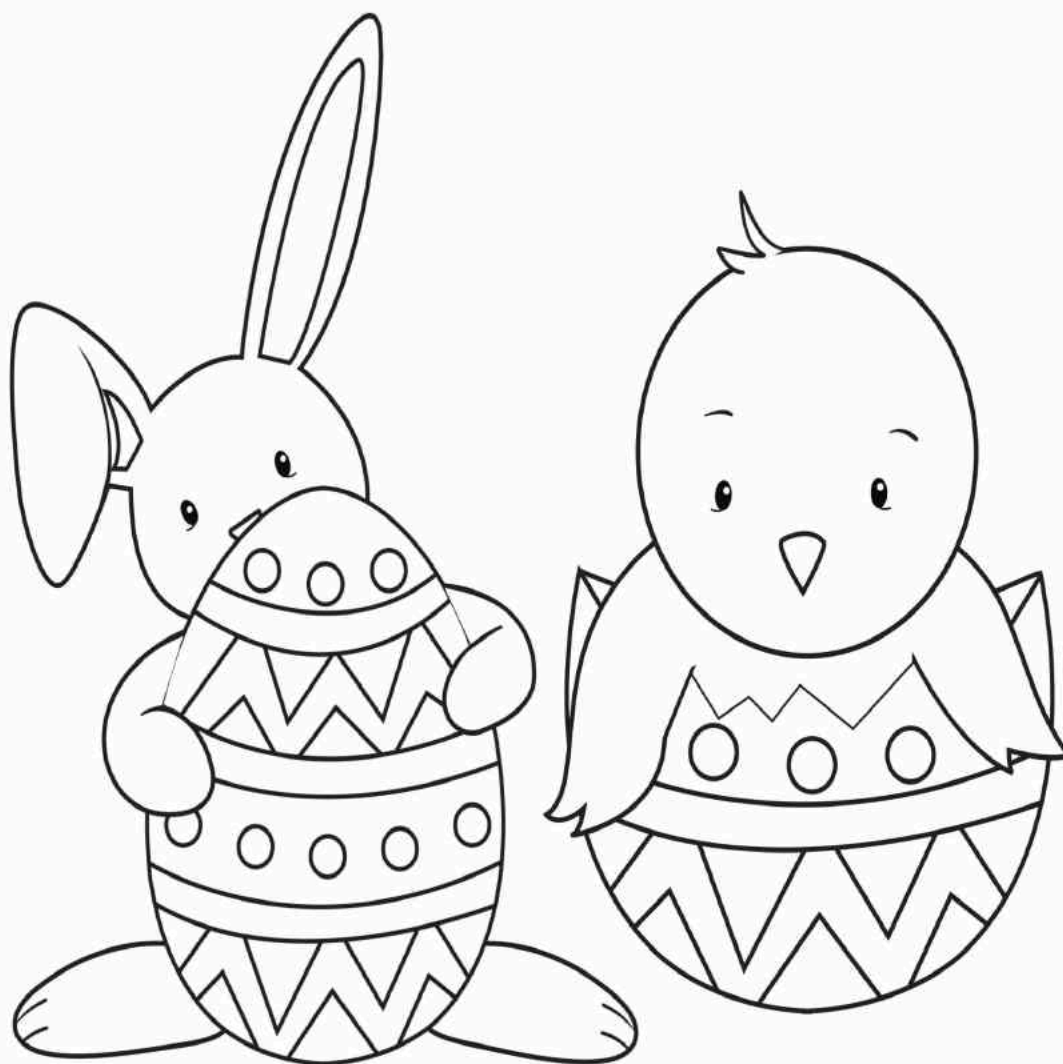
Someone called Stokely Carmichael invented black power and wanted black people to be recognized. Stokely wanted the world to be equal and he wanted black people to be recognised as more than a distraction or a slave, he wanted black people to be treated how people would treat white people and this



STOP RACISM!!!



Easter colouring competition for KS1 - submit by 19th April 2024 to Mrs Westwood to win a chocolate surprise! Make sure you do your best colouring!!





Name: _____



Number Bond
FUN!

Draw the candies inside the egg. Make a number bond to match the colors.

Practise your maths by using these part whole easter egg models to find how you can make the number. I.e: $20 = 10 + 10$. Colour in the eggs to make them bright and beautiful!
Have an amazing Easter!



Easter Chocolate Bark



Ingredients

1kg of milk chocolate

Sweets to decorate, such as: Mini eggs, Chocolate buttons, Coloured sprinkles

Dried fruit

A little butter to grease the baking tray.

Equipment

1 large heatproof bowl

1 large saucepan

1 spatula

Greaseproof paper

Baking tray

Food bag

Rolling pin



Method

1. Break the chocolate into small pieces in the heatproof bowl and place over the saucepan of water (ensure the water doesn't touch the bottom of the bowl!)
2. Stir the chocolate as it melts using the spatula.
3. Grease the baking tray and cover with greaseproof paper.
4. Put the mini eggs, chocolate buttons, etc. into the food bag and crush up using the rolling pin.
5. Once the chocolate is melted, pour it onto the baking tray.
6. Tilt the tray from side to side until the chocolate is spread evenly over it.
7. Use your sweets to decorate the chocolate as you Wish.
8. Allow the chocolate to harden before carefully peeling off the greaseproof paper. Break the chocolate into different shapes and sizes of shards.



Easter

Word Search

S O A
R S C C M
D P T E Q X E
V I E E L Z L X M
S Y K O E E F M O J Y
J S G M E B P C H Q L
S A G W C E R D Y E I H M
B Q O Z E R A H O A C D B
V U K N G R T W T E A W E
G N N A G E I N F A R E F
F R D N S U O J I T R C I
Q A W L Y T N U H P O H N
G B P E T U D K O U T I D
S B F O E A B H R X S C N
V I C H O C O L A T E K W
T K G H H F H I B S S
Q V R B O U Q U E T M
Z D L U N M Z I C
F L O W E R S
J T O Q B



Word list:

BASKET
BOUQUET
BUNNY
CARROTS

CELEBRATION
CHICKS
CHOCOLATE
COTTONTAIL

DYE
EGGS
FIND
FLOWERS

HIDE
HOP
PEEP
RABBIT