



The Leys Primary & Nursery School Newsletter

Learning Today ...Leading Tomorrow

Star of the Week

Class	Pupil
Jeffers	Grayson
Murphy	Yuvan
Kerr	Amelia
Waddell	Lexi
Donaldson	Aniela
Gravett	Alexander
Dahl	Poppy-Rose
Freedman	Ava-Mai
Strong	Becca
Morpurgo	Louise
Tolkien	Marcus
Lewis	Maya
Rosen	Oliver
Shakespeare	Malakai
Dickens	Kai
Kipling	Mayci-Lou

Friends of The Leys PTA

Key Dates

Non uniform £1 1st April
 Non uniform £1 1st 27th May
 Summer Fair: 17th June 3.15 to 5.30pm

Friday 4th March 2022

DATES COMING UP!

18.3.22 Red Nose Day- Wear something red £1
 25.3.22 School Disco
 1.4.22 Non Uniform Day £1- end of term at 1.30pm



- Plain white t-shirt and black shorts or jogging bottoms (in the winter).

- Black plimsolls for indoors, and trainers for outdoors.

Attendance Awards	Lewis and Donaldson
Friendship Cup	Tegan Y6
Headteachers Awards	
Reception	
Year 1	
Year 2	Alex, Daisy, Alexander, Joshua, Kaira, Afia, Oliver, Trystan, Remii, Nathania, Serah, Kyler-May and Richard
Year 3	Grace and Jacob
Year 4	
Year 5	
Year 6	

SCHOOL CROSSING PATROL WANTED!

WE ARE LOOKING FOR SOMEONE WHO WOULD BE INTERESTED IN BECOMING



'THE SCHOOL CROSSING PATROL'

AT THE LEYS PRIMARY AND NURSERY SCHOOL

THE PAY IS £9.25 PER HOUR (excluding enhancements)
 JOB SHARE CONSIDERED

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED OR WOULD LIKE FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT THE ACTIVE AND SAFER TRAVEL TEAM ON: 01992 556816 / 01992

556803

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

UPDATE

Writing

As part of World Book day, the children at The Leys have been creating our own school book titled 'We All Celebrate'.

This book is inspired by the award winning author: Chitra Soundar, who visited us on Wednesday.

Each class chose their own celebration from around the world. The children were asked to research and write up everything they found out about their celebration: Who celebrates it? Where is it celebrated? Why is it celebrated? How is it celebrated and When is it celebrated?

This was an excellent opportunity for cross-curricular work including writing, reading, religious education, computing, geography, art and D.T.

The celebrations we have focused on are:

Nursery- Chinese New Year

Reception- Easter

Year 1: Kerr- Carnival de Rio de Janeiro

Waddell- Diwali

Year 2: Gravett- St Patrick's Day

Donaldson- Up Helly Aa Fire Festival,

Year 3: Dahl- May Day

Freedman- White Nights Festival,

Year 4: Morpurgo- Independence Day

Tết (Vietnam Lunar New Year)

Year 5: Lewis- Holi Festival

Rosen- Oktoberfest

Tolkien- Hanukkah

Year 6: Kipling: Day of the Dead

Shakespeare- Bastille Day

Dickens- Queenstown Winter Festival

This book will be passed around and read by each class so they are aware and can discuss the different types of celebrations from around the world!

Empathy

Inclusivity

Respect

Aspirations

Determination

Empowerment

CLASS OF THE WEEK



Kerr class celebrated Shrove Tuesday and Ash Wednesday this week. In RE the children learnt about the meaning of both days and why we celebrate them. Maaya said "Shrove Tuesday is Pancake day. It is celebrated by Christians and is 40 days before Easter." We also had yummy pancakes in class as a treat. We discussed Lent and how it is a time for Christians to remember Jesus' sacrifice and how he resisted temptation. Sophie said "I would give up chocolate. It would be hard because it is so yummy."



Class: Freedman
Pupil: Emma

In Year 3 we have been studying the Great Kapok Tree.

Amongst the leaves the multicoloured parrot was hiding in the leafy bush.

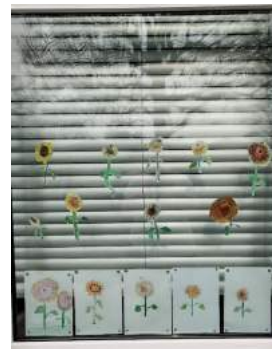
The cheeky monkey swung from branch to branch amongst the windy, shaded, unlit trees.

You can find dangerous army ants on the forest floor getting eaten by humongous, black tarantulas.

Spiritual, Moral, Social, Cultural and British Values



As a whole school, we have been looking at ways in which we can address the situation in Ukraine with the children. We decided to take part in a whole-school art project, focused on the sunflower the national flower of Ukraine. This has resulted in some beautiful artwork being created around the school and has led to some very important discussions in classrooms.



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WELLBEING



Given the pictures and news coming from Ukraine and Eastern Europe this week, we have all been worried again about the children's well-being. Many have been talking about what they have seen or heard on their phones or the TV. We are also very aware that some of our children and families have close connections with this area. Therefore the children are being encouraged to create sunflowers (the national flower of

Ukraine) and we wanted to act positively to support the families fleeing their homes by collecting and sending positive messages and practical resources in our care boxes. We know that by doing something for others, we will help the children and many in our community to improve their own mental health at this difficult time.

The advice for parents is to; talk in an age appropriate way to children about what is happening. Keep information factual and reassuring. For younger children this might be finding Ukraine on a map and seeing how far away it is. For older children reassuring them that there have been many wars over the world and people are currently talking and trying to seek peace. Avoid 'doomscrolling' and ensure children have limited access to social media and screens, especially at night. Try to get information from reliable sources e.g. Newsround on the BBC. Importantly try to spend time together as a family doing something positive or mindful, such as, drawing, walking or playing together.

If you want to know more about how to help your child or need support yourself. Please speak to class teachers, the Mental Health leads or read the links below.

<https://www.childnet.com/blog/supporting-your-child-with-upsetting-content/>

<https://educationhub.blog.gov.uk/2022/02/25/help-for-teachers-and-families-to-talk-to-pupils-about-russias-invasion-of-ukraine-and-how-to-help-them-avoid-misinformation/>

The Herts for Learning 2022 Year 5 Mathematics Challenge



On Thursday, four children from year 5: Kai, Zachary, Oliver and Ethan, took part in the HFL maths challenge. The challenge had 4 rounds: round 1 was general maths questions, round 2 was the memory round, round 3 was visual estimation and round 4 was general maths.

The heat we took part in consisted of 26 other schools from Hertfordshire but there are many other heats still to take place with over 250 schools taking part.

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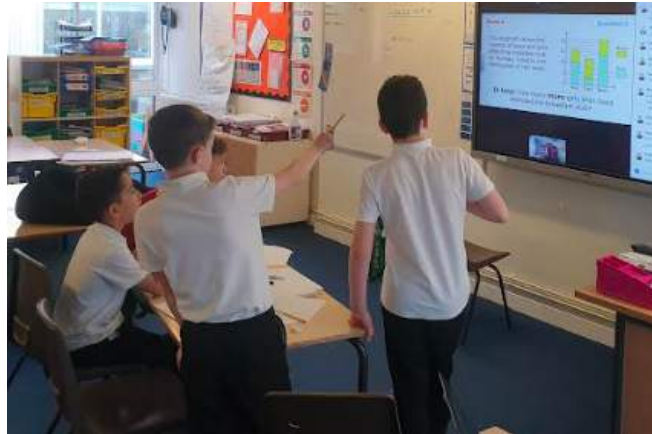
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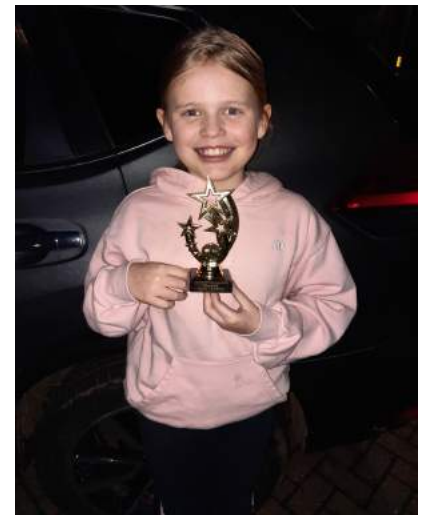
We will not know until all the heats are completed if we have made it to the final but we have received the results and the children did a fantastic job.

They worked extremely well as a team and should be very proud of themselves!



The Leys Have Talent

Ellen, in year 6, has been doing street dance for a few years now and won star of the month in January.



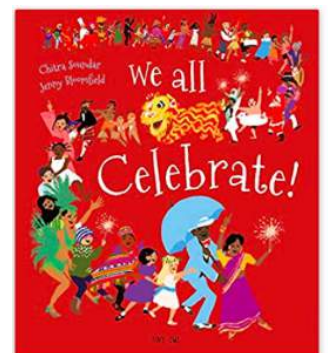
She loves dancing!!

Well done Ellen!

World Book Day

Author Visit:

Chitra Soundar, an internationally published, award-winning author of over 50 books for children, came in to our school on Wednesday, as part of World book day, and read the children her book titled 'We all Celebrate'. She also discussed her journey on becoming an author and completed book signing for the children.



It was an amazing experience for the children- some who have never met an author. We really enjoyed her visit and this really helped to inspire our own world book day activities and helped us to understand how we can become writers ourselves.

Empathy	Inclusivity	Respect	Aspirations	Determination	Empowerment
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Dress up day:

On Friday, we invited all children to dress up as book characters and staff to dress up as 101 dalmatians- this really helped to bring the joy of reading to life!
We used this day to complete fun, cross curricular activities inspired by Chitra's book (please see the writing section above for more information related to this event).



Children's Wellbeing Practitioners

A new Eventbrite page has been created where all parents can view the rolling programme of workshops on offer and the dates. These workshops cover many emotional health and well-being concerns.

The link is:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/hct-childrens-wellbeing-practitioners-33494371787>

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People who say they sleep like a baby usually don't have one.

Leo J. Burke

Do you struggle to get your children to sleep?
Do you need support with bedtime routines?
Or do **you** just need a good night's sleep?

Sleep Workshop for Parents

24th March 9-10 am

Deliver by the Stevenage Mental Health Support Team

Please email admin@leys.herts.sch.uk to book a place

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

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