

The Leys Primary and Nursery School Newsletter

★ Accelerating progress

★ Enriching wellbeing

★ Promoting partnerships

21/05/21

OWN CLOTHES DAY 28 May Bring £1 donation to Friends of the Leys

Star of the Week	
Class	Pupil
Zephaniah	Ocean
Anderson	Talib
Sendak	Fatimah
Carle	Felicity
Hargreaves	Fiza
Ahlberg	Delilah
Dahl	Tiara
Freedman	Hollie
Strong	Joshua
Pratchett	Teddy
Morpurgo	Veda
Tolkien	Orest
Lewis	Abigail
Rosen	Lily W
Shakespeare	Chris
Dickens	Milly
Kipling	Alfie S



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.

Social Action!



This week our pupils at the Leys started campaigning the government to support NEPAL in their plight to secure Covid vaccines. Our pupils were sad to hear the families from our partner schools in Nepal were struggling due to the new Covid variant, so Dr Christie has helped to share our concerns with politicians

Along with other schools in Stevenage our pupils have written letters to our local MP Steven McPartland.

Dear Mr McPartland

Yes, I know you are a very busy man being MP of Stevenage and everything. But no one is focusing on the elephant in the room! How we are getting out of the Covid-19 pandemic, while others are still suffering in places like Nepal. We were the people saying that we are all in the same storm! But to me it seems like we are in the clearing, while others are on the verge of sinking. Are you really going to let this happen?

The people of Nepal have needed to resort to their last resources. Are you really going to let a nation die on our hands? And keep in mind this nation is reaching its 200 year anniversary and for all those 200 years they have served us throughout. Are you going to let them die out like this? Even though we all know we will make it!

Do you want this nation - that stood beside us when we were in the throws of trouble - to be known like this? A nation that died from something that we made it through I want to make an impact. We all do. But we can only do so much. Like we are Nepal's last resort, you are ours. We are the UK's next generation, are you really going to decline us when we have come this far?

Yours sincerely
Ifeoluwa O

AMAZING LETTER IFE!!! THANK YOU!!!!

Class of the week	Dickens
Friendship Cup	Isabella T (Anderson)
Headteacher Awards	YEAR
Riley	SIX
Reece L Lily Ella	FIVE
Lola	FOUR
	THREE
	TWO
Jasper Sophia Pearl Ava Freddie H	ONE
Lucie L Amaya Maaya Ocean Oliver Saaya Ella	RECEPTION

SPORTS DAYS

If Covid restrictions allow we would like to invite parents and carers to Sports Day. We will send details closer to the time but it will involve wearing masks and social distancing.

No picnic this year.

SPORTS DAYS:

Wed 30th June

- EYFS 9.30 - 11 am
- KS1 1.30 - 3.00 pm

Thurs 1st July

- LKS2 9.30-11.30 am
- UKS2 1.00-3.00 pm

Excellence

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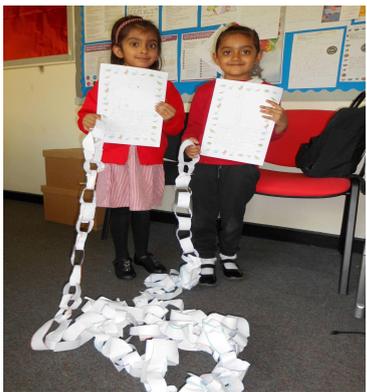
★ Enriching wellbeing

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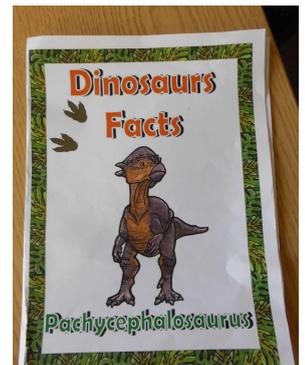
21/05/21

In year 2 this week we had a day full of DT. The task was to design a holder for an egg that would protect it against a fall from a height of 2 metres. Each team was given £1 to spend on certain materials and then to design and build their egg protector using only the materials they had bought, no more.

In the afternoon we tested our designs by dropping them from 2 metres off the ground. Each team was awarded points 0pts for a scrambled egg, 5pts for a cracked egg and 10pts for an intact egg. Each class managed a total of 25pts. We had an eggcellent time.



Maaya and Amaya came to show me their masterpiece this week! They made a paper chain which they measured as 5 metres long! Their teacher asked them to do some research to find a dinosaur that was 5 metres long, and they discovered that a pachycephalosaurus was the same length! We had a little trouble pronouncing the name of this dinosaur because the name had 18 letters! We counted them! We have quite a few paleontologists in Reception at the moment!



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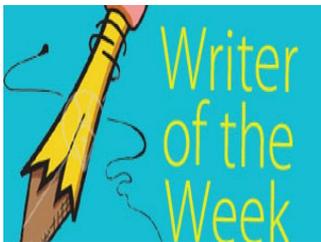
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CLASS OF THE WEEK



This half term Reception has been learning all about dinosaurs. We learnt that there were no flying or swimming dinosaurs as these were reptiles. This week in art the children created their own dinosaur nest using a paper bag, mud paint and natural resources we collected from around the school. During child initiated learning the children then used clay to create their own dinosaur eggs. It was a messy activity but the children loved it.



Writer of the Week-
Morpurgo

Jayson B

Morpurgo have been working on Newspaper Articles:

Early in the morning, without warning, Mike and Nicole Green discovered that Victoria (their 11 year old daughter) was missing. Without a second thought, she contacted the local police- she was devastated. The drama quickly unfolded. Neighbours claimed that "there were no trespassers because there were no broken items or fingerprints." Nicole told our reporter "there were no noises in the night". Onlookers could not believe what they were hearing about Victoria's disappearance as it was unusual to have no evidence or explanation.

Shockingly, on the 10th of June 2021 at 9.50am, with no warning, the girl unexpectedly reappeared in her room walking away from a mysterious door. Phenomenal scenes erupted as the neighbours found out she had re-appeared. Victoria claimed "a mythical crimson red pen took me to a mystical place as it can make things come alive if you draw with it." She said "it was amazing." She continued to explain that some evil, despicable guards were trying to capture an innocent vulnerable bird.

The girls' claims are being investigated by the police to see if they are 100% true. -Jayson B

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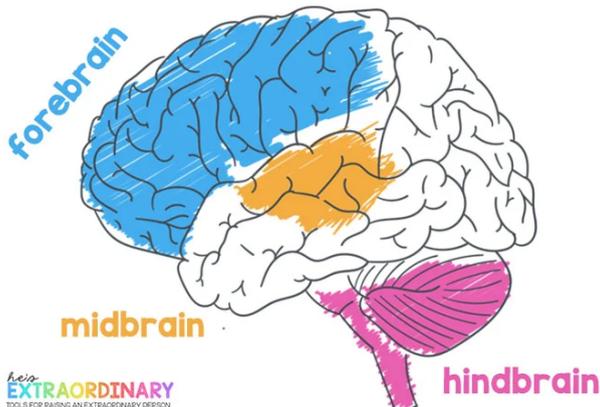
Friendship



WELLBEING



EMOTIONAL REGULATION & THE BRAIN



his
EXTRAORDINARY
TOOLS FOR MAKING AN EXTRAORDINARY PERSON

forebrain

THE PREFRONTAL CORTEX - The thinking part of the brain. Controls executive functions, reasoning, problem solving, etc. When regulated your child's forebrain is engaged and ready to learn.

midbrain

THE LIMBIC SYSTEM - The feeling part of the brain where emotions are experienced. When engaged there is less connection with the forebrain. Your child will seem emotional, needy, demanding, uncooperative, nervous, etc. Help them regulate their emotions.

hindbrain

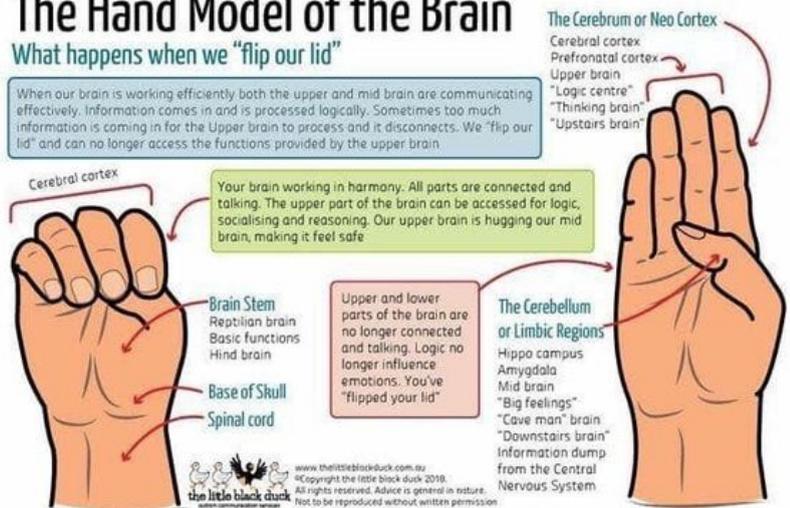
BRAIN STEM & AMYGDALA - The survival part of the brain. Controls fight or flight instinct. When engaged there is no connection to the forebrain. Your child may hit, bite, scream, spit, run away, shut down. They need to feel safe. You cannot teach or discipline right now.

Two weeks ago we were thinking about emotional regulation. Here is some further information about the brain's structure, how it works and how this impacts on children's behaviour. Dr Dan Siegel uses the hand to model the brain and how it works. Here are some posters and a link to a video to help explain this to your children.

The Hand Model of the Brain

What happens when we "flip our lid"

When our brain is working efficiently both the upper and mid brain are communicating effectively. Information comes in and is processed logically. Sometimes too much information is coming in for the Upper brain to process and it disconnects. We "flip our lid" and can no longer access the functions provided by the upper brain.



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3bKuoH8CkFcI>

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Spiritual, Moral, Social, Cultural and British Values

The children in Year 1 that attend Mrs Gajic Club have had a fun few weeks learning and exploring the story **Stanley's Stick**.

Stanley's stick is not just a stick. With a stick in hand, Stanley's options are endless - he flies to the moon, writes in the sand, goes fishing, plays a whistle and rides a dinosaur - and his imagination takes over and the magic begins.

The children have taken part in lots of activities over the weeks focusing on this story. This week they have concentrated on exploring different emotions as Stanley loses his stick. The children have thought about how they can help someone feel better.



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Year 5 & 6 Inter house competitions

Due to Covid 19 and the restrictions around competitions this year within the sporting department, we have hosted a number of inter house competitions at The Leys to still give the children the competitive spirit and feeling that they need within their PE learning and development!

Recently in Year 5 and 6 Mr Newlands has hosted Athletics and rounders competitions for these year group pods, the children that took part in the competitions did extremely well and behaved impeccably like always! Our results from the competitions will now get sent off to the organisers and we will wait to hear back from them to see if our school has won the local tournament in order to then represent the county in these events. WOW!

The children thoroughly enjoyed these events and we have many more to come in the summer terms ...



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.

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- 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

Term dates 2020-2021

<p>Start of term: 3 September 2020</p> <p>Inset day: 2 September</p> <p>Term: 3 September -23 October</p> <p><u>Half term holiday: 26 October 2020 - 30 October 2020</u></p> <p>Inset day: 2 November</p> <p>Term: 3 November -18 December</p> <p>Occasional Day: 7 December</p> <p><u>Christmas holiday: 21 December 2020 - 3 January 2021</u></p>	<p>Inset day: 4 January</p> <p>Term: 5 January - 12 February</p> <p><u>Half term holiday: 15 February 2021 - 19 February 2021</u></p> <p>Term : 22 February-26 March 2021</p> <p><u>Easter holiday: 29 March 2021 - 9th April 2021</u></p>	<p>Term: 12 April - 28 May</p> <p><u>Half term holiday: 31 May 2021 - 4 June 2021</u></p> <p>Inset Day: 7 June</p> <p>Term: 8 June-21 July</p> <p>Inset day 22 July</p> <p><u>Summer holiday: 23 July 2021 - 31 August 2021</u></p>
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Term dates 2021-2022

<p>AUTUMN TERM</p> <p>Start of term: 2 September 2020</p> <p>Inset day: 1 September</p> <p>Term: 2 September -22 October</p> <p><u>Half term holiday: 25 October 2021 - 29 October 2021</u></p> <p>Inset day: 1 November</p> <p>Term: 2 November -21 December</p> <p>Occasional Day: 6 December</p> <p><u>Christmas holiday: 22 December 2021 - 4 January 2022</u></p>	<p>SPRING TERM</p> <p>Inset day: 5 January</p> <p>Term: 6 January - 11 February</p> <p><u>Half term holiday: 14 February 2022 - 18 February 2022</u></p> <p>Term : 21 February-1 April</p> <p><u>Easter holiday: 4 April 2022 - 18 April 2022</u></p>	<p>SUMMER TERM</p> <p>Term: 19 April - 27 May</p> <p><u>Half term holiday: 30 May 2022 - 3 June 2022</u></p> <p>Inset Day: 6 June</p> <p>Term: 7 June-21 July</p> <p>Inset day 22 July</p> <p><u>Summer holiday: 25 July 2022 - 31 August 2022</u></p>
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