

# The Leys Primary and Nursery School Newsletter

★Accelerating progress

★Enriching wellbeing

★Promoting partnerships

18/12/2020



## Merry Christmas



*From everyone at the Leys Primary and Nursery School*

We wish all our families at the Leys a wonderful Christmas full of happy times for all. We have really appreciated all your support during a very challenging year for all of us! Our pupils have really thrived this term and we have been really impressed with the progress of the children across the whole school - I want to thank all our amazing hard working staff who have dedicated themselves totally to the task at hand! The teamwork in tough times has been exemplary!!! We are all looking forward to 2021! Best wishes to everyone!



## CHRISTMAS DINNER @ THE LEYS



PUPILS RETURN TO SCHOOL ON TUESDAY 5th JANUARY

|                          |              |
|--------------------------|--------------|
| Class of the week        | Year 5       |
| Best attendance EYFS/KS1 | ANDERSON     |
| Best attendance KS2      | 100% DICKENS |
| Headteacher Awards       | YEAR         |
|                          | RECEPTION    |
|                          | ONE          |
|                          | TWO          |
|                          | THREE        |
| Veda K<br>Alys C         | FOUR         |
|                          | FIVE         |
| Harrison R               | SIX          |

Thank you to our Cooks in the kitchen and to our Mealtime supervisors and staff who made our Christmas dinner a great festive event!!!!

Excellence Respect

Equality

Determination

Courage

Inspiration

Friendship

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## Headteacher Highlights this week!



Year 1 enjoying a remote production of Dick Whittington! "He's behind you!!!!"

A social distancing Santa came to visit us yesterday! Looks like he's had too much Christmas pudding!

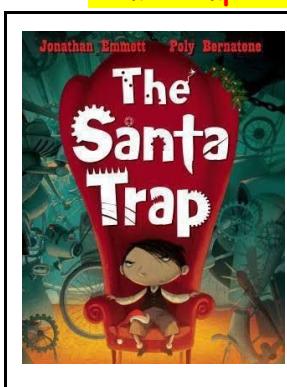
Mrs Khangura, Mrs Barr and I all led Christmas stories and hot chocolate sessions this week!



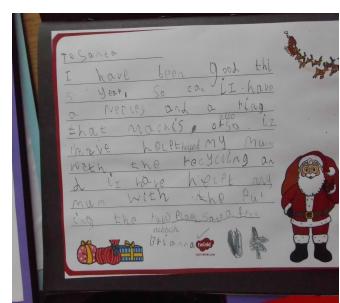
Year 5 rehearsing their production for the parents posted on Google classroom. Sounded great Year 5!

This week we organised 3 shopping bags each for 25 of our families! We are so grateful for your support with Foodbank Friday! The families were so grateful for the help. We have some bags of shopping left for the new year. Please contact our family worker Mrs Clibbon if you need this kind of support in the New Year!

Some samples of work from Year 1 to Year 6. Prizes announced next term!!!!



The last few weeks the whole school has been involved in a writing project all about 'The Santa Trap'! The quality of the writing that has come from this project has been so incredible, Mrs Khangura has decided that some pupils will receive prizes in the new year! Well done everyone! Fantastic effort! That beastly Bradley is very naughty!



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## Look out for

**Free winter activity packs for children aged 5-14 year**



On **Monday 21 December – between 12-2pm** – you can collect a free activity pack and a small gift (subject to availability).

Activity packs will be available at **Bandley Hill, Pin Green and St. Nicholas play centres**. The packs will be the same at each site, so please visit your closest play centre.

The gifts have been funded by the University of Hertfordshire and ward councillors' Local Community Budgets.

[https://www.facebook.com/stevenageboroughcouncil/?cft\\_0=AZXuCjaqNdyyxTW6WxngtDfHpHFoQY\\_EQrzTtFWkxcyZhgo2-H6Ukk0QAzAo6n0NjaNIjMI3f4YFQH1u\\_cyoSRXJAQtO4QikVyp5fPfxMp2lvrXoVkp9Eg-F0y6LJjn2Dgv0XROWxD4IQxNX3nNB3aeu&tn=-UC\\*F](https://www.facebook.com/stevenageboroughcouncil/?cft_0=AZXuCjaqNdyyxTW6WxngtDfHpHFoQY_EQrzTtFWkxcyZhgo2-H6Ukk0QAzAo6n0NjaNIjMI3f4YFQH1u_cyoSRXJAQtO4QikVyp5fPfxMp2lvrXoVkp9Eg-F0y6LJjn2Dgv0XROWxD4IQxNX3nNB3aeu&tn=-UC*F)

## CLASS of the WEEK - Strong Class



We have had a rather busy week in Strong class. We started the week writing a diary, imagining we were Bradley Bartleby (from the Santa Trap) when he decided to set a trap. Miss Glenister and Mrs Betts were really proud of our work. We made some cards for our families, using our creative skills. We had our class party which was such fun - although some people may have had too much sweet food! We did some fascinating work in History about the difference between Victorian Christmas and our Christmas today. In Geography we have learnt about Christmas traditions in European countries, we were all very intrigued by the happy log (dog log) in Spain! To finish off our week, we took part in an elf hunt, solving riddles, which was so much fun. At the end we found our Christmas presents, from our amazing teachers, on our tables then had a quiz about our topic - Ancient Egyptians, well done Oscar who won the prize.

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Writer of the Week -

The true story of The Santa Trap by Divine Onyechere, Dickens, Year 6

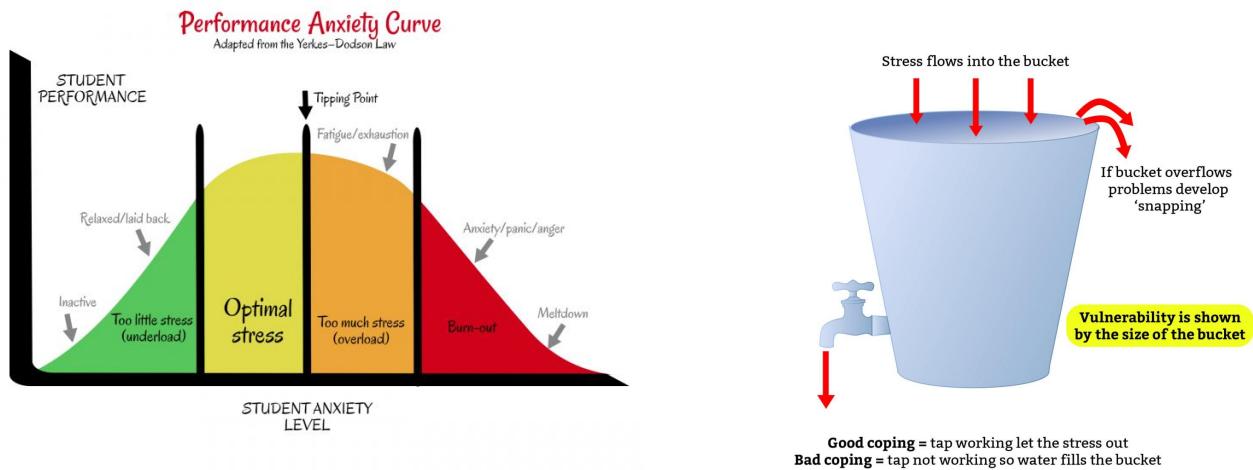
By now, everyone knows the story of The Santa Trap, but let me tell you what really went down. My name is Bradley Bartleby, but you can call me Brad.

Word on the street says that I tried to chop off Santa's head, but let me set you straight. I Was cutting the presents and then an unknown animal stole my scissors so I had to get a guillotine to cut the wrapping paper, so I could wrap presents. Blame the creature that took the scissors. It's not my fault Santa broke in, I was just being a nice person.

I was putting trip wires to catch The Grinch once and for all, but of course, the news said that it was for Santa. I had been watching lots of films about that green Grinch and I have seen how bad he is. I arranged everything to trap the Grinch , including a cage it is impossible to escape from. Using all my strength, I hoisted up the cage and everything was set. It's not my fault Santa broke in!



**Stress** - We all feel it at difficult times in our lives. Some stress is healthy, especially in an exam or if we have a presentation to give, but too much can create problems. Here are some helpful images that we use in school to think about how much pressure is good and we can cope with. Also the **Stress Bucket** allows us to talk to children about what stresses fill their bucket and what strategies they have to turn on the tap and let them go. We all need to remember to use these strategies sometimes.



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

We are definitely getting into the Christmas spirit here at The Leys!

On Wednesday the children across the school took part in the famous Santa Dash! The children were dressed up in their Christmas jumpers, their Santa hats, their reindeer antlers and much more! The children ran around the school sharing the Christmas cheer to everyone!

We have plenty of pictures of us running around our school completing the Santa Dash!



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## Term dates

Start of term: 3 September 2020  
**Inset day: 2 September**  
**Term: 3 September -23 October**  
Half term holiday: 26 October 2020 - 30 October 2020  
**Inset day: 2 November**  
**Term: 3 November -18 December**  
**Occasional Day: 7 December**  
Christmas holiday: 21 December 2020 - 3 January 2021

**Inset day: 4 January**  
**Term: 5 January - 12 February**  
Half term holiday: 15 February 2021 - 19 February 2021  
**Term : 22 February-26 March 2021**  
Easter holiday: 29 March 2021 - 9 April 2021

**Term: 12 April - 28 May**  
Half term holiday: 31 May 2021 - 4 June 2021  
**Inset Day: 7 June**  
**Term: 8 June-21 July**  
**Inset day 22 July**  
Summer holiday: 23 July 2021 - 31 August 2021