



The Leys Primary & Nursery School Newsletter

Learning Today ...Leading Tomorrow

Star of the Week		Friday 19th November 2021					
Class	Pupil	DATES COMING UP!					
Jeffers	Elijah	<p>22.11 - 26.11- STEAM week & Bikeability Week 2.12 Aladdin Theatre in Y3-6 AM 6.12 - Occasional Day- School is closed 7.12 Year 5 Trip Exo Mars discovery centre 9.12 Puss in Boots Pantomime YR-Y2 PM 10.12 Enterprise Day 17.12 Junior Church Service 17.12 Christmas Jumper and Dinner Day 21.12- Last day of term - 1.30pm finish</p>		Attendance Awards		Kerr and Strong	
Murphy	Lexi-May			Friendship Cup		Freddy M-W (year 2)	
Kerr	Ava-Grace			Headteacher Awards			
Waddell	Gabriel			Reception		DJ	
Donaldson	Kye			Year 1			
Gravett	Betty			Year 2		Lilly, Chloe and Austin-	
Dahl	Delilah			Year 3			
Freedman	Isla			Year 4			
Strong	Oliver			Year 5		Apostolos	
Morpurgo	David			Year 6		Lily-Ella and Emily K Emily C	

Lewis	Mia J
Tolkien	Faith
Rosen	Tyler
Shakespeare	Tommy
Dickens	Lily Wo
Kipling	Lily Wa

Friends of The Leys PTA
Key Dates

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



For every ticket purchased, you will have 12 chances to win up to £5,000! At the same time, we will raise 50% from every ticket.*

Your support is greatly appreciated. Simply click on the link below to purchase a ticket.

We wish you good luck!

<https://www.bigptaraffle.co.uk/support/the-leys-primary-and-nursery-school-sg1>



Every year Santa visits the children at The Leys and brings them each a present.

This is fully funded by the PTA.

This year we need your help to come in and help build the grotto.

This is your opportunity to support the school and make this as magical as possible for all the children.

If you can help us in any way, please let your child's teacher know or email admin@leys.herts.sch.uk

Empathy	Inclusivity	Respect	Aspirations	Determination	Empowerment
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CLASS OF THE WEEK



Year 3 Celtic Harmony
 On Thursday 11th November, year 3 went to Celtic Harmony in Brickendon to experience what life was like in the Stone Age. Whilst we were there Fei showed us how to light a fire. We learnt how to hunt with a spear, gather plants and build shelters. We saw a flint knapping demonstration and Kobi wore the wild boar skin, which was used to protect the knee when flint knapping, everyone found this very funny. After our lunch, we made soup for the tribe, using various herbs and water. We crushed the herbs which released an overpowering smell! Before returning to school, Fei told us a story about a giant. The day was extraordinary and we would recommend it to everyone.



Class: Kipling
 Pupil: Eliza W

Writer of the week is Eliza W, for a thoughtful, persuasive letter in our recent 'Rose Blanche' topic.

Dear Mr Mayor,

My name is Rose Blanche. I am nine years old and I am writing to you today to discuss the horrific scene I witnessed which has greatly troubled me ever since I saw it yesterday morning.

I was minding my own business, walking to school along a gentle stream, when a horrible noise filled my ears. I was appalled to see a young, alarmed boy running from a Nazi truck (which seemed to be broken down) and two soldiers pointing rifles at him. He raised his shaking hands in the air, palms upwards, in an act of surrender, yet you still grabbed him by the scruff of his neck and chucked him in the back of the van.

What could such an unoffensive boy have done to deserve such dreadful treatment? Is this what our proud soldiers signed up to? Pointing guns at fearful young children? They should be ashamed.

Imagine my surprise when I saw you, our usually affectionate and friendly mayor, gripping the boy and throwing him into the back of the Nazi truck.

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Even more disturbing, I saw an image of something I will never forget, dozens of petrified faces struck dead with terror in the back of the broken down van. The sight of their friend being thrown in the back sent panic to them. Do you have no feelings? How do they deserve this?

As a father, how would you feel if your child was treated this way? They need to be set free, they are just innocent children! I would hope you can find this truck and put this right. Just imagine their worried parents - you must take them home.

Yours sincerely,
Rose Blanche

Children in Need-

It is Children in Need Pyjama Day! The children of The Leys had a fantastic time dressing up in pyjamas and raising money for Children in Need. Here are some photos of the Year 2 children all dressed up in their pyjamas!



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WELLBEING



As well as Anti-bullying week it has also been Just Talk week, across Hertfordshire. This campaign has been developed with young people and has been running for several years. It aims to make it easier for all of us to talk about our mental health, and seek help when it's needed. Staff in Key Stage 2 are sharing the video they have created with their classes and there is also a competition based on the 5 ways to well-being. Below are links to the video for this campaign, information about the competition and general information for

parents and carers

<https://youtu.be/QE-ScowfeL4>

<https://www.justtalkherts.org/media/documents/posters/jt-week-primary-competition.pdf>

<https://www.justtalkherts.org/media/documents/parents/a4-mh-wellbeing-info-parents-and-carers-in-hertfordshire-oct21-accessibility.pdf>

Spiritual, Moral, Social, Cultural and British Values

Odds Socks Day



On Monday, the whole school took part in Odd Socks Day - a way to raise awareness and celebrate children's unique qualities. Thank you to everyone who took part - you all looked brilliant!



Anti Bullying Week

To celebrate anti-bullying week this week we have seen a lovely range of work throughout the school.

In year 6, they listened to the official 'One Kind Word' song and wrote some emotional responses to the song.

Lily W explained that she thought the song was trying to tell everyone to be kind, because it takes no effort to do something nice.

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Tilly suggested that she thought the song was telling her that one word can change everything.

ONE KIND WORD
ANDY AND THE ODD SOCKS
 Official Anti-Bullying Week 2021 song - lyric sheet

ONE KIND WORD
 #ANTIBULLYINGWEEK

Intro
 There's words and words and words....
 Let me tell you what words can do!

Verse 1
 One word leads to the next
 Like a chain reaction, with big effects
 When you're saying how it is, how it should be
 Keep in mind that you know how it could be
 Plant the seeds and then you'll know
 That the best words grow and grow and grow
 Watch 'em fly, free as a bird!
 And start it off with one kind word

Verse 2
 Striding right up to make a scene
 Puffed out chest, like a mean machine
 Chit chat, back chat, telling where it's at
 But it's gone down like a pancake - flat
 Cos everybody's heard it all before
 You might as well just, leave it at the door
 Sounds absurd but haven't you heard
 All you need is, one kind word

Bridge
 Everybody, everywhere, everyone can feel it, feel it
 Everybody, everywhere, everyone can use, it, use it
 Everybody, everywhere, everyone can do it, do it
 Everybody, everywhere, everyone can say it, say it!

Chorus 2
 All you need is one kind word (All you need is one kind word)
 All you need is one kind word
 Gotta choose one, gotta use one!
 All you need is one kind word (All you need is one kind word)
 All you need is one kind word

Chorus
 All you need is one kind word (All you need is one kind word)
 All you need is one kind word
 Time to find it, get behind it!

Albert responded by explaining that he thought the message was that anything kind can make anyone smile, even just one word.

In year one, they have been focusing on how to recognise something that is kind, and something that is unkind. They have been doing some brilliant work on sorting behaviours into 'friendly' or 'unfriendly'. Great work year one!

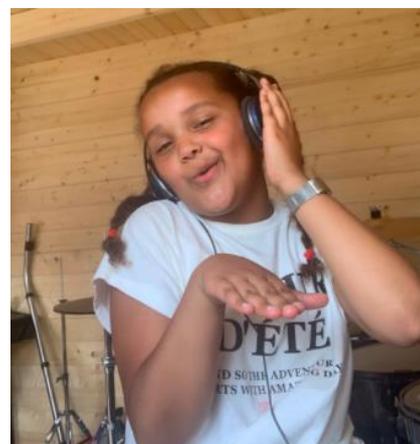
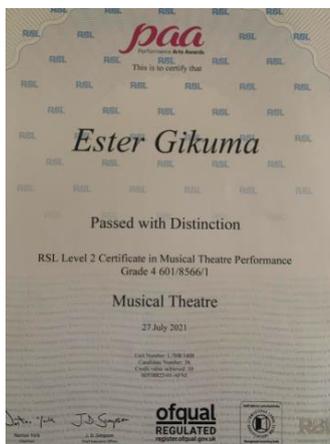


The Leys Have Talent

Ester G- Year 6

Ester has a passion for singing and acting.

Amazingly, despite her young age, she has released a few songs with professional music producers. She has also acted in the Theatre- passing her level 2 in musical theatre performance with a distinction!



Does your child excel in any out of school activities or have a special talent? Let us know by emailing Theleyshavetalent@leys.herts.sch.uk so that we can

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celebrate their success together!

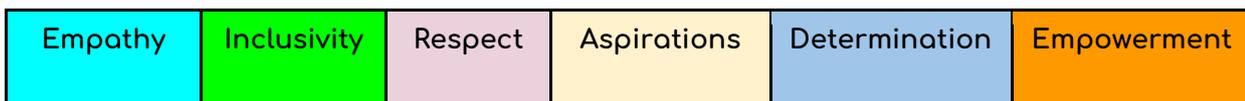
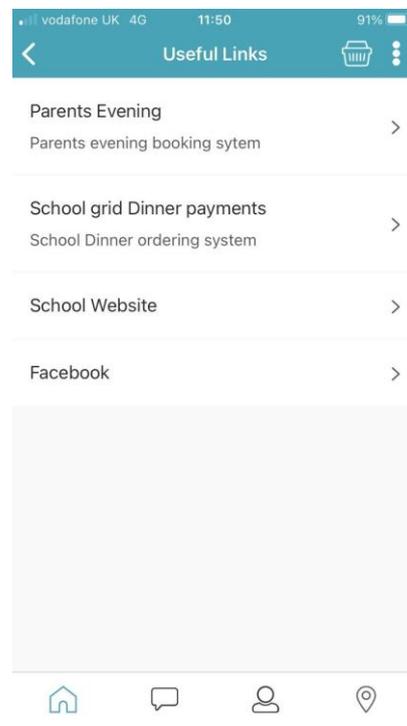
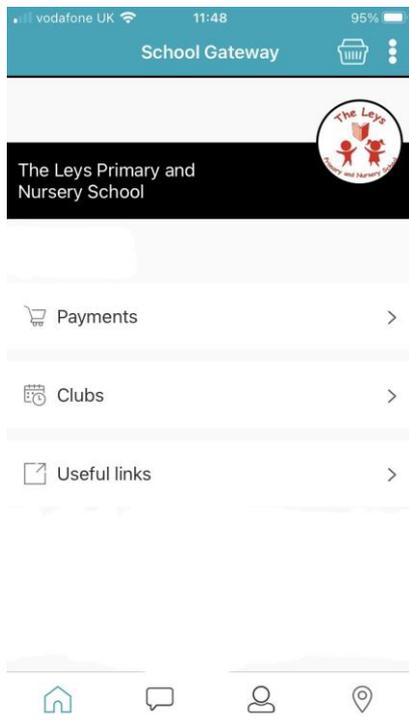
Please include their name and year group in your email and any photographs that could be used on our website or newsletter.

More information will be provided soon!



School Gateway

Please see images below and find how you can access other useful links such as School grid, school website, our facebook page and our Parents Evening portal using **ONLY** using School Gateway.



Lost Uniform

Every parent of a child in school knows the pain of losing clothing or uniform that is never returned (especially when they are new or expensive items!). We ask for parents/ carers to label everything and speak to your child about looking after their own items. This week, many pupils have left their jumpers and coats on the playground- many of which are unnamed. At The Leys, we are teaching our pupils to become more independent and responsible. If your child does not come home with correct items- please email your child's year group or contact their class teacher.

The school office should not be approached

Christmas Production events



Unfortunately we have had to make a decision to not invite parents/ carers into school due to rising cases in our school community- these performances will be recorded for parents to view on google classroom.

17.12 Christmas Jumper and Dinner Day

17.12 Junior Church Service- **pupils only**

Parent Partnership

Stay & Play 9am to 9.30am

These sessions are aimed for EYFS parents only, please drop your child at their classroom door and then make your way to the main sports field- where Mr Byford will meet you. After registration, all pupils will join their parent/ carer to complete some fun activities.

Friday 5th Nov- Nursery - postponed

Stay & Share KS1 & KS2 -8.50 to 9.10 am

These sessions will take place in the infant hall, with only one parent per child- all visitors will need to wear a mask and only stay with their child. I am afraid there will be no entry without a mask and adults will be asked to hand sanitise on entry.

Friday 12th November- Year 1- postponed

Friday 19th November- Year 2-postponed

Friday 26th November- Year 3

Friday 3rd December - Year 4

Friday 14th January - Year 5

Friday 21st January - Year 6

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2022-23 EYFS Tours

*Please come along and join us on our full tours of the school on;
1.30pm 2nd December 2021*

Contact the school office to book a place.

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

Pupis return on Tuesday 7th June 2022

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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The County Council is responsible for setting a published admission number (PAN) for all community and voluntary-controlled schools and must consult on any proposals to reduce PANs. After a period of demographic growth, the demand for primary places across the county has fallen and, in some areas, fewer school places are needed. This is in line with a decrease in primary demand across most other local authorities. Changes in demand are not evenly distributed and some areas and schools are impacted more than others. As part of the PAN setting process for academic year 2023/24, the County Council has engaged with headteachers and governing bodies at a number of schools, including The Leys Primary and Nursery School, to discuss and agree a proposed PAN reduction.

A reduction of the PAN at The Leys Primary and Nursery School from 75 to 60 places from 2023/24 is proposed following a drop in the number of applications and allocations for September 2021. The pupil forecast indicates lower demand for Reception places across this part of Stevenage for 2023/4 and beyond. A reduction in PAN would create a better match of places to expected demand, protecting the financial viability of the school moving forward. The Governing Body and Headteacher are both in agreement with the proposal which will assist the school both organisationally and financially.

Please visit www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/admissions2023 for more information about the consultation and to respond online.

