



Leonard's Life



Issue: 14

Friday 12th December 2025

A note from Miss Phillips.....

We've had a packed week in school this week with lots going on in all of our classes.

I joined Year 3 and 4 for their first swimming lesson on Wednesday. They all took part brilliantly and we will no doubt see great progress from them all in their Spring term lessons.

On Wednesday, children enjoyed a delicious Christmas dinner. The crackers from the PTFA also went down a treat with everyone.

Children enjoyed a taste of orienteering on Thursday as part of our sports enrichment activities. We have more of these days booked in the new year so keep your eyes peeled for information.

Today, we held our half-termly celebration assembly and invited families in to see awards being presented. We gave two awards - one for demonstrating all four of our school values, and one for demonstrating our vision of reaching for the stars. Well done to everyone who received an award!



This Wednesday, our kitchen staff prepared a delicious Christmas dinner for everyone to enjoy. A big thank you to the PTFA for providing festive crackers, which added extra cheer to the occasion. Prizes were also given to someone from each year group by Mrs Davies. It was a wonderful event enjoyed by all.



Reception Applications for September 2026

The application process for a reception place for September 2026 will open on 01 November 2025.

The easiest way for parents to apply is online. Further information can be found on the Staffordshire County Council website under admissions.

The closing date is 15 January 2026.

Reminder to Parents

As the weather gets colder and wetter, please ensure your child comes to school with a warm coat. Outdoor activities and playtime will continue, so having appropriate clothing is important for their comfort and health.

Thank you for your support!



Half Term Awards

Half Term Awards	Reaching for the Stars Award	School Values Award
Year N/R	Oliver	Elena
Reception	Tommy	Mylo
Year 1/2H	George C	Delilah
Year 1/2L	Arla	Artem
Year 1/2R	Eleanor	George P
Year 3	Arthur B	Otilie
Year 4	Ikram	Poppy
Year 5	Abdullah	Iuliia
Year 6	Sophie	Eilidh

Well done everyone!

Board Games and Jigsaws for Calm Club.

In Calm club we are looking for any used board games and jigsaws at home that your family no longer needs, we would be so grateful if you could consider donating them to us. Games that encourage teamwork, problem-solving, or just plain fun would be perfect!

Please ensure that the games and jigsaws are:

- Complete with all pieces and instructions.
 - Suitable for ages 4-11 Years.
- In good condition and ready to play.

Please bring any donations to the school office

Thank you!!



	Week: 08/12/25
Class	Attendance %
Rec	92.1
Y1/2H	96.7
Y1/2L	95.7
Y1/2R	95.2
Y3	94.6
Y4	96.4
Y5	95.3
Y6	92.8

Well done to **Y1/2H**.

Look out for your Class DoJo points!



Extra-Curricular Opportunities

Spanish Club: every Tuesday until 4.30pm with Lingo-Tots

Music Lessons: every Tuesday with Rock Steady

Well-being drop-ins: every Tuesday with the Mental Health Support Team

Forest School: x5 week block for Y3/4 pupils with The Wildlife Trust

Choir: Wednesday lunchtime in school for KS1 and KS2

Dance Club: every Friday until 4.30pm with Dappa Dance

Sports Enrichment clubs: half-terminly after school club with Time 4 Sport

Leo's Den: before and after-school club with a range of activities including games, sports and crafts

In the new year we will be looking to offer additional extra-curricular clubs. Please note, there will be a charge for after school clubs to cover costs. For information on any of our existing clubs, please speak to the office.

St Leonard's PTFA

MERRY
XMAS

Winter Wonderland Festival

Get your Christmas Raffle Tickets

and be in with the chance of winning
one of the Festive Hampers on offer

£1 per entry via ParentPay

Hampers will be awarded
to winners over the course
of the Christmas plays and
services. The last hamper
will be awarded on:

Wednesday 17 December

**Deadline for purchasing your
final tickets:**

Tuesday 16 December

MERRY
CHRISTMAS!

EMAIL PTFA@ST-LEONARDS-STAFFORD.STAFFS.SCH.UK
FACEBOOK [@STLEONARDSSTAFFORDPTFA](https://www.facebook.com/STLEONARDSSTAFFORDPTFA)

St Leonard's PTFA

MERRY
XMAS

Winter Wonderland Festival

Name Santa's Christmas Helper

Santa has a new Christmas helper to join his band of elves. Can you guess their name to be in with a chance of winning them?

£1 per entry via ParentPay

Deadline for entry –
Wednesday 17 December

Santa's helper will be
awarded in the final
assembly of the term on

Thursday 18 December 2025



EMAIL PTFA@ST-LEONARDS-STAFFORD.STAFFS.SCH.UK
FACEBOOK [@STLEONARDSSTAFFORDPTFA](https://www.facebook.com/STLEONARDSSTAFFORDPTFA)

Meet The Governor.

Hi, I'm Andy Rhodes. I moved to Stafford around three and a half years ago and have three children—one in primary school, one in nursery, and a new baby just a few weeks old. I enjoy sport and am a long-suffering Sheffield Wednesday fan. I joined the governing body at St Leonard's in January this year and work as a civil servant. I've a keen interest in education and am looking forward to supporting the school as it grows into its new building and continues to develop in the years ahead.



Nursery

This week we have been spending lots of time practising for our Christmas play, we have been learning the words to the songs and enjoyed dressing up and performing to the other classes in school. We have been making beautiful decorations for the classroom and have enjoyed lots of Christmas craft activities. Len, our class elf, has been mischievous and we are excited to see what he has been doing every morning! In the Outdoor Learning Area, the children have been playing with water and have been exploring in the mud kitchen. In Phonics, we have been consolidating our learning on the first group of sounds (s,a,t,p,i,n) and have been developing our letter formation. The children enjoyed the Forest School session where they had free choice to explore the natural environment and we had a fantastic time socialising and wearing festive jumpers for our Christmas lunch together.



Reception

Reception have been super busy the past two weeks. Last week we enjoyed our trip to see Santa at Amerton Farm, we had to go through the magic wardrobe to Santa's grotto and even got an early Christmas present. We continued our day with a bumpy tractor ride and some time exploring the outdoor play equipment. This week we have been learning about the Christmas story and discussing some of our own Christmas celebrations. We collaborated well in Sports Enrichment on Thursday, working together in teams to find different photographs around the playground.

Year 1/2H

Year 1/2H have been reaching for the stars in English this week. We have started our new story 'Rudey's Windy Christmas' and the children are finding it very entertaining. They made reindeer in the hook lesson and have enjoyed gathering vocabulary to help us retell the story. Children have been recapping past tense verbs and learning about irregular verbs to retell the story in the past tense. In History, children have started our new topic 'Flight Through Time' and have enjoyed learning about flight pioneers such as Otto Lilienthal and the Wright brothers. The children have completed their Geography topic on Land Ahoy. Our final lesson looked at using compass directions and positional language to navigate our way around a map to find the stash and other hidden items.



Year 1/2L

1 / 2 L have been working so hard in their last few nativity rehearsals and are really excited to perform next week! They have also enjoyed exploring their senses in science and reading a Christmas book for English with lots of grammar and vocabulary activities linked to the story. For the hook lesson, they decorated a reindeer called Rudey and some have been put on display in the classroom. In computing, they have used their iPad skills and become photographers, they have taken photos portrait and landscape, zoomed in and out and edited the photos.

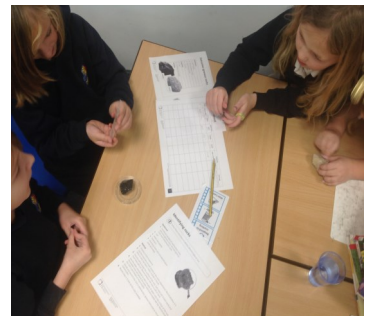


Year 1/2R

We have had a super couple of weeks in 1/2R. We have started a Christmassy text about Rudey the Reindeer, which the children are really enjoying writing about. They have been focussing on sentence structure and writing in the past tense. In Maths, we have been using number lines to add and subtract from a two-digit number - something the children found tricky to start with, but perseverance has got them a long way and we are super impressed with their progress! In Science, we have started our new 'Humans' topic, and this week we drew around our feet to investigate whether the size of our feet depends on our age. We have also started a new History topic which the children are really enthusiastic to get stuck into; Flight through Time! We have started learning about different aircrafts and who invented these. And of course, all things Christmas has entered our classroom! Children are super excited to present their Nativity next week - they have worked so hard in rehearsals! We have lots of lovely things lined up next week which we are looking forward to.

Year 3

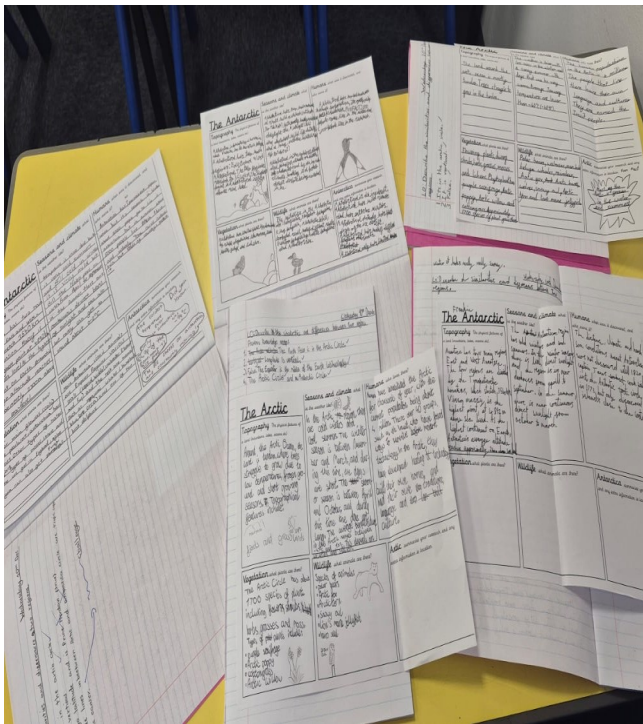
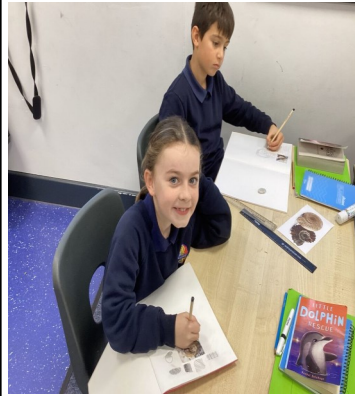
This week in year 3 we have continued learning about our topic - 'Rocks, Relics and Rumbles'. After we introduced the 3 main rock types, the children worked as geologists. They tested samples of rock to find out if they were sedimentary, igneous or metamorphic. In English, we have been writing a persuasive letter in the role of Fern to convince Mr Zuckerman to not harm innocent, little Wilbur. The children have come up with some strong and creative arguments in their writing. This week also saw us visit the swimming pool for our first swimming lesson. All children did amazingly well walking to the leisure centre, getting ready for swimming and enjoying their first dip in the water. Well done to all for a great week!



Year 4

Year 4 completed their DT unit, Cook Well, Eat Well, with an exciting afternoon making a healthy wrap. They had all designed their wrap and planned how to make it in their previous lesson so they were ready and willing to wash, slice and chop their way to wrapping their chosen filling. It was a huge success, helped primarily by parents providing the ingredients for which we were all very grateful. Hopefully, this has encouraged the children to develop their culinary skills further and make healthy choices in their diet. We have now moved on to a new Art topic based on Ammonites and will be printing a motif design next week with Year 3. In the new year, we will develop our skills using clay to create a representation of an ammonite.

Thank you for all your support this half term. Please enjoy a wonderful festive period and continue to encourage your child to enjoy a range of reading material over the break as well as time focusing on learning times tables.

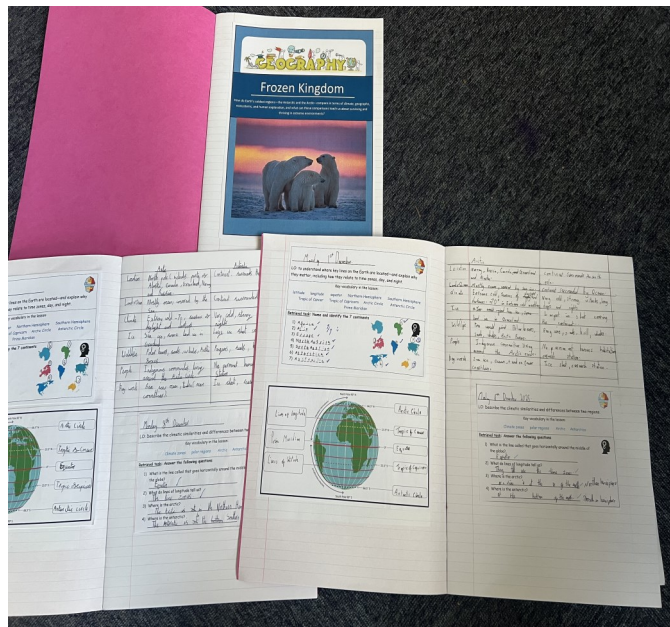


Year 5

Y5 have had a great two weeks working hard in all subjects. In Art, they have researched Inuit art which aligns with our new Geography topic of Frozen Kingdoms. The children have learnt about the meaning behind the art and produced a collage of their own. In English, they have been working very hard planning and drafting a narrative based on Goodnight Mister Tom. There has been a focus on refining grammar skills and write cohesively. Year 5 are now looking forward to their last week before Christmas, where they can get stuck into some Christmas activities!

Year 6

Over the past two weeks, Y6 have been working extremely hard across all subjects. They have enjoyed focusing on a new writing project based on a mysterious video as well as beginning their new topic: Frozen Kingdoms which has begun to extend their geography knowledge of the Arctic and Antarctic. Yesterday, we enjoyed precipitating in Orienteering working really well collaboratively focusing on our value of teamwork. We are now looking forward to Christmas and some Christmas themed activities next week!



Leo's Den

The children in Leo's Den have been getting into the festive spirit this week! They've been enjoying making beautiful tags to hang on presents, adding their own creative touches to make them personal. It's been wonderful to see their excitement and imagination shine through.

We're looking forward to even more Christmas fun next week, with plenty of activities planned to keep the festive cheer going.



Diary Dates

AUTUMN TERM

Please note dates are subject to change, we will always notify you as soon as we can if this happens.

December 2025	
Monday 15th December	9.30am - Nur/Rec Christmas Play 2.00pm - Y1/2 Christmas Play
Tuesday 16 th December	9:30 am –Y1/2 Christmas Play 2:00 pm – Nur/Rec Christmas Play
Wednesday 17 th December	Christmas Services for Key Stage 2 at: 9.15 for Y5/6 and 10:15 am for Y3/4 - Parents Welcome
Thursday 18 th December	Party Day – children to wear party clothes to school
Friday 19 th December	Last Day of term - School closes 1pm
Mon 22nd Dec to Fri 2nd Jan	School closed Christmas Holidays
JANUARY 2026	
Monday 5th January	INSET Day – School closed to pupils
Tuesday 6 th January	School reopens to pupils
Monday 26th January	Y1/2 Curriculum Showcase - Families invited to view work in books 3.00pm-3.30pm
Tuesday 27th January	Y3/4 Curriculum Showcase - Families invited to view work in books 3.00pm-3.30pm
Thursday 29th January	Y5/6 Curriculum Showcase - Families invited to view work in books 3.00pm-3.30pm
FEBRUARY 2026	
Monday 2nd February	Early Years Families invited in for Stay and Play sessions 9.15-10.15am Nursery and Reception
Tuesday 3rd February	Governor's Meeting 4.15pm
Thursday 12th February	Sports Enrichment - Glow in the dark dodgeball PE Kit for all pupils
Friday 13th February	9.00am - Celebration Assembly. Families will be contacted the week before if their child has won an award. School Closes - last day of half term
Mon 16th - Fri 20th February	School closed - Half Term
Monday 23rd February	School re-opens for all children
Tuesday 24th - Tuesday 3rd March	Book Fair in school
MARCH 2026	
Wednesday 4th March	Reading Café - Families invited - 9.15-10.15am Y5/6 and 2.30-3.15pm Nursery/Reception
Thursday 5th March	WORLD BOOK DAY Reading Café - Families invited - 9.15-10.15am Y3/4 and 2.30-3.15pm Y1/2
Monday 16th March	Parent's Evening from 3.45pm
Tuesday 17th March	Parent's Evening from 3.45pm
Tuesday 17th March	Governor's Meeting 4.15pm
Friday 20th March	Comic Relief - wear something red non uniform - £1 donation for charity
Thursday 26th March	Sports Enrichment - Handball PE Kit for all pupils
Friday 27th March	Easter Celebration Assembly - 9.15am Y4/5/6, 10.00am Y1/2/3 and 11.00am in class Nursery and Reception. Families will be contacted the week before if their child has been chose for an award



Diary Date Continued.....

Friday 27th March	Last Day of Term - School closes at 1pm
Monday 30th March - Friday 10th April	EASTER HOLIDAYS
APRIL 2026	
Monday 13th April	INSET DAY - school closed to pupils
Tuesday 14th April	School reopens for all children

