



# The Leys Primary & Nursery School Newsletter

Learning Today ...Leading Tomorrow

Star of the Week	
Class	Pupil
Jeffers	Emmy
Murphy	Shayah-Lee
Kerr	Sophie
Waddell	Ronnie
Donaldson	Lily-Rose
Gravett	Nathania
Dahl	Jenson
Freedman	Millie
Strong	Jake
Morpurgo	Nancy
Lewis	Lucianna Yousif
Tolkien	Kai
Rosen	Charlie
Shakespeare	Emir Tas
Dickens	Salman
Kipling	Eliza Wenn

Friends of The Leys PTA

**Key Dates**

**Non uniform Monday 20th & Tuesday 21st £1**

Non uniform 11th February £1

Disco: 25th February 2022 at 5 to 8pm

Non uniform £1 1st April

Non uniform £1 1st 27th May

Summer Fair: **17th June 3.15 to 5.30pm**

**Friday 3rd December 2021**

DATES COMING UP!
6.12 - Occasional Day- School is closed
7.12 Year 5 Trip Exo Mars discovery centre
9.12 Puss in Boots Pantomime YR-Y2 PM
10.12 Enterprise Day
17.12 Junior Church Service
17.12 Christmas Jumper and Dinner D
<b>Non uniform Monday 20th &amp; Tuesday 21st £1</b>
21.12- Last day of term - 1.30pm finish



*For every ticket purchased, you will have 12 chances to win up to £5,000!\* At the same time, we will raise 50% from every ticket.*

*Your support is greatly appreciated. Simply click on the link below to purchase a ticket.*

*We wish you good luck!*

Attendance Awards	Year 1 Waddell Year 6 Dickens
Friendship Cup	Kai SH - Kipling,
Reception	
Year 1	Riley W, Benjamin
Year 2	Lilly D, Kyler-May, Gracie-May and Trystan.
Year 3	Delilah
Year 4	Perla S, Nancy H, Mya C, Tiara O, Emily K, Paris N
Year 5	Kai, Isabella, Oliver, Apostolos, Charles, Elizabeth, Phebe, Veda, Aseda. Jeremiah A
Year 6	

## Enterprise Day Friday 10th December



The children are busy creating some wonderful items for Enterprise Day on Friday 10th December. Unfortunately due to the Covid 19 situation we are unable to invite parents to join us in school for this popular event. Therefore we are asking for a £2 donation per child

<https://www.bigptaraffle.co.uk/support/the-leys-primary-and-nursery-school-sg1>

paid via Gateway. Your child will bring home their creations.

### Our School Uniform



### School Uniform Donations

As a school we have always supplied our families with free- donated uniform items.

Please contact the school - if you wish to be supplied with any items of school uniform.

Most importantly- please do not hesitate to drop off any unwanted uniform.

Thank you for your needed support!

*Always- label your child's uniform items*

### CLASS OF THE WEEK



### Year 5 Tolkien

This week, Tolkien class has begun the run-up to Christmas. In RE, we have learned about the meaning of Christmas for people who are and are not Christians. We have also looked at Advent and begun making Christmas decorations to spruce up the classroom for the season.

We were sorry not to be able to have the theatre company in and watch the pantomime, but we very much enjoyed watching the story of Aladdin as a film instead and we will take this forward in our English work for next week.



This week in Murphy Class, we have been recapping all of our phase 2 phonemes and having a go at writing sentences.

This is Aydin's phonics work. He has been working very hard to improve his letter formation and is able to segment CVC words to write his sentence. Well done Aydin!

Class: Murphy  
Pupil: Aydin

Empathy

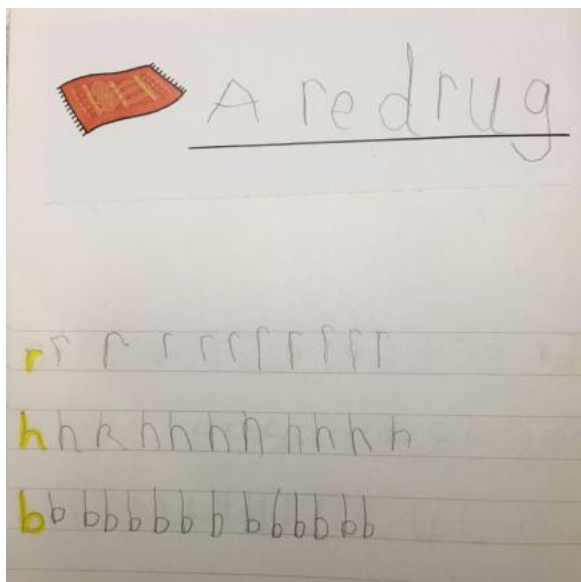
Inclusivity

Respect

Aspirations

Determination

Empowerment



# D&T

## UPDATE

Everyone across the school has been very busy over the last few weeks especially during STEAM week. In Year 2 children have designed and started making bird feeders using plastic bottles that were no longer needed. Across the rest of the school children have been taking part in a range of projects to support our learning during STEAM week, as well as making some delicious looking spring rolls and amazing Anderson shelters over this term.



### WELLBEING



Christmas is coming and we each bring our own sledge load of past experiences, expectations, internal and external pressures. Although there is much excitement and the start of preparations for Christmas have begun in school, staff are also mindful that this is not a happy time for all our children and families. They are happy to support individual needs by giving time to reflect, talk or opt out of some activities if it all gets too much. Please speak to staff if you feel your child needs more support.

Empathy	Inclusivity	Respect	Aspirations	Determination	Empowerment
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Here are some top tips for how to survive and thrive through the Christmas storm at home;

- It is important that parents look after their own wellbeing and self regulation. As adults, we create the emotional climate for the children around us and it is important to recognise your own feelings at this time, so that they don't impact on the children and their behaviour.
- Creating a Christmas that works for you and your children. Many children do not like change and Christmas brings huge changes to both routine and the environment. It is OK to opt out or adapt Christmas routines to suit your families needs. Sometimes it is better to enjoy other people's lights than hang your own!
- Preparing children for changes that you want to keep can be key to reducing everyone's stress. Draw it out, write it out, repeat it lots and keep as much as you can the same as usual.
- Use your support network of friends and family. At this time of giving, there are also charities and local organisations happy to support families that need extra help to cope.
- Too much excitement can easily lead to dysregulation and anticipation can often feel like stress to children. It is OK to keep things low key or spread out the most exciting activities and not do them all in one day.
- Make time to connect by doing activities together - playing games, baking, wrapping, walks in the cold and watching family films.

Be ready for the post Christmas blues and save some fun activities for the days before school starts or in January when it can be cold and dark.

### Sports Update

**Girls Football vs Martins Wood** - On Monday 29th, our girls football team won 3-1 against Martins Wood, with goals from Tilly and Leah. Our girls were very happy with this result as our first ever game as a team we lost 0-2 against Martins Wood! The girls played excellently and should be very proud of themselves! Can we win the league this year ???

**Boys football vs Round Diamond** - On Tuesday 30th, our boys football team

### Spiritual, Moral, Social, Cultural and British Values

**Year 3** Have been learning about what Christmas means to them.  
We made decorations and decorated the classroom together.

Empathy	Inclusivity	Respect	Aspirations	Determination	Empowerment
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## The Leys Have Talent

Robert, in Year 2, has been dancing since he was 3 years old and his love for dancing has continued to grow. He dances 4 days a week and takes part in 11 classes. He has enjoyed performing in three shows with his dance school and recently competed in his first competition. Amazingly, he placed in all 4 dances that he took part in- bringing home 1 gold, 2 silver and 1 bronze. Truly Amazing.



## Readers of the Month

Year 3: We have some amazing readers in Year 3 making exceptional progress. In Freedman class we would like to say a big well done to Nellie, Isla, Divya and Grace for achieving 72-90 reads at home. Well done Liam for achieving 72 reads.

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Year 4 :

In Year 4 we would like to celebrate all the children that have been reading at home, either by reading their library books, leveled books or by using programs such as Reading Plus or Reading eggs. This month we would like to celebrate those that have been using Reading eggs and Reading Plus to supplement their reading. Rebecca, Ella, Jamima and Antonia from Strong class have been setting a fantastic example by completing lessons and helping strong class secure the ranking of second place in the school on Reading Plus.

Luca, Jack, Amina, Tiara and Layla for setting a great example by completing lots of challenges on Reading Plus. Well done!

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## The Queen's Green Canopy - "Plant a Tree for the Jubilee"



The Queen's Green Canopy (QGC) is a unique tree planting initiative created to mark Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee in 2022. Twenty five children from Years 5 and 6 were lucky enough to take part in this initiative. Accompanied by Phill Bibby, our school governor and local councillor, and Margaret Notley, the Deputy Mayor, the children were able to plant 12 trees which consists of plums, damsons, apples and pears. It was great to meet Julia Hill (a Stevenage council employee) who taught us all about the benefits of trees and how they help our earth and wildlife! We can't wait to visit the trees in the summer to see how much they have grown!



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## Christmas Production events



Unfortunately we have had to make a decision to not invite parents/ carers into school due to rising cases in our school community- these performances will be recorded for parents to view on google classroom.

17.12 Christmas Jumper and Dinner Day

17.12 Junior Church Service- pupils only

## HOLIDAYS



Please be aware that the government continues to regard holidays during term time as unauthorised unless there are exceptional circumstances to consider. Parents who decide to take pupils on holiday during term time may incur a fine.

Please note that the May half term break has been extended on both sides to allow more time for travelling for planned holidays.

Friday 27th May 2022 Occasional Day due to Queen's Platinum Jubilee- school is closed

May half term Monday 30th May to Friday 3rd June

Monday 6th June Inset Day- School is closed

Pupils return on Tuesday 7th June 2022

Don't forget to book on

 **The Leys Fun and Games Club! Breakfast & After-School Club**

### BREAKFAST CLUB

- Breakfast Club runs from 7.30am to 8:45 am and includes breakfast.
- Breakfast club costs £3.50 per child per day.
- Children must be signed into the club by whoever is bringing them to school.
- Children should not be dropped at the gate and sent into the club on their own. Breakfast on offer includes such choices as: cereal, toast, croissants, fruit, and fruit juices.

### AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

- After School Club runs from 3.15 to 6.00 pm in two sessions:
- 3.15 - 5:00pm Session A £7.00 per day per child
- 3.15 - 6.00 pm Session B £8.50 per day per child
- A snack such as sandwiches, wraps, cheese, biscuits, and fruits are served to all children attending the after-school club.

Planned activities available may include:

- Creative art and crafts activities - painting, drawing, cutting, sticking and model making.
- Free play - activities chosen by your child.
- Imaginative play - dressing up and role play.
- Messy play - sand water clay and dough
- Outside play - depending on weather.
- Sports activities - organised by our PE staff.
- Various special events - disco, face painting, cooking, movie & popcorn

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## Term dates 2021-2022

<b>AUTUMN TERM</b> Start of term: 2 September 2021 <b>Inset day: 1 September</b> Term: 2 September -21 October Half term holiday: 25 October 2021 - 29 October 2021 <b>Inset day: 22 October</b> Term: 1 November -21 December <b>Occasional Day: 6 December</b> Christmas holiday: 22 December 2021 - 5 January 2022	<b>SPRING TERM</b> <b>Inset day: 5 January 2022</b> Term: 6 January - 11 February Half term holiday: 14 February 2022 - 18 February 2022 Term : 21 February-1 April Easter holiday: 4 April 2022 - 18 April 2022	<b>SUMMER TERM</b> Term: 19 April - 26 May Half term holiday: 30 May 2022 - 3 June 2022 <b>Inset Day: 6 June</b> <b>Occasional day: 27 May</b> Term: 7 June-21 July <b>Inset day 22 July</b> Summer holiday: 22 July 2022 - 31 August 2022
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