



St Leonard's CE Primary Academy
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Friday 9th February 2018

Dear Parent/Carer

Newsletter 8

We are now half way through the academic year!

Values Cup

Congratulations to the children who are among the first to receive the Values Cup. The names of the recipients are on the website and will be updated on a weekly basis. It is wonderful to hear how proud the children are to receive the cup.

Lent Lunches

Year 5 children will be taking home a letter inviting them to take part in the Lent Lunches at the Methodist Hall in the village. The homemade soup is always amazing! Please encourage your child to join in and meet up with members of the community.

Early morning

One of the many reasons why the teachers come out onto the playground to greet your children in the morning is for you to have the opportunity to pass on any quick messages you may have to the teacher. Once the teachers and children have left the playground, please do not enter the corridors or the classrooms. The reason for this is that we have a duty to safeguard the children in our care. If you need to have a longer conversation with a class teacher, please make a separate appointment.

Safer Internet Meeting

Parent/carers should by now have received a letter regarding a meeting about the safer use of the internet. This will take place on Wednesday 28th February in the hall. It is sometimes easy to think that we know everything there is to know about being safe online, but this is an ever-changing part of our society and something that we need to try and keep up to date with. We all have a responsibility to make sure we do what we can to keep our children safe. Please consider coming to this meeting.

World Book Day

World Book Day is on Thursday 1st March. Children are invited to dress up as a book character to help celebrate the day. The theme this year is 'Share a Story' which is aimed at parents and carers, highlighting the importance of spending just 10 minutes a day reading and sharing stories with their

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children. Similarly, children are encouraged to read with their parents - older siblings are invited to read with younger brothers and sisters too. If anyone would like to come into school to read to the children, please contact your child's class teacher. You are more than welcome to read to another year group if you prefer!

Wind in the Willows

Rehearsals for Wind in the Willows are progressing well. We have had to make a slight adjustment to the dates of the performances and I apologise for any inconvenience this may cause.

Monday 19th March - performance for the school (moved from Tuesday 20th March)

Tuesday 20th March - Grandparents (moved from Wednesday 21st March)

Wednesday 21st March - Evening Performance 6pm (moved from Thursday 22nd March)

There will be an interval during the performance - the Friends of St Leonard's have kindly agreed to organise some refreshments. Although we will not be charging for tickets, we will be asking for a voluntary donation on the night. All proceeds will go towards the purchase of interactive screens for the school.

Parents/carers of children who are performing in the play will be getting a separate letter with further details.

Attendance Policy

There is now an attendance policy on the school website, which clearly states the importance of good attendance and the procedures that will be put in place should your child's attendance fall below an acceptable level. There is a clear link between attendance and the educational progress made and this is why this policy is so important.

Lunches

Every day in school we check the lunch list to ensure that all the children who are expecting to receive a school lunch are booked in. This is over and above what we are expected to do and as I stated in my previous newsletter, we ask you to check regularly that you have ordered the meals. The responsibility for booking a school lunch lies with yourselves. It is not the school's fault if your child is not on the list. We have had a number of parents/carers complaining to us that we are phoning them because their child does not have a lunch ordered. We don't want any child to go hungry at lunch time, but we also do not have spare food to give away.

School Photos

Year 6 pupils will have their 'Leavers Photo' taken on Tuesday 22nd May. This will consist of an individual and a class photo. There may be an opportunity for all of the year groups to have a class photo depending on whether parent/carers would be interested in purchasing them or not. If you are a parent/carer in Class R to Class 5, please complete the slip at the end of the newsletter and return to school by Friday 2nd March.

Thank you

The non-uniform day for Swindon Young Carers raised £181.75. Thank you to all who contributed to this worthwhile cause.

Friends

The dates of the next meetings are as follows:

Monday 26th February

Thursday 15th March

Wednesday 18th April

The Friends have also organised another Bags to School Collection, which will take place on Tuesday 20th February. This is one of the easiest ways for us to make money. Please have a good sort out at home over the half term and bring your unwanted textiles into school. You should receive a bag with this newsletter.

There will be no Valentines Disco this year as we are looking into other possible activities to raise money for the school.

Flu

In view of the increased cases of Flu this year, NHS England has taken the decision to extend the vaccination programme and make more vaccine available. Therefore there will be unexpected extended opportunities for your child to be vaccinated in community clinics; this is for those who have not already been vaccinated and are in the eligible cohort Year R, 1, 2, 3 or 4. This is regardless of whether you filled in a negative consent form in the first instance. If you would like to take up this opportunity please contact the immunisation team on: 0333 234 1125 to book into a community clinic. Please note that this will be offered on a first come/first serve basis until vaccine has run out, therefore early contact is advised.

Attention all iPhone users

I understand that parent/carers who use iPhones are unable to read newsletters and other documents on our website. I have contacted our website provider and he is hoping to rectify this soon.

Interactive Screens

We are now the proud owners of two interactive screens and motorised floor stands in Class 2 and Class 6! Thank you to the Friends and all of you who have contributed to our fund raising activities - it makes a huge difference to the resources we can purchase. As I said in my last newsletter, we need five more - approximately £14000. If anyone has any ideas for fund raising, please speak to the Friends of the School.

I hope you all have a wonderful half term and I look forward to seeing you on the 19th February.

Yours sincerely

Nicky Mills

Year Group Photo - Classes R, 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 only

I would/would not be interested in purchasing a year group photo.

Signed:.....

Print Name:.....

Please return to school by Friday 2nd March.