

Headteacher:
Neil Blackwell



Overthorpe Road,
Banbury, OX16 4SB
Tel: 01295 262507

office.3262@st-leonards.oxon.sch.uk

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Newsletter



From the Headteacher



Welcome

Welcome back to school to all our families. We hope that you had an enjoyable Christmas holiday and wish you all a happy and successful New Year.

Attendance

Well done to the 109 children with 100% attendance from September to Christmas. Everybody has another chance to achieve either a silver or gold sticker this term.

School attendance was 95.80% for the autumn term which is +0.65% up on last year and very close to the national average. Particularly well done to last term's award winning classes 2B (Miss Somers) and 5B (Mrs Nottingham), who each win £50 for a "class treat". They both exceeded 97%.

Punctuality has improved also. Thank you for getting children to school promptly for 8.40am. After 8.50am a 'late' is recorded and after 9.00am this is amended automatically to an absence, even if a child subsequently attends.

Reading Raffle

We started a Reading Raffle last term. Children receive a ticket every time that they read 3 times a week at home, which must be evidenced in their reading record. There is a prize for each year group and the winners were pulled out of the jar in our Christmas assembly. Their prize is a visit to see Treasure Island at the Town Hall, which Mrs Vere is organising. Make sure that you get a chance to win this term!

Home School Links

Don't forget that we have a Home School Community Link Worker, Christina Howkins-Griffiths. She is available between Tuesday and Thursday each week and can give advice on all manner of things affecting home and family. In particular this term, should you need someone to talk to, she is available to advise on strategies relating to punctuality and attendance. She also allows time for 1 to 1 work with children and is able to speak with your son or daughter on your behalf regarding anxiety or emotional health issues.

Extreme reading

As a boy in London I travelled to school on the underground and thought nothing of reading my book, packed in like a sardine with other commuters. The teachers are all avid readers and we are setting a challenge for children to have their photograph taken reading in an unusual or exciting place. Children have until half term to bring in their entries.

Matilda

Miss Moon has arranged an exciting trip to London to see Matilda at the Cambridge Theatre in July. Expressions of interest should be returned to school by Monday 16th January so that a draw can be made and families have time to budget for tickets.

Best wishes,
Neil Blackwell



What we are doing!

Learning

There is an overview of this term's learning on the school website in 'curriculum', 'whole school plan'. Individual year group newsletters will be going home this week. All classes will again be contributing to a school art exhibition entitled Take One Picture between 7-9 February.

School Values

This term's school value is Love. In particular, this half term, we will look at gentleness and generosity as ways of demonstrating God's love.



Dates for your diary

Tuesday 17 January:	Learning morning for parents Maths Focus Year 1
Thursday 19 January:	Y6 SATs meeting 3.30pm
Thursday 19 January:	Inclusion Sportshall Athletics Years 5 & 6. Banbury Academy
Friday 27 January:	Sheldonian Theatre trip
Tuesday 7 February:	Safer Internet Day
Tuesday 7 February-Thursday 9 February:	Take One Picture art exhibition
Monday 13 February – Friday 17 February:	Half Term break
Thursday 23 February:	Nursery Learning Day
Thursday 2 March:	Y2 SATs meeting 3.15pm
Wednesday 8 March:	Y3/4 Holy Communion. 10:00am St Leonard's Church
Wednesday 15 March:	Y5/6 Holy Communion. 10.00am St Leonard's Church
Monday 20 March:	Parents evening 6.00-8.00pm
Tuesday 21 March:	Parents evening 3.30-6.00pm
Wednesday 5 April:	Y3/4 production 2.00pm
Thursday 6 April:	Y3/4 production 7.00pm



Problem of the week

It's good for children to be able to apply their maths skills to solving real-life problems. Over the course of this term we'll be setting a weekly problem.

Here's the first: The ages of a father and son add up to 66. The father's age is the son's age reversed. How old could they be? (Clue: there are three possible answers)