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16th November 2018

Newsletter



From the Head Teacher



Oxfordshire Children and Young People's Plan 2018-2021

The Children's Trust has published its plan for Oxfordshire 2018-2021. The third of its four main aims is for children to **Be Safe**:

- Be protected from all types of abuse and neglect
- Have a place to feel safe and a sense of belonging
- Access education and support about how to stay safe
- Have access to appropriate housing



Our staff are trained to identify and report any examples of abuse or neglect to the Head Teacher or to the MASH. 98% of parents report that children feel safe at St Leonard's and are proud to come to this school. SCIB (Safeguarding Children In Banbury) provides an excellent way of teaching children to be safe and children are all encouraged to choose an adult to talk to if they have concerns, or phone Childline on 0800 1111. Sorry, we don't do housing yet (and don't tell County we have a big field...!)

Anti-Bullying Week

The children are all made aware of how to spot bullying and we use the acronym **STOP** which means **Several Times On Purpose**. A one-off accidental event is not bullying and we explain to children how hurtful to others their behaviour has been. If the behaviour is then repeated intentionally then that is bullying and will be dealt with. Parents will be told.

The surest way to stop bullying is to tell someone about it: **Start Telling Other People!** If we are not told about something then it is often very difficult to identify it. Children must always tell their teachers or a member of staff as soon as possible so that we can help.

This week was Anti-Bullying Week and the theme nationally was Show Respect, which of course is very closely linked to one of our school values. Our Stars of the Week children this week have all been chosen for showing respect to others at school and we have three fantastic Anti-Bullying ambassadors: Lexi, Heidi and Fatimah.



Next week is one of our regular SCIB focus weeks when we will be teaching children how to keep their bodies healthy and what sort of substances could harm them, including tobacco, alcohol and drugs. Smoke Free Lives will be visiting the school to highlight some of the dangers of smoking to adults and Year 5 and 6 children might tell you about what they learnt watching the play Meet The Stinkers!

Parents Meetings

Thank you to everyone who has attended Parents Evenings and afternoons so far and we are currently at 97% with just Year 5 to go next week. This is well up on last year and thank you for embracing the new system.

Best wishes,
Neil Blackwell



What we are doing

Open Day

Our third and final Open Day for September 2019 admissions is in the evening this time, next Thursday at 6.00pm. Please spread the word amongst your friends and neighbours about what a fantastic school this is. Applications for places close on 15 January.

Early Years Questionnaire

Many thanks to everyone who completed our Questionnaire for parents of Nursery and Reception children. We had 16 replies in total with the vast majority of comments and 'first impressions' being very positive. Thank you in particular for the answers to "Is there anything we could do better?" and we will be considering your ideas moving forward.

Maths Survival Course

Are you terrified of Maths? Do you put off helping children with homework because you're slightly embarrassed about your own Maths? Then you're not alone and we want to help!

You'll know that we are teaching children about Growth Mindset and never giving up. This is your chance to step up and model good learning behaviour!

Mrs Debus is putting on two maths sessions for parents, one at 2.15 and one at 6.30 on **Monday 3 December**. Both sessions will feature our children talking about and modelling maths, the first session in person and the evening session via the big screen. Please come along – money back if you're not completely satisfied!

Library Week

It was wonderful to have so many visitors to the library last week. The glow sticks worked a treat and we hope that many of you will continue to take advantage of this marvellous, free resource. Huge thanks to Mrs Hancock who is always so hard working and welcoming.



Children Singing for Children

Last week our choir performed at St Mary's Church as part of Children Singing for Children, organised by Rotary. The standard of performance was very high indeed and they performed with passion and pride, proud to belong to St Leonard's and making us proud of them too.

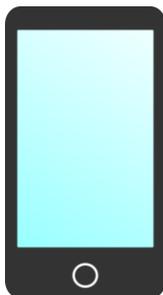
We are very grateful to our parents who supported the event and the words of one of the organisers cannot be beaten:

"We are hugely aware that none of this happens without a huge investment of time and emotional energy by teachers who already have more than enough to do but still go the extra mile to offer their pupils an experience that will remain with them well after many aspects of school life are long forgotten. There is, of course, the added bonus of having raised money for deserving children's charities." Many thanks to Miss Nicklin in particular.



Contact Numbers

It is now a requirement that schools hold at least two telephone numbers for children in case of emergency. Please could you let school have updated details as soon as your telephone changes. Often we only find out that numbers are no longer used when it's too late. This is parents' responsibility please.



Bag2school

Each year we collect unused clothing collection bags which are then recycled or reused around the world. The office will distribute bags next Friday, 23 November, and they need to be returned to school by Friday 7 December at 9am. Last year this raised £112 for PTFA funds- let's see if we can do even better this term!



St Leonard's Church

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



Dates for your diary ...

W/c 19 November	Year 5 Parents Meetings
Thursday 22 November	Open Day for prospective parents from 6.00pm
Wednesday 28 November	Reading, stories and rhyme – 8.45 am hall
Monday 3 December	Fun Maths afternoon and evening 2.15 and 6.30pm
Thursday 6 December	Christmas Disco



... Continued

Friday 14 December	Nursery and Reception Nativity 9.30 and 2.00pm
Tuesday 18 December	Year 1 and 2 Christmas performance AM
Tuesday 18 December	Year 6 Carol service St Leonard's Church PM
Wednesday 19 December	Year 1 and 2 Christmas performance PM