

Headteacher:  
Neil Blackwell



31th March 2017

# Newsletter



## From the Headteacher

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#### Stay and Play

We are pleased to announce that we will be hosting weekly **mums and dads and tots sessions** in the Diamond Building after Easter. Sessions will run each Tuesday from 8.45 to 9.45 and will cost £1 per family which includes squash and fruit. It is for Under 3s only and is open to any parents of young children, irrespective of if their children currently attend St Leonards, starting **Tuesday 2 May**.

#### Collective Worship at St Leonards

All state schools are required to make provision for a daily act of worship and we have Key Stage assemblies each day where the children think and reflect together. One day a week there is an act of class worship instead. To unite us we have a school prayer which we say together on behalf of the children and also a prayer before lunch and going home. St Leonard's is a Church of England School and therefore the children learn about the life of Jesus and we regularly visit St Leonard's Church. We pride ourselves on being tolerant to all people and respecting those with a different faith or no faith, and have regular visitors to our assemblies. This week Reverend Sue presented Easter assemblies in the hall.

#### Our Teachers

Last week was a busy week for teachers with two sets of Parents Evenings and Assessment Week. This week we have had our Pupil Progress Meetings so that we can talk about the progress that children are making in each subject and can target additional support if needed. At the same time Lower Key Stage Two have been preparing for The Mystery of Magpie Manor and Year Two and Six continue to prepare the children for their SATs. We have a FANTASTIC group of teachers; dedicated, talented and ably supported by a wonderful set of Nursery Nurses, Teaching Assistants and Higher Level Teaching Assistants. From the children, the parents, the governors and from the school leadership team thank you all for the incredible work that you do.

#### Easter Bunny

Don't forget to return your entries for the Easter Bunny competition. He's HUGE and in his hands is a tempting Easter Egg. The winner will be announced next Friday.

Best wishes,  
*Neil Blackwell*



## St Leonard's Church

Find out what is happening in our church by going to their website: <http://saintleonards.org>



## Read all about it !

The first edition of the new School Newspaper will be on sale next week, from Wednesday 5 April onwards. Priced keenly at 50p, it has been written by a mixture of Year 4, 5 and 6 children at Newspaper Club. The name of the newspaper is a top secret but we're 'Vere'ing towards calling it the Morning Moon after its editors. Half of all proceeds will go to Comic Relief.



## What we are doing!

### Focus upon Year Two

Year Two have been researching facts about dinosaurs and putting their new found knowledge into writing some super prehistoric adventure stories. The children have created 'Escaped' Posters and dinosaur fact sheets. They have also been learning about the Easter story and have written some lovely poems and Easter prayers. They have been busy rehearsing for their **6 April Church Easter Service** and we look forward to seeing the Year One and Two parents there.

### Building Learning Power

We continue to build our learning power and this week have focused upon **using our imagination**. We used Clara the Chimpanzee to look at the importance of being creative, letting our imagination grow and thinking up new ideas and questions. Did you know that Walt Disney was sacked from his first job for not being creative enough? That Steve Jobs was pushed out of his own company, Apple, for not being 'good enough' before going back and leading it to success? That Albert Einstein's teachers told his parents that he wouldn't amount to anything?! It's never too late to Build your Learning Power.

### Multi-skills

Last week Year 2 children took part in a multi-skills event at Banbury Academy alongside other local schools. The children were able to learn skills for goal shooting in netball, goal scoring (football), hockey, hoop games, archery, parachute games and relay races. All of the children enjoyed the afternoon and behaved really well. We were proud of them!



## Mental Health

### Mental Health

Emotional health is just as important as physical health. We all get 'down' occasionally but at any one time there are about 10% of children who are struggling with their emotional health: experiencing depression, anxiety and confusion. As a school we are now **Mental Health Champions** and are available to support you should you be worried about your child; please make an appointment to see Mrs Philpott or Mrs Howkins-Griffiths in confidence. In the meantime the following are ways to support mental well-being:

- Looking after your physical health, including teeth
- Eating healthily
- Taking part in exercise
- Having time to play, both indoors and outdoors
- Spending time with our family and loved ones
- Spending time with friends whom we trust and value
- Being hopeful and optimistic
- Being resilient when things go wrong (knowing that things will get better again)



## Red Nose Day

There was a fantastic effort for Red Nose Day –we raised £360 and there were some lovely, colourful costumes. The Year 3 and 4 staff in particular went to some effort, dressing as various Mr Men. Can you spot Mr Bump, Miss Princess and Mr Cool?



## Dates for your diary ...

<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>4 April:</b>	<b>Y3 and Y4 Learning morning</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>5 April:</b>	<b>Lower KS2 production 2.00pm</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>6 April:</b>	<b>KS1 Easter Service 2.00pm Church</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>6 April:</b>	<b>Lower KS2 production 7:00pm</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>7 April:</b>	<b>Term ends 2.00pm</b>
<b>Monday</b>	<b>24 April:</b>	<b>Return to school</b>
<b>Monday</b>	<b>8 May:</b>	<b>Year 6 SATs Week starts</b>