



St. Leonard's CE (A) First School Newsletter

Friday 10th January 2020

'From a tiny spark to a bright flame'



'In him was life; and life was the light of men. And the light shineth in darkness'. (John 1:4-5)

Headteacher: Mrs Kelly Stanesby Chair of governors: Mr Stephen Clancy

Designated safeguarding lead: Mrs Kelly Stanesby, Deputy safeguarding leads: Mrs Julie Amos and Miss Torr

Respect



Love



Endeavour



Curiosity



Monday 13 th January 2020	3.30pm - 4.30pm - After school sports club
Tuesday 14 th January 2020	3.30pm - 4.30pm - After school STEM club
Wednesday 15 th January 2020 Welly Wednesday 	Lunch time Design and Technology club run by pupils 3.30pm - 4.30pm - After school Rugby Tots club
Thursday 16 th January 2020	
Friday 17 th January 2020	



School Attendance

School attendance for this week is 88% which is below our target of 96%.

- Reception 80% Sparks
- Year 1 and 2 94% Flickers
- Year 3 and 4 89% Flames

Your lunch menu for the 13th January 2020 - 17th January 2020

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Pizza and wedges	Sausage and mash, sweetcorn and green beans	Roast chicken, mash, roast potatoes, cabbage and carrots	Fish fingers, chips and beans	Beef bolognese, pasta and broccoli
Rice pudding	Sponge and custard	Shortbread	Ice cream	Sponge cake

Star Awards



Congratulations are sent out to the following children who won Star Award's this week:

Star of the Week Sparks	Alfie, Katie
Star of the Week Flames	Leo
Spark to a flame Sparks	Rosanna, Alice
Spark to a flame Flames Class	Isla B

Happy Birthday

A very Happy Birthday to Vienna who celebrates her birthday this week.

Have a lovely time Vienna!



Welcome Back!

We hope you all had a lovely Christmas.

Welcome back to school and a Very Happy New Year to all.



Rugby Tots

Due to popular demand Rugby Tots will continue until the end of this term.

The first three weeks are already paid for but if your child would like to continue please pay £9.00 in to the school office to pass on to Matt, the rugby tots coach.

Apologies for the late notice of cancellation for this week's club. Please note that we were advised at the very last minute. We appreciate the inconvenience for our parents. It's as frustrating for us as it is you!



Parent view survey

Ofsted Parent View is an online survey that allows parents to give their views about their child's school.

The survey was sent out on Monday and we would be most grateful if you could take a few minutes to complete so that we can gauge our parents satisfaction with our school and make any necessary improvements.

Here is the link;

<https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/>

Thank you for your time.



School admission applications.

Primary and Middle school admission applications close on 15th January 2020.

Year 4 parents will need to apply for their child's middle school for September 2020 and Reception applications for September 2020 should also ensure applications are in for this date.

National offer day is Thursday 16th April 2020 when Staffordshire County Council will confirm your child's school place.

If you haven't already done so you can apply online;

<https://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/education/schoolsandcolleges/admissions/Apply/apply.aspx>

Christmas trips

I think the children enjoyed their festive trips.

Unfortunately we had a few children absent due to illness for the pantomime trip.

We have tried to claim a refund back from Buxton Opera House but as it was pre-paid they cannot oblige so apologies to all who missed out.

There are one or two payments still outstanding for the Cinderella panto trip. Please check your parent pay balance and clear if necessary.

Thank you.

Our wonderful world

This half term's topic is "Our wonderful world".

Our Sparks and Flickers classes are learning about a small Mexican village called Tocuaro, how the villagers live and their culture.

Our Flames class will be learning about ancient Egypt.

This topic will also teach the children about recycling, saving the planet and environmental issues.

They will be making a plastic bottle green house, litter picking in the village and will sort recycling items.

This week we had a visit from some children of different countries too!



Thank you from Toffee and Marshmallow!

Thank you to Lili and her family for looking after us so well over the Christmas holidays.

We really enjoyed our time with you and enjoyed being spoiled rotten with lots of delicious fresh fruit and vegetables and cuddles.



New Family Service

· every third Sunday ·

· 11 A.M. ·

St Leonard's Church
starts 19th January

ALL ages WELCOME

· 2020 ·

School Closures Due to Adverse Weather

In the event of snow we try to open the school whenever possible. The decision to open the school is made taking into account the local conditions and the number of teachers that can travel to school safely. We would only close the school if we didn't consider the site safe enough and didn't have enough adults to ensure correct child / adult ratios.

We will keep you informed if we need to close by posting a message on Facebook and on the Staffordshire County Council school closure list. This can be accessed via our website.

<https://www.stleonardsfirstschoolipstones.com/>

If you do not hear anything via the above options, please assume the school is open as normal. We will endeavour to reach a decision by 8.00am; however, this may not always be possible

If the school is open we plan to enjoy the snow! Please ensure that your child is sent to school with a warm coat, hat, scarf and gloves, wellington boots or suitable footwear for playing in the snow and a change of skirt /trousers and socks.

Should snow begin to fall heavily during the school day and we feel the need to close the school to allow children and adults to get home safely, we will contact parents and carers asking them to come and collect their children as soon as they are able. If you have asked another parent to collect your child, the school must be informed either by email or phone call. The school will always remain staffed until all children have left.

Closing the school is not a decision we take lightly and we are fully aware of the disruption it causes. However, we must consider not only the safety of the children but of the school staff as they journey to and from work. I hope that we get enough snow for the children to have fun but that, however much snow arrives, everyone remains safe.



School term dates

Spring Term 2020

Term starts: Monday 6 January 2020

Term ends: Thursday 13th February 2020

Inset Day: 14th February 2020

Holiday: Friday 14th February - Friday 21st February 2020

Term starts: Monday 24th February 2020

Term ends: Friday 3rd April 2020

Holiday: Monday 6th April - Friday 17th April 2020

Summer Term

Term starts: Monday 20th April 2020

May Day: Friday 8th May 2020 (Instead of Monday 4th May to celebrate the 75th anniversary of VE Day)

Term ends: Friday 22nd May 2020

Holiday: Monday 25th May 2020 - Friday 29th May 2020

Term starts: Monday 1st June 2020

Term ends: Friday 17th July 2020

Holiday: Monday 20th July - Monday 31st August 2020

Flu catch up clinics

Should your child still be outstanding their flu vaccine the School age Immunisation Team will be holding the following Flu clinics:

- Tuesday 14th January 2020 - Ryecroft Health Centre ST5 2BQ - Morning Session Only
- Wednesday 15th January 2020 - Rising Brook Health Centre ST17 9LY - All Day Session
- Thursday 16th January 2020 - Tamworth Health Centre B79 7EA - All Day Session

If you do wish to book an appointment please ring the team on 0300 124 0366 accordingly.

National online safety

At National Online Safety we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information they need to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one platform of many which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.



TikTok is a video-sharing social media app available on iOS and Android which lets users create, share, and view user created videos much in a similar manner to Facebook, Instagram and Snapchat. Its main draw, however, is that users can record and upload bite-sized looping videos of themselves lip-syncing and dancing to popular music or soundbites, often for comedic effect, which can then be further enhanced with filters, emojis and stickers. TikTok has been designed with the young user in mind and has a very addictive appeal. At the beginning of 2019 it skyrocketed in popularity to become the iOS store's most downloaded app with over 33 million downloads. Estimates suggest that it now has anything between 500 million and over 1 billion monthly active users worldwide.



What parents need to know about

TIKTOK





AGE RESTRICTION
12+
Parental supervision of a parent or legal guardian required.

MATURE CONTENT

On the iOS store, TikTok is listed as 12+. On the Google Play Store it is rated as Parental guidance recommended. When signing up for the app, it's possible to be about your age without any form of verification. As children scroll through their feed, most of the videos they're likely to come across are light-hearted or funny takes on dance routines which are designed to make people laugh. However there has been a slew of videos which have been reported for featuring drug and alcohol abuse, self-harm and sexual content, including young teens dressing overly sexually and behaving suggestively. Given the deluge of material uploaded to TikTok every day, it's impossible to moderate everything and it can be quite common to come across explicit content on the 'for you' feed when logging into the platform.

INAPPROPRIATE MUSIC

TikTok revolves around creating music videos through lip-syncing and dancing. Inevitably, some of the music featured by users will contain explicit or suggestive lyrics. Given the undeniably young user base, there is a risk that children may look to imitate the explicit language they hear or that suggestive lyrics they see when viewing others user's videos on the app.

TIKTOK FAME

TikTok is very image focused and there is a notable preoccupation with appearing cool and attractive. Many teenagers now attempt to go viral and become what's known in-app as 'TikTok famous'. TikTok (and its predecessor musical.ly) has spawned its own celebrities – social media stars Loren Gray and Jacob Sartorius have been catapulted to fame through their initial exposure on the app. Obviously, most budding influencers looking to become the next big thing will be disappointed, but this may have the knock-on effect of making them go to more and more drastic lengths to get noticed.

ONLINE PREDATORS

As a social network, TikTok makes it easy to connect with other users. This includes the ability to comment on and react to other user's videos, follow their profile and download their content. Be aware that by default, any user can comment on your child's video if their account is set to public. Most interactions are harmless enough but as an app, TikTok is prone to predators because of the abundance of younger users.

ADDICTIVE NATURE

Social media is designed to be addictive and TikTok is no different. It can be fun and hugely entertaining. However, it is also because of this that it can be hard to put down. In addition to the short, punchy nature of the looping video format, the app's ability to keep you guessing what will come on screen next makes it easy to turn a five-minute visit into 45-minute visit.

IN-APP PURCHASES

Aside from the content, there's also the option to purchase in-app extras called 'TikTok coins'. Prices range from £0.99 for 100 coins to an eye-watering £93.99 for 10,000 coins. TikTok coins are used to purchase different emotes to reward content creators that a user finds funny or entertaining. In the iOS version of the app you can disable the option to buy TikTok coins but this sadly doesn't seem to be a feature in the Android version.



Safety Tips For Parents

#WakeUpWednesday

TALK ABOUT ONLINE DANGERS

Assuming your child is above the age limit to use the app, make sure you also take the time to talk to them about what they are seeing on the app. Have a dialogue, get them to give you their opinion on what is appropriate and need the correct behaviour for them. Go over why they shouldn't give out private information or identifiable photos and be positive and understanding of them. In the long run, getting them to think critically about what they're seeing goes a long way to keeping them social media savvy.

USE PRIVACY SETTINGS

Undoubtedly, the easiest way to safeguard your child on TikTok is to make sure their account is set to private. This means only those users your child approves can view, like, and follow their content. Setting the account to private may clash with your child's goal of social media endorsements, but it will keep their account secure from strangers. This setting can be enabled under the privacy and safety menu by creating the edit icon in the 'top' tab of the app. To be extra safe, there are additional controls available to people with who can control comments and messages, among other options.

ENABLE RESTRICTED MODE

In the digital wellbeing section there's the ability to turn on restricted mode using a PIN. Restricted mode filters out content that is not age appropriate although it should be noted that this isn't 100% fool proof. When enabling restricted mode, parents should still be vigilant to what their child is watching and take note that the algorithm moderating content is not infallible.

EXPLORE AND LEARN YOURSELF

Understanding and learning the app yourself is a great way to get to grips with TikTok. You could then even use the app with your child and watch some videos with them. If you are the parent of a teen, even if it does not make you popular, have a close on what they're viewing and sharing. That said, it's a brilliant chance to see if there is a healthy opportunity with your child also. You could even unlock your lower performer and make videos with them while (more importantly) keeping them safe online.

LEARN HOW TO REPORT AND BLOCK INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

With the proper privacy settings in place, TikTok can be a safe space for your child to express themselves. However, just in case someone does manage to slip through, make sure your child knows how to recognise and report content that isn't appropriate and get them to come to you about what they have seen. TikTok allows users to report offenders and comments within the app. You can also block individual users by going on their profile.

MODERATE SCREEN TIME

As entertaining as TikTok is, you can help your child moderate their time on the app by making use of the digital wellbeing section. Under the screen time management options, you can limit the daily allotted time allowed on the app to increments ranging from 40 to 120 minutes. You can also lock the app to prevent it from being used. This can be toggled in order to then exceed the daily time limit. This way your child can get their daily dose of memes without missing any of the day.

Meet our expert

Pete Badh is a writer with over 10+ years in research and analysis. Working within a specialist area for West Yorkshire Police, Pete has contributed work which has been pivotal in successfully winning high profile cases in court as well as writing as a subject matter expert for industry handbooks.



www.nationalonlinesafety.com Twitter - @natonlinesafety Facebook - /NationalOnlineSafety

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 08.01.2020

Litter picking

The children went litter picking in the village on Welly Wednesday.

They found looking after their environment very rewarding!





Congratulations!

This certificate is awarded to:
St. Leonards C Of E First School

for participation in the
Big Morning Move with Joe Wicks.

Date November 2019

Signed Joe Wicks

Just for fun

Name: _____

Happy New Year



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