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Newsletter



From the Headteacher



Anti-Bullying

Next week is **Anti-Bullying Week** and this year's theme is Power for Good. We're encouraging children to use their Power for Good to stop bullying, for example thinking about what they say and saying kind words to others. The children will be reminded of how they can recognise bullying behaviour – it is **deliberately** hurtful acts which occur more than once (Several Times On Purpose which spells STOP). We encourage children to STOP bullying by Starting Telling Other People, especially teachers or lunchtime supervisors, as soon as the incident happens.

Growth Mindset

As parents will know by now, we are trying to grow our minds at St Leonard's. Here is a verse from a poem, author unknown, linked to determination and Keep Improving.

If you think you are beaten, you are. If you think you dare not, you don't.
If you'd like to win but you think you can't, it's almost a cinch you won't.
For out in the world you'll find success begins with a person's will.
It's all in the state of mind!

Site Security

Please may I request again that parents do not use the main corridor as a cut-through. If you wish to visit reception please go around the building. All staff have been requested to challenge anybody who is not wearing a staff or visitor lanyard. Thank you. Also, when using the main entrance please can pedestrians use the footpath and not walk down the middle of the car park. If you are on the driveway cars turning in do not necessarily see you and if your child is running ahead of you it could be too late to avoid a collision.

Library

It has been lovely to see so many families visiting the school library this week and it is Year 5 and 6's turn tomorrow. Our aim is to get children to read widely and often. Now you know where the library is we hope to see you come back again soon. Miss Hancock is there every day of the week except Friday, straight after school, until 3.30pm.

Children in Need

The school is collecting for Children in Need next week, on Friday 18th November. Children are invited to come in non-uniform with the theme being anything spotty. Please bring a donation of at least £1.

Best wishes,
Neil Blackwell



Vacancies

Bank Staff

We have a wonderful lunchtime team but occasionally need cover for planned or unplanned absence. If you would be interested in joining our Bank Staff then please contact Linda Keane, our School Business Manager, to find out more. Sometimes it's a really good way to find out more about other vacancies within school.



What we are doing!

Building Learning Power

This term we are looking at how we can **Keep Improving**. The children have seen how Bertie and Bryony the beavers worked hard to make a dam but then kept on improving their 'work', always seeking to make it better. Important rules are to try to improve only one thing at a time and to never compare yourself with others, only yourself. Remember, small steps are important - Rome wasn't built in a day!! (Though it WAS completed in time for SATs, obviously – that's why the children have to learn Roman numerals!!)

We have set two learning challenges for the children this term: One is to **Keep Improving your reading** by reading as often as possible and utilising our library regularly to access a wide variety of books. The second is to **Keep Improving your multiplication** (and therefore division!) by learning your times tables. There will be certificates for the most improved readers and mathematicians in each class in our Celebration Assemblies on Friday 2 December.

Focus on Reception

A big thank you to all the parents who attended our Learning Morning on Friday where the children were learning to count and write numbers in all sorts of different ways. Did you know that our recent Conker King was Tyler in Miss Kurek's class who collected over 2000!! Keeping with the seasonal theme, children have enjoyed exploring pumpkins and describing them. The children have been reading the book 'Pumpkin Soup'; they predicted the story ending and made their own soup. The classes have introduced a daily 'Busy Bee Challenge' task for which the children get a sticker if they complete it before lunch! The children have also started learning how to brush their teeth properly!



Children Singing for Children

Congratulations

Congratulations to our fantastic choir who participated in the Rotary Club Children Singing for Children event at St Mary's last night. Their singing and behaviour were exceptional and they were real ambassadors for our school. Thanks go to Miss Nicklin for running the choir each week and teaching them to sing so beautifully. I would also like to thank Mrs Mallarky and Mrs Nurden for supporting the choir and everybody who attended to watch.



Dates for your Diary



Thursday 10th November: Library visit for Upper KS2 parents at 3.15pm

Friday 11th November: Home Learning celebration assembly

Monday 14th November: Residential Visit to Stackpole for year 6

Tuesday 15th November: Nursery and Reception open day for prospective parents 9.30am

Friday 18th November: Non-uniform day—come in something spotty!

Monday 21st November: Online Safety sessions (school hall) 1.45—2.45pm and 6.30—7.30pm

Thursday 24th November: Pantomime at Chipping Norton theatre



Words of the Week

With the eyes of the world on the American Presidential election, this week's words are ones which are an important part of British society- **democracy, parliament and liberty**. Difficult words to spell and what exactly do they mean? Can you find out more about them?



St Leonard's Church

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