



The Leys Primary & Nursery School Newsletter

Learning Today ...Leading Tomorrow

Star of the Week

Class	Pupil
Jeffers	Nicholas
Murphy	Amelia
Kerr	Barnaby
Waddell	Mia
Donaldson	Ama
Gravett	Alex
Dahl	Harleen
Freedman	Maggie
Strong	Skyla
Morpurgo	Ethan
Tolkien	Ethan G
Lewis	Ahmad
Rosen	Patrick
Shakespeare	Aiden
Dickens	Ester
Kipling	Stefan

Friends of The Leys PTA Key Dates

Non uniform 11th February £1
Disco: 25th February 2022 at 5 to 8pm - **Postponed**
Non uniform £1 1st April
Non uniform £1 1st 27th May
Summer Fair: **17th June 3.15 to 5.30pm**

Friday 25th February 2022

DATES COMING UP!

1.3.22 Shrove Tuesday
2.3.22 Author visit pm
4.3.22 World Book Day - Dress up as a book character
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



Red Nose day is on Friday 18th March 2022.

Children are invited to wear red clothes and make a donation to Comic Relief.

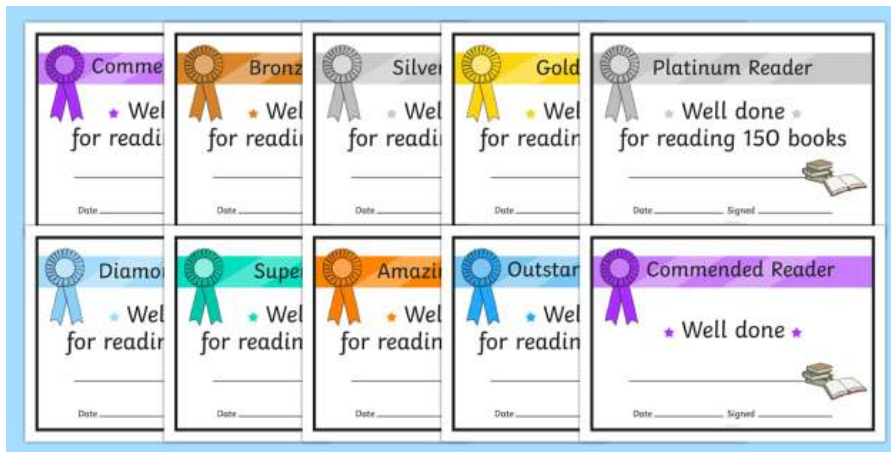
Attendance Awards	Lewis and Kerr
Friendship Cup	Tommy Year 6
Headteachers Awards	
Reception	Connor, Jasmine and Joseph
Year 1	
Year 2	
Year 3	Liam
Year 4	
Year 5	Abigale, Baylie, Oliver and Isobella
Year 6	Beatrice, Aimee, Ester, Niamh, Bella, Lois, Ellen, Lily Wood, Joseph, Emily C, Abi and Edward

We are still looking for Parent Reps for nursery, reception and Years 2, 4 and 5. This role will help to support communication, give feedback and plan school events including training. If you would like to support us with this role please speak to your class teacher.

UPDATE

READING

Across the county reading and phonics has been highlighted as a concern for children. You can help with this by ensuring that children read EVERYDAY! This can be their school reading book but can also be anything else that they enjoy- newspapers, comics, cereal boxes or subtitles on the TV. In school to reward the children for their efforts children are awarded certificates for the number of days they read. Please ensure you are supporting your child at home to help them achieve their reading certificates!



CLASS OF THE WEEK



Class: Shakespeare

In Shakespeare we have begun to explore a new book in English entitled "Arthur Spiderwick's Field Guide to the Fantastical World around you". Here is an excerpt from James' writing on one of the mythical beasts:

In this foreboding forest, a fearsome cockatrice, a monstrous beast that is half serpent half cockerel, is roaming around seeking its next victim. The creature's odd appearance hides a horrible truth; if you even glance at its eyes you will be turned instantly to stone.



Whilst in Geography, we have been learning about extreme weather phenomena and had fun writing a diary entry where we imagined we had lived through a tornado which had brought devastation to our town. Here is an excerpt from Malakai's diary entry:



Today I experienced something that will traumatise me forever: a tornado speeding right towards my street. An extreme alarm sound played through hundreds of speakers. That was when I realised I had to do something to save myself. I thought about lots of things I could do - then I remembered. My neighbour had a storm shelter!

Empathy

Inclusivity

Respect

Aspirations

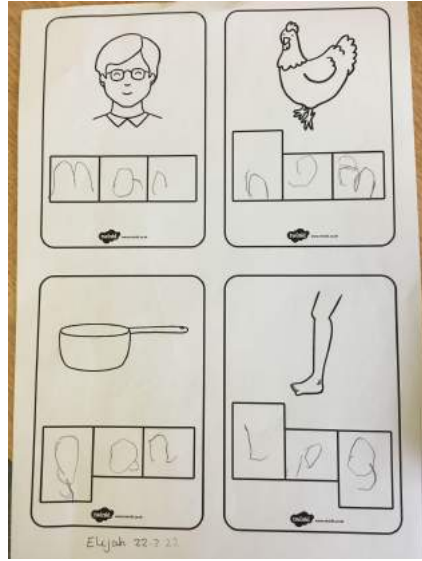
Determination

Empowerment



This week during Child Initiated Learning Elijah chose to use his phonic skills to write a range of CVC words. He said the name of each picture and then sounded out each word, he wrote the phonemes he could hear.

Elijah wrote the words man, hen, pan and leg.



Class: Jeffers
Pupil: Elijah



Reader of the Month

Nathania and Joshua are the Readers of the month for Year 2. They both have over 100 reads in their reading records!
Elizabeth, Christina and Alexis are Readers of the month for Year 5. They have read over 150 times!



Spiritual, Moral, Social, Cultural and British Values



In RE this week, year 6 have been looking at the Bible story of Daniel. The children listened to and watched the story, then retold it in their own words.

We discussed the link between the story of Daniel, and religious persecution.

The children were asked about whether they felt people should be persecuted for their religion, and here are some of their responses.

Emily C said 'It is not right to persecute people, if you are religious you choose to be kind'.

Jenson explained 'I do not think it is okay for

people to be persecuted for not doing what someone else says, because you can't take someone's life away if they don't do what you want. It is just not right'.

Empathy	Inclusivity	Respect	Aspirations	Determination	Empowerment
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WELLBEING



The children from year 3 to 6 have completed an online Google form about their wellbeing. They answered 20 questions about their feelings, sleep, diet, how well they are supported and liked, both in school and out. Here are the highlights;

90% said they were happy and their life was going well,

80% agreed or strongly agreed that they had many good qualities,

85% felt liked by others,

83% agreed or strongly agreed that there was a grown up at home that was interested, listened to them and wanted them to do their best,

75% said that they helped out at home and grown ups asked their opinion about family issues,

80% agreed or strongly agreed that there was a grown up at school that was interested, listened to them and wanted them to do their best,

78% said that they had friends in school that played with them, looked after them and cared how they feel,

84% said that they were trying to do their best in school,

62% said that they kept going if they got stuck or made a mistake,

91% said if they needed help they knew who to ask

32% rated school 10 out of 10 and 74% rated it between 6 and 10 out of 10

Our only real concern was that 15% of children felt that they did not get enough sleep.

Watch out for training on this!

The Leys Have Talent

Liam, in Year 3, has been playing the cornet since he turned 6. Besides his weekly music lessons at Stevenage Music Centre, he now also plays in 3 different brass or wind junior bands, both locally and on county-level. Liam is going to play in a concert at the beginning of the Easter Holidays and at the end of the summer term. Now that Corona restrictions have eased, he also hopes to do an ABRSM exam in person this year.



Well Done Liam- Amazing Talent!

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ABOUT WORLD BOOK DAY

This year, World book day is scheduled to take place nationally on the 3rd March. However, due to Year 6 mock SATS- which are also taking place throughout this week- our whole school is going to celebrate this day on **Friday 4th March.**

All children are invited to dress up as a book character (or non school uniform) on this day. This day will be full of fun, inspiring activities to encourage the love of reading!

PE / Sport

This week in PE , our Year 1 students have been participating in a programme called ' Action Mat ' . The Action Mat programme focuses on the 5 key skills that the children need to learn by the end of KS1 (movement, jumping, throwing and catching & balancing). They learn this through a range of storytelling and carousel activities.

Year 1 will engage in this programme throughout March and they have thoroughly enjoyed their first session.



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

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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

Term dates 2021-2022

AUTUMN TERM	SPRING TERM	SUMMER 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	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	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

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