

Church of England Primary School

Headteacher: Mrs Dawn Lindley B.Sc (Hons) QTS CofEPQH

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER Friday 3rd September 2021

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Dear Parents and Carers,

Firstly, I would like to thank you all for the wonderful St Leonard's welcome I have received this week as I have met so many of you at the gate in the mornings. I feel exceptionally proud to be joining such a caring school family, and leading such a hard-working and dedicated staff team.

The children have returned to school bursting with enthusiasm and a zest for learning which has been wonderful to see. I have really enjoyed getting to know them over the last two days and have had so many lovely conversations on the playground and around school. This morning, we had our first whole school worship in the hall, and having spent such a long time in 'bubbles', there was a real sense of togetherness and positivity. The children were so eager to contribute and showed impeccable conduct throughout, not to mention such fabulous singing!

Please find below some useful information, including a message from each class teacher about how each class has settled back into school this week.

Kind regards and have a lovely weekend!

Mrs Lindley

Requests for leave of absence

If you need to request for your child to be absent from school during term time, then you must please fill out a request form. Paper copies are available from the school office or our office staff can email a copy for you to print off at home. Please be reminded that absence can only be authorised in exceptional circumstances. By definition, exceptional circumstances are one off events that are unavoidable, Eg attending a funeral, death of a close relative, parent returning from a tour of duty abroad if they are service personnel etc.

'Meet The Teacher' Sessions

We would like to invite you to a short, informal meet the teacher session in which class teachers will give a short presentation to introduce themselves and the class expectations and procedures. There will be an opportunity to ask general questions during the session or more specific questions at the end. It might be that your question or concern needs more time in which case the class teacher will arrange with you a suitable follow-up.

Please see below for the times of the meetings. Each class will have two identical sessions. One at 3:30pm and one at 6:00pm on different days. Whilst you are in the meeting, we are able to provide supervision for your children who attend St. Leonard's. Simply bring your child to the studio (white double-doors) on your way to the meeting. There is no need to sign up for a meeting, just come along.

	3:30pm Session	6:00pm Session
Little Lennies	Wednesday 8 th September	Monday 6 th September
	3:30pm – 4:00pm	6:00pm-6:30pm
Blackbirds	Thursday 9 th September	Tuesday 7 th September

	3:30pm-4:00pm	6:00pm-6:30pm
Doves	Thursday 9 th September	Wednesday 8 th September
	3:30pm-4:00pm	6:00pm – 6:30pm
Eagles	Thursday 9 th September	Wednesday 8 th September
	3:30pm-4:00pm	6:00pm – 6:30pm
Falcons	Thursday 9 th September	Wednesday 8 th September
	3:30pm-4:00pm	6:00pm – 6:30pm
Herons	Wednesday 8 th September	Tuesday 7 th September
	3:30pm – 4:00pm	6:00pm-6:30pm
Kingfishers	Wednesday 8 th September	Tuesday 7 th September
	3:30pm – 4:00pm	6:00pm-6:30pm
Owls	Wednesday 8 th September	Tuesday 7 th September
	3:30pm – 4:00pm	6:00pm-6:30pm
Robins	Tuesday 7 th September	Wednesday 8 th September
	3:30pm-4:00pm	6:00pm-6:30pm
Swifts	Tuesday 7 th September	Thursday 9 th September
	3:30pm-4:00pm	6:00pm-6:30pm
Wrens	Tuesday 7 th September	Thursday 9 th September
	3:30pm-4:00pm	6:00pm-6:30pm

Class Updates

Little Lennie's	 What a wonderful start we have had to our new term in Little Lennies. We have welcomed lots of new faces into Little Lennies along with some familiar faces from last year. We have had a really lovely couple of days getting to know each other and have done lots of playing. The children have enjoyed modelling and cooking with the play doh, gluing, glittering, painting, lots of singing (I think we have some performers in our midst!), dancing, playing in the water, playing with the train track, diggers and cars and lots of jigsaws! Yesterday we enjoyed a little adventure into our woods topped off with a few games on our field and today the children enjoyed visiting our reception class where they played indoors and outdoors with the reception children. We are looking forward to next week and the adventures it will bring! Mrs Bolton
Blackbirds	Well done to all our new Reception children who have amazed us over only two days! They have settled in so well and we are very proud of each and every one of them. We have had such fun so far discovering our indoor and outdoor classroom spaces, listening carefully and knowing that the grown-ups in school are always here to help us. Our teachers couldn't be prouder! Mrs Harris
Doves	Doves Class have had a lovely time settling into new routines, they have had fun choosing activities both inside the classroom and outdoors. We have enjoyed lots of stories and giggled at the funny parts. We have been very creative making our own doves to fly around the classroom. It has been so lovely getting to know the children with their amazing manners and fabulous smiles. It's going to be a brilliant year watching the Doves daring to learn in so many ways. Mrs McMahon

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Eagles	It has been a delight to welcome our year 1 and 2 children back to Eagles this week. I have enjoyed hearing all about their summer adventures and they have impressed me with how well they have adapted to our new routines. This week, we have enjoyed interviewing a new friend by asking lots of questions and then reported back to introduce our friend to the rest of the class. We have also used our cutting skills to create some beautiful eagles to display outside our classroom. We have enjoyed starting our new class novel 'Katy Morag's Island Stories' and had lots of fun making predictions based on the text. It has been such a busy return to school and I am so proud of all the children in Eagles. Well done everyone. Mrs Pollard
Falcons	What a lovely first week back for Falcons. We have spent lots of time getting to know each other and our new classroom. We wrote about and shared our summer holiday stories and had time to share books with each other too. We have also talked about 'family' and how our families are all so different and special, getting creative and making our own natural family art. We can't wait to start more of our learning together next week! Miss Thomas
Herons	It was wonderful to see the children's smiling faces as they returned to school this week and I have been impressed with my new Heron Class children as they settled in quickly. After sharing holiday news we thought about new beginnings whilst revisiting our gospel values. We talked about the children's expectation of their teacher, vice versa and what class rules we could make to have a safe and happy environment in order to achieve our best. The children were enthusiastic during our sentence workshop. They checked their punctuation and grammar whilst creating super sentences using adjectives and expanded noun phrases. To start our maths 'place value' unit, the children played games using maths equipment. We then celebrated the diversity of families by creating super family portraits for the Heron Class display. What a great start! Well done to the Herons. Miss Cross
Kingfishers	What a fantastic few days we have had settling into Kingfishers class. We have enjoyed finding out about each other's summer holidays and what we are looking forward to in the coming year. We talked about how we are feeling and wrote a prayer to put in a class prayer book. The children also wrote me a letter telling me all about themselves- they are amazing! We even completed a piece of artwork about how diverse our families are. We are definitely going to have an exciting year in Kingfishers class. Mrs Murphy
Owls	It has been wonderful to welcome the children into Owls Class. The children have been working hard to settle in and establish their routines. It has been pleasing to see the children return with both positivity and enthusiasm. I have enjoyed getting to know the children so far and I am looking forward to the year ahead. The children have been working hard to complete lots of tasks including writing a letter to me, completing some creative tasks and thinking about what goals they would like to achieve this year. Well done on what has been a productive two days, Owls Class! Enjoy the weekend - I am looking forward to our first full week together. Mr Bradshaw

Robins	This week, Robins have enjoyed settling back into school. They played some games to share news about what they did during the summer holidays and to find out more about each other. They also completed a fact file about themselves to help their new teacher (Mr Colpman) to get to know them and a true or false quiz to find out more about him. They looked at what sort of classroom year 5 needed to be and the rules or guidelines that would help. Everyone's ideas were condensed into five statements for our classroom code. We did some maths puzzles, work on growth mindset with sayings to motivate and inspire, and retold the story of the crow and the water jug. Mr Colpman
Swifts	Well what a lovely couple of days we have had as the new Swifts class. I was absolutely delighted with how the children have returned full of smiles and brimming with great enthusiasm to get going. We enjoyed exploring what we had been up to over the summer before diving straight in to our first class book 'The 1000 Year Old Boy' by Ross Welford which has gripped us from the start. We've had lovely creative afternoons on Thursday and Friday using watercolours to create artwork for the hall. I'm very excited for our learning journey together this year - super start Swifts! Mrs Filder
Wrens	It has been wonderful to see Wrens class settle into Year 6 this week. We have had two very productive days and I have been really impressed with the children's positive approach to learning and super attitude to school life. The children wrote a prayer for the year ahead and we have begun our novel; 'The 1000 Year Old Boy'. I am really looking forward to the year ahead with such a fabulous class! Mrs Cronshaw



Stars of the Week

'Shine like stars in the world.' Philippians 2:1

Everyone has been such stars these first two days! Individual Stars of the Week will resume next week. ©