

Headteacher:
Neil Blackwell



17th March 2017

Newsletter



From the Headteacher



From the Headteacher

Parents Evenings

Thank you to everybody who has made an appointment for next Monday or Tuesday. Representatives of both the Governors and the PTFA will be available for you to speak with, to share your views about the school.

School Site

We are constantly trying to improve our school environment and many of you will have noticed the new photographs on the windows at the front of the building. There are even more down the main corridor and the children's smiling faces have really brightened the place up!

500 Words

There were fifty-two entries to our 500 Words story competition and three worthy winners: Joseph, Harri and Billy. Their stories are posted on the website for you to enjoy (in the 'Our Stars' section).

Spelling

Whilst doing exercise one February Thomas accidentally rode his bicycle straight through the centre of the fruit store. The words in bold are examples of words which children need to learn in Years 3 and 4 of the National Curriculum. Unfortunately phonic knowledge alone only accounts for 12% of all English words (!) and the rest have to be learnt. Here are some tips:

Use the Look, Say, Cover, Write, Check method to practise spellings

Learn the 'mistake' – which part of a word do you normally spell wrong?

Learn the history of words (for example 'said' comes from 'sayed' which is much more sensible!)

Best wishes,
Neil Blackwell



St Leonard's Church

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



What we are doing!

Humanities at St Leonard's

Part of the pleasure of growing up is learning about the world that we live in (geography) and how it got to be that way (history). At St Leonard's we do this through our topic work and there is some amazing learning going on at school this term. Year 1 are finding out about houses and the weather and Year 2 are discovering dinosaurs in The Land That Time Forgot. Year 3 have looked at artefacts from the Bronze and Iron Age whilst Year 4 are finding out all about different types of mountains. Year 5 are experiencing the myths and artefacts of Ancient Greece whilst Year 6 have been finding out about important monarchs through history, from William the Conqueror to King John and Queen Elizabeth the Second.

Learning in Reception

This week saw one of the highlights of the year as Reception visited Warwick Castle. Lots of children dressed up in their themed outfits and there were assorted kings, queens and princesses (and that was just the staff!) We explored the grounds and the inside of the castle, climbed towers, saw birds of prey and peacocks and completed the maze challenge.

At school we have been focusing on science week so there have been lot of experiments both indoors and outside based upon colour - e.g. watching ink on blotting paper, changing the colour of lettuce leaves, marshmallows and skittles in water, colour mixing paints, and coloured gloop exploration!



Amazing Science

What a fantastic Science Week we've had. The week began with a visit from Atomic Tom who entertained us with some amazing experiments. The assembly for Reception and Key Stage 1 was memorable for a demonstration of the power of air; children's hair flew all over the place and a toilet roll unravelled across the audience. The Headteacher was transported on a hoverboard! In the classroom Year 2 learned about food chains and dissected owl pellets (all the fur and bone which they can't digest - charming, I know!) Year 6 extracted DNA from a strawberry and found out that they share 60% of the same DNA (and 99% of a chimpanzee's – no wonder some children find it difficult to sit still on a chair!). In lessons Year 5 have launched some Alka-Seltzer rockets whilst Year 1 have completed experiments to show how water can travel along blotting paper.



Dates for your diary ...

Monday	20 March:	Parents evening 6.00-8.00pm
Tuesday	21 March:	Parents evening 3.30-6.00pm
Tuesday	21 March:	Cake Sale KS1
Friday	24 March:	Red Nose Day
Tuesday	28 March:	Nursery Open Day
Wednesday 5 April:		Y3 and Y4 learning morning
Wednesday 5 April:		Lower KS2 production 2.00pm
Thursday 6 April:		KS1 Easter Service 2.00pm Church
Thursday 6 April:		Lower KS2 production 7.00pm