



The Leys Primary & Nursery School Newsletter

Learning Today ...Leading Tomorrow

Friday 3rd May 2024

DATES COMING UP!

(please note all dates are subject to change)

- 6 May - Bank Holiday school closed
- 7 May - PTA Meeting
- 8 May - Safari Stu in Early Years
- 9 May - Reception Reading Workshop 9am
- 13- 17 May - Year 6 SATS week
- 20-24 May - STEAM Week
- 20 - 24 May - Walk to school week
- 23 May - Sports Day
- 24 May - Sports Day backup date
- 27-31 May - Half Term
- 3 Jun - INSET Day
- 10 Jun - Y6 Crucial Crew
- 10 June - Mental Health Workshop for parents 2-3pm
- 14 Jun - Summer Disco
- 21 Jun - Pride Day - Wear Colourful!
- 26 Jun - Class group photos
- 28 Jun - Non-uniform Day - donation of items
- 3-5 Jul - Y4 Wymondley trip
- 8 Jul - International Food Fair 2:30-4 pm
- 11 Jul - Transition Day
- 12 Jul - Inset day - school closed
- 19 Jul - Yr Production day
- 22 Jul - Yr 6 Prom
- 24 Jul - Closed for Summer

If any of your details have changed please ensure you let the school office know ASAP.

It is vital we have parent/carer contact details and children's medical details up to date at all times.

Star of the Week

Class	Pupil
Benjamin	Reggie
Murphy	Hope
Kerr	Keira
Bryon	Caelum
Donaldson	Lewis
Soundar	Aydin
Dahl	Lucy
Gavin	Oscar
Mante	Brianna
Morpurgo	Wellington
Riordan	Lily G
Zephaniah	Olivia
Malala	Shaylen
Blackman	Charlotte



Times Tables Leaders Well done to...

1. Amber
2. Alfie
3. Muku

For most improved time (playing in the Studio area) over the past 7 days

Friendship Award

Esther and Florence

Headteachers Awards

Year 1	Evelyn Charlie S
Year 2	Eddie
Year 3	Jack, Tieri, Saaya, Kabir, Lucy, Hannah, Dhyay, Nila, Lettie, Harry, Dylan, Sion, Erika, Oliver, Marnie, Muna, Dylan, Ocean, Saaya, Oakley, Amaya, Uno, Esme, Aadi, Jakson, Jayden, Maaya, Olivia KW, Mia
Year 6	Charlie I, Charley

Attendance Wheel of Reward

Each week in assembly the wheel will be spun for most improved class attendance



Be here to have a go!
This week's winners & rewards:

- Benjamin - Non Uniform Friday
- Donaldson - Eat cake
- Morpurgo - Free Homework Pass
- Blackman - Class Disco

UPDATE

History - The Great Fire of London



Year 2 Have had a fantastic finish to our topic about the Great Fire of London with an assembly for parents. Over the Spring Term the children have studied in depth the tragic events leading up to the destruction of a large part of London in 1666. We have written diaries as Thomas Farriner in English, studied the events before and learned about the changes that occurred after, in History, acted out events in drama and designed a house in the style of the time as part of our Art topic on architecture.



Class: Blackman

This week in Blackman class we have started our transitional PSHE work with Watford FC Wellbeing team. The positive minds education is a 10 week programme aimed at helping support mental health of young people. For our first week we looked at mental health and what it means. "We learnt about mental health. This was hosted by Watford FC. We will do 10 weeks, but last week week one and my class played human bingo before a discussion about mental health and who to talk to if someone is struggling. Everyone had fun doing this, while learning too!" - Amber.



Class: Zephaniah
Joel

427BC - Ancient Greek theatre became popular

By 427BC, theatre was so popular nearly every single city had a theatre. There were many events and performances that were filled with joyful jugglers, historic heroes and violent villains.

Picture the scene: swan-like dancers swaying across the theatre stage; vicious villains booed by the crowd; fast-moving jugglers captivating the audience.

Ancient Greek theatres took their crowds on a rollercoaster of emotions. They were crying at the tragic events and the next minute everyone was ecstatic at the comedic performance on stage. It was always an amazing event!

Empathy

Inclusivity

Respect

Aspirations

Determination

Empowerment



Every student. Every day.

Whole school attendance target
= 97%

Whole school attendance this
week = 96%

Best class attendance this week
= Blackman



The Leys Have Talent

Over Easter, Chloe achieved her stage 1 certificate in swimming and has moved up to the next level group!

Well done Chloe!

5 tips to reduce TEST ANXIETY in CHILDREN

Big Life Journal



1 PUT TESTS INTO PERSPECTIVE

- Encourage children to do their best, but remind them that one test won't make or break their future.
- Tell them they will be loved and valued no matter what test score they score.
- Explain this test will provide helpful information about what they're great at and what they still need to practice.



2 HELP THEM PRACTICE

- If your child is nervous, start by asking why they feel nervous.
- Consider finding practice tests online you can discuss together.
- Don't push your child to study for the test; these tests are meant to measure what your child already knows.



3 PROVIDE USEFUL TEST-TAKING TIPS

- Answer the **easiest questions first**, mark difficult questions and return to them later.
- Use **process of elimination**, crossing out the answer choices you know are wrong.
- Make an **educated guess** when needed.
- Read all the answer choices before choosing one.
- If penalized for incorrect answers, don't guess **unless** you can eliminate some answer choices.
- If aren't penalized for incorrect answers, **don't leave any questions blank**. If time is about to run out, bubble something for each unanswered question.



4 TEACH CALMING STRATEGIES

- Experiment with **calming strategies** to find some go-to techniques.
- Remind them you won't know every single answer on the test, and that's okay.
- Give them a **plan** for what they will do if they don't know an answer.
- Equip your child with a few **strategies** that effectively calm them. Spend some time **practicing these strategies** before test day.



5 PROVIDE ENCOURAGEMENT

- If your child voices a negative statement like, "I know I'm going to fail," **acknowledge your child's feelings**: "I know you're feeling nervous about the test. Tests can be scary."
- Counter with a **positive and encouraging** statement: "You've practiced really hard and learned a lot this year. You might know a lot of the answers and get a higher score than you're expecting."
- You can also leave your child **encouraging messages** in a backpack or on the mirror with dry-erase markers.



BONUS TIP:

HELP THEM FEEL THEIR BEST ON TEST DAY

- Choose movement and exercise
- Get plenty of rest
- Stick to your usual bedtime routine
- Avoiding excessive screen time
- Providing a protein-rich breakfast in the morning, like oatmeal or eggs
- Keeping conversation positive, encouraging, and light-hearted
- Share laughter and sing favorite songs on the way to school, if driving. Listen to our Big Life Journal playlists on Spotify!
- Leave your child with a big hug and words of encouragement!

BIG LIFE JOURNAL - BIGLIFEJOURNAL.COM

<https://k1enhoc.vi>



Exams - Year 6 will be starting Key Stage 2 tests, known as SATs, on the week starting 13/5/24 and you may also have older siblings sitting GCSEs or A levels. This can be a stressful time for many young people, so here are a few top tips to help manage those feelings of anxiety.

If you feel more is required, here is a link to a self care plan from the Anna Freud Centre.

<https://d1uw1dikibnh8j.cloudfront.net/media/18656/my-self-care-plan-primary.pdf>

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Y5 Greek Day

The year 5 ancient Greek VR afternoon was a huge success and the children thoroughly enjoyed learning lots of new information about the historical period as well as immersing themselves in the world of the ancient Greeks.

They flew into Hades underworld, took a trip to Japan and saw the closing ceremony of the Olympics and they went for a wander around a museum to learn many more incredible facts.

They were taught all about Greek philosophers, the origins of the Olympics, the great gods and goddesses and the inventions that are still being used today.

It was great fun and the children were amazed!



Year 1 - We have chrysalis. We have four chrysalis in our class and we are just waiting for Little Bob to start his transformation. Usually this stage takes around two weeks. We are watching them everyday to see what is happening and watching for any changes.



PEGI helps parents to make informed decisions when buying video games.

PEGI provides age classifications for video games in 38 European countries. The age rating confirms that the game content is appropriate for players of a certain age. PEGI considers the age suitability of a game, not the level of difficulty.

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We are deeply saddened by the passing of Logan Harrison, a former pupil of the Leys Primary School. We are sending our love and condolences to friends and family.



Term dates 2023-2024

AUTUMN TERM	SPRING TERM	SUMMER TERM
<p>Start of term: 4 September 2023 Inset day: 1 September 2023 Term: 1 September - 19 October 2023 Inset day: 20 October 2023 <u>Half term holiday: 23 October - 27 October 2023</u></p> <p>Occasional day: 8 December 2023 Term: 30 October - 20 December 2023 <u>Christmas holiday: 21 December - 3 January 2024</u></p>	<p>Inset day: 4 January 2024 Term: 5 January - 16 February 2024 <u>Half term holiday: 19 February - 23 February 2024</u> Term : 26 February- 28 March 2024 <u>Easter holiday: 29 March - 12 April 2024</u></p>	<p>Term: 15 April - 24 May 2024 <u>Bank Holiday: 6 May 2024</u> <u>Half term holiday: 27 May - 31 May 2024</u> <u>Inset day: 3 June 2024</u> Term: 4 June - 23 July 2024 Inset day: 12 July 2024 <u>Summer holiday: 24 July 2024 - 30 August 2024</u></p> <p><u>Inset Days 2023 - 2024</u> 1 September 2023 20 October 2023 8 December (Occasional day) 2023 4 January 2024 3 June 2024 12 July 2024</p>

Term dates 2024-2025

AUTUMN TERM	SPRING TERM	SUMMER TERM
<p>Start of term: 3 September 2024 Inset day: 2 September 2024 25 October 2024 Term: 2 September - 25 October 2024 <u>Half term holiday: 28 October - 1 November 2024</u></p> <p>Occasional day: 2 December 2024 Term: 4 November - 20 December 2024 <u>Christmas holiday: 23 December - 3 January 2025</u></p>	<p>Inset day: 6 January 2025 Start of term: 7 January - 14 February 2025 <u>Half term holiday: 17 February - 21 February 2025</u> Term : 24 February- 4 April 2025 <u>Easter holiday: 7 April - 21 April 2025</u></p>	<p>Term: 22 April - 23 May 2025 Bank Holiday: 5 May 2025 <u>Half term holiday: 26 May - 30 May 2025</u> Inset day: 11 July 2025 23 July 2025 Term: 2 June - 23 July 2025 <u>Summer holiday: 24 July 2025 - 29 August 2025</u></p> <p><u>Inset Days 2024 - 2025</u> 2 September 2024 25 October 2024 2 December (Occasional day) 2024 6 January 2025 11 July 2025 23 July 2025</p>

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