



St Leonard's Catholic Primary School

Tunstall Village Rd,
New Silksworth,
Sunderland
SR3 2BB

Tele: 0191 5210300

Email: sle_office@stleonardsprimary.org.uk

Twitter: @St_Leonards_RC

Website: www.stleonardsprimary.org.uk

Newsletter no. 13

17th February, 2023

Dates for your diary:

Term time

The Spring term runs from 9th January until 31st March, 2023.

School closes for half term on Friday 17th February and reopens on Monday 27th February, 2023.

Spring term 2023

- 1.3.2023 KS1 Maths challenge for selected children
- 2.3.2023 World Book Day
- 7.3.23 & 8.3.23 - Parents' evening for all year groups (details to follow)
- 7.3.2023 – Year 2 Liturgical prayer (parents welcome)
- 14.3.2023 – Year 3 Liturgical prayer (parents welcome)
- 21.3.2023 – Year 4 Liturgical prayer (parents welcome)
- 28.3.2023 – Year 5/6 Liturgical prayer (parents welcome)

Happy holidays!

Dionne Dunn
Headteacher

Dear parents and carers,

Teachers' Strike Day 28th February, 2023

I have been informed by all relevant members of striking unions that they do not intend to strike on this day and, therefore, school will be open as normal. The decision around whether to strike or not to strike has been a difficult one for those affected members: they want to support the cause and believe fully in the intended outcomes that the strike is fighting for, but also do not want to let down the children in their classes. I am very grateful that my staff feel they can discuss their views with me, as they are under no obligation to do so. I hope that the strike action comes to a successful and quick conclusion to support all involved and affected by this.

Changes to afterschool clubs

CAFOD club will no longer be held on a Thursday night after school. Instead, Year 6 boosters will be held: every Year 6 child is expected to stay back until 4.15 pm. It is very important that all Year 6 children do stay to their allocated booster session, as, historically, we have seen great progress made during these targeted small groups sessions; both academically and in your child's confidence levels. If you have any queries about this, please contact Miss McVittie via email or dojo. Mini Vinnies, Craft Club and the current sports clubs will continue as normal, along with wrap around provision. Additionally, a new drama club will be starting – more details to follow.

World book day 2023

World book day will be celebrated in school on Thursday 2nd March, 2023. We have some lovely activities planned for the children, and they can come to school dressed up as their favourite character. If you have any old costumes that your children no longer need and you would like to donate these to school, please do so by Tuesday 28th February. School will then pass these on to children who do not have a costume or who wish to swap a costume they have worn previously. All proceeds will go into school funds.

Clothes bank

One of the children's initiatives to help recycle items resulted in the provision of a free clothes recycling bank from School Connect. The bank is used to recycle unwanted clothes, shoes and bags and raises income for the school. Unfortunately, the bank is not being used sufficiently and we are at risk of having the recycling bank removed. With this in mind, your child will bring home a recycling bag and more information on the great work carried out by School Connect. If you are having a clear out over the holiday week or are beginning your spring cleaning and identify any items that can be recycled, please consider using the school recycle bin (situated in the public car park area outside of school). Every bag of clothing recycled raise valuable funding for our school and will go towards developing the outdoor play areas. Thank you in advance for your help.

A polite reminder

Can I remind all parents that the school day currently runs from 9 am (doors open at 8.45 am) until 3.10 pm. It is vital that children are in school for 9 o'clock prompt if they are to be ready to achieve their best in lessons. Whilst 5 minutes lateness each day might not seem like much time, it can have a significant impact on your child's learning and social skills – being on time is a life skill.

Also, the drive into the school public car park area must not be used for dropping children off between the hours of 8.30 am and 9.15 am, unless you have spoken to me first. Where permission has been given, please make sure you stick to the 5 mile an hour limit at all times. Also, can you please ensure children and adults walk on the pavement, not the roadway, as the last thing we want is for one of our children to be hit by a car.

Happy half term...

Finally, February break is always my personal favourite week off, as there is no Christmas to prepare for, no Easter celebrations and no packing for a long summer break – just the chance to stay home and spend quality time with the family. To our fabulous pupils, whatever you are doing this half term break, I hope you have a wonderful time and return to school fully rested and ready to work even harder than you have done so, so far!