



St Leonard's Catholic Primary School

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Newsletter no. 10

11th March 2022

Dear parents and carers,

Open mornings

What a pleasure it has been to see so many parents in school again this week! From the feedback provided so far, it is clear to see that you have enjoyed working alongside your children to further develop a love of reading. I am sure you found the teaching strategies shared by our teaching staff very useful, and if you do need more advice on how to support your child with reading, please just ask. One request that was very common was for more sessions to take place to cover other subject areas – this is something that will definitely happen moving forward. Also, parents have asked that some sessions could be held after school. In response to this, Miss McVittie is holding a maths meeting after school on Thursday 17th March at 3.30 pm and a second English session on Thursday 24th March, also at 3.30 pm. Miss Newcombe and Mrs Fearby are delivering phonic sessions after school on the 28th and 29th of March, and will provide details nearer to the time. It will be lovely to see as many of you as possible attend relevant sessions.

Parents' evening

This week also saw the restart of face to face parents' evenings. The second round of meetings is on Tuesday 15th for all classes, with the exception of Year 6 which will now take place on Monday 14th. Again, feedback has been very positive from you and constructive. One area that I will be following up, once all meetings have been completed and I have analysed all of the feedback, are initial concerns around homework. I intend to explore this further through a parental questionnaire – details to follow.

The Friends of St Leonard's

An initial meeting was held on Wednesday 9th March to establish if there was enough interest and support to set up a new the Friends of St Leonard's PTA; I was delighted to discover this is something that is wanted. A small group of volunteers have identified how they can begin to raise funds for our school and our children, and contribute to fundraising for the wider community. While there are a number of steps to be completed before the group can be set up fully, we are keen to start fundraising activities. With this in mind, Easter competitions and raffles will be held and more details around this will follow. If you can support the school and our Friends of St Leonard's group in any way, including providing raffle prizes, your help will be gratefully appreciated.

Burdon Lane work

All local schools have received notification about the imminent construction work at the Burdon Lane building site in Ryhope. We have been informed that the site will be dangerous as the work will include a number of excavations. It is therefore requested that staff and parents warn and inform our children not to play on or visit the site at any time to avoid accidents and the possibility of serious injuries. The work is due to last for up to 60 weeks. If you have concerns about the development, we are asked to contact the Contract Manager, Joe Short, on Joe.short@esh.uk.com.

Free school meals

A letter is following this week's newsletter regarding free school meal allowance. Please read it carefully and, if you qualify, please ensure you apply!

Football

Our first round of matches has been arranged and will be played at our School on Tuesday, 15th March straight after school. The nine players selected to represent St Leonard's have been informed. The matches will take place against Mill Hill and Highfield Primary schools. I appreciate that some of those children attending the training will be disappointed not to have been selected for this match but they will get an opportunity to play for our school in the future. The players will wear school football shorts and PE tops – if anyone knows of a local business who would be interested in sponsoring a new strip for St Leonard's, please get in touch! In the meantime, I hope you all get behind our team and wish them well in their opening matches.

Happy weekend!

Dionne Dunn

Acting Head Teacher