Leonard's Life

Issue: 08 Friday 23rd October 2026

A note from Miss Phillips…..

Our first half-term of the year is complete!

Our Year 6's have finished the half-term in style having spent an action-packed week at Standon Bowers. They have climbed, caved, biked, explored and much more over the last few days. When I visited earlier in the week it was great to see them all enjoying the challenges and throwing themselves into new activities. A huge thank you goes to the staff who have made the last week possible, taking time away from their own homes to run the trip.

In school, we enjoyed our first sports enrichment day. We run these every half-term to give the children chance to try new sports. This week is was tri-golf! Time 4 Sport set up a course on the playground which children worked in small groups to complete. Keep your eyes peeled for our next sports enrichment day which will be coming up before the Christmas holidays.

As the weather turns, winter bugs start to return. We are ensuring regular hand-washing in school and keeping classrooms well-ventilated to help reduce the spread of germs. Setting good hygiene routines at home can also support this. We have attached an NHS poster with advice around when to send children into school and when to keep them off which we hope will be of use.

Have a great half-term break and we will look forward to welcoming everyone back into school on Monday 2nd November.



We are pleased to let you know that the **Stafford Family Hubs Roadshow** will be visiting on **Tuesday 17th November at 9:15am**.
This is a fantastic opportunity to meet representatives from local services, learn about the support available for families, and connect with other parents and carers in a relaxed setting. **All families are warmly welcome to attend.** We look forward to seeing you there!

CHRISTMAS TREE!!

Our PTFA are on the hunt for a Christmas tree! Are you, or someone you know, able to donate one for our Christmas celebrations? Please let the office know.





Staffordshire County Council
air aware Staffordshire
INTO Inspiring new travel options



Lunch Time Special Mention.

This weeks shout out goes to Mylo in Year 1, for always using his manners in the dinner hall.

Well Done!!

Keep Up The Good Work!

Attendance Matters
Every student. Every day.

	Week: 19/10/26
Class	Attendance %
EFC	94.1
EYF	96.0
Y1/2R	95.5
Y1/2G	98.2
Y1/2H	98.2
Y3	94.4
Y4	88.3
Y5	97.3
Y6	97.0

Well done to 1/2G and 1/2H

Department for Education
Staffordshire County Council

HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES AND FOOD



HAF fun this half term

Holiday Activities and Food is funded for children and young people aged 5-16 who get targeted free school meals.
Paid places also available.

SCAN ME!

Bookings open on Monday 5 October at 4pm

staffordshire.gov.uk/haf

ST. LEONARD'S
PRIMARY SCHOOL STAFFORD

Care | Respect | Teamwork | Pride

RECEPTION & NURSERY PLACES AVAILABLE

SEPTEMBER 2027 ADMISSIONS

- Teacher-led learning in a caring and nurturing environment
- Nursery and Reception places available
- Smooth transition through Nursery, Reception and school life



BOOK YOUR PLACE

at our

OPEN MORNING

10th November

9:15am – 9:45am

OR

10:00am – 10:30am



Call us
01785 334960

Visit our website
stleonardsstafford.co.uk

Email us
office@st-leonards-stafford.staffs.sch.uk

Care | Respect | Teamwork | Pride

BIG IDEAS
BRIGHTER
FUTURES

EXPLORE
CREATE
LEARN
GROW

techtigers

CREATE • EXPLORE • SOLVE • BELONG

Tech Tigers STEM After-School Club

is coming to St Leonard's Primary School!

- Reception - Year 6
- Every Friday, 3:30pm – 4:30pm
- First session: Friday 6th November
- Last session: Friday 11th December
- £7.45 per session (including VAT)

STEM SKILLS FOR BRIGHTER FUTURES

Join in the fun:

- LEGO Robotics and Programming Challenges
- Hands-on Coding Challenges
- Digital Art and Music Creation
- Stop-Motion Animation Projects
- Practical Construction and Engineering Challenges
- Engaging Maths Puzzles and Games
- Fascinating Electricity and Circuits Challenges

Book your child's space...

Scan the QR code or visit www.techtigers.co.uk to sign up!

CONFIDENCE • CREATIVITY • PROBLEM SOLVING • TEAMWORK • FOR LIFE

SOUTH STAFFORDSHIRE SCHOOLS & GPs

NHS

CAMHS

CRISIS & INTENSIVE SUPPORT TEAM

Support • Advice • Guidance



AVAILABLE 7 DAYS A WEEK | **9:00am – 10:00pm**

CALL NHS 111 → OPTION 2

Before directing any child or young person under 18 to A&E

STOP & CALL FIRST

If you are concerned about the mental health of a child or young person under 18, please contact our CAMHS Crisis & Intensive Support Team to speak to a CAMHS Practitioner **before** directing them to hospital.

OUR AIM

To reduce avoidable attendances at local A&E departments and ensure children and young people receive the **right support**, in the **right place**, at the **right time**.

HOW WE CAN HELP

- Mental health advice and guidance
- Risk assessment support
- Clinical support and intervention
- Assistance in determining whether an A&E attendance is appropriate

AFTER 10PM

Calls will be answered by a call handler who will ensure CAMHS receives the information for appropriate follow-up the next morning.

NHS 111 – OPTION 2

CONTACT CAMHS BEFORE REFERRING UNDER 18s TO A&E

We are MPFT

NHS Midlands Partnership University NHS Foundation Trust

Together we are making life better for our communities

Reminder To Parents

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

Thank you for your support!

Free indoor tennis at Stafford Manor this winter

Our new Lead Coach, Falco, has launched new weekly sessions at Stafford Manor Indoor Tennis Centre on Wolverhampton Road. It's warm, dry and open all winter.

Free Open Days 1-3pm
Saturday 17 October, Saturday 14 November and Saturday 5 December Taster sessions for children and adults

Junior coaching: weekly sessions for all ages, and every child's first session is free

Book the open days and coaching: https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/smitc/TennisOpportunities

Forest School Dates

Tuesday 3rd November	Y4
Tuesday 17th November	Y5
Tuesday 8th December	Y6

All our forest school sessions will now be in the morning and now on a **Tuesday**

so pupils should arrive to school in their Forest school clothes, but please remember to bring school uniform for the children to change into for their afternoon classes.

More information on appropriate clothing can be found our website.

School Communication

Questions, concerns and queries - please send all of these to the school office, not directly to staff, using office@st-leonards-stafford@staffs.sch.uk

Positive news stories and celebrations - these can be sent to staff via Class Dojo.

Staff may also be available at the end of the day for a quick catch-up.

Leo's Den

Use this link to book sessions in Leo's Den: https://stleonardsstafford.kidsclubhq.co.uk/

Please remember to make your payment when booking! Many thanks.

Punctuality Matters

A positive start to the school day makes a real difference. Arriving on time helps children settle in, feel confident, and make the most of their learning.

A gentle reminder to parents and carers to please ensure children arrive before the school day starts. The gates open at 8:40am and close at 8:55am. Thank you for your continued support.

Ordering School Meals

Please order your child's meals through your ParentPay account. New account details have been sent home for our new starters and Reception class this week. If you haven't received yours please let the office know. You can order up to 6pm on the previous day. Meals cost £3.20 per day. R/Y1/Y2 are free.

Exciting After-School Dance Club!

We are delighted to share that DAPPA Dance & Performing Arts Club will be returning this year.

Children will have the opportunity to explore a variety of dance styles, including: • Commercial • Jazz • Street Dance • Musical Theatre • Tap • Ballet • Lyrical • Contemporary

When: Tuesdays (starting 14th September) 3:30pm- 4:30pm
Where: St. Leonard's School
Suitable for children aged 3+

For enrolment and further information, please contact DAPPA Dance directly:

Email: dappadance@hotmail.com
Tel: 07792 245266





After School Mindfulness Club

We are excited to share that MiniMe Mindfulness After School Club will be running on Mondays from 3:25pm to 4:25pm.

Dates: 21st September 2026 to 14th December 2026
Half term week not included

Children will explore mindfulness, confidence-building and resilience through fun activities including: Meditation, Movement, stories and games, Creative activities

Book your child's place here:
https://minime-mindfulness-stafford.classforkids.io/term/5

EYFS

This week in Early Years, we have been learning about our emotions and discussing our daily routines, all linked to our focus story, *The Colour Monster*. The children have enjoyed exploring different feelings and talking about how emotions can change throughout the day.

We also took part in our sports enrichment session, where we practised a variety of golf challenges. This was great fun and provided lots of opportunities to develop our gross motor skills, coordination and control. In Nursery, the children have been listening carefully to the different sounds in words during phonics and have been practising subitising amounts to three in maths. In Reception, the children have been using their imagination in Drawing Club by inventing their own "emotion thief" characters. In maths, they have been learning to identify and complete a range of patterns. We have had such a wonderful start to the Autumn Term and are so proud of everything the children have achieved so far. We wish you all a lovely half-term break and look forward to welcoming everyone back for more learning on **2nd November**







Year 1/2H

Year 1/2 have been busy with lots of exciting learning across the curriculum. In Science, we have been developing our observing over time skills by growing sunflowers and carefully monitoring the changes as they grow. In Art, we explored colour through painting, taking inspiration from the work of a Japanese artist and experimenting with different shades and techniques. In History, we have been learning about famous explorers, including Neil Armstrong, Christopher Columbus and Captain Cook, discovering how their journeys helped shape our understanding of the world. In English, we have enjoyed starting a new story, *The Big Bad Pig*, an alternative version of the traditional tale *The Three Little Pigs*, and have been comparing how the characters and events differ from the original story. We are very proud of the enthusiasm and curiosity the children have shown in all their learning.



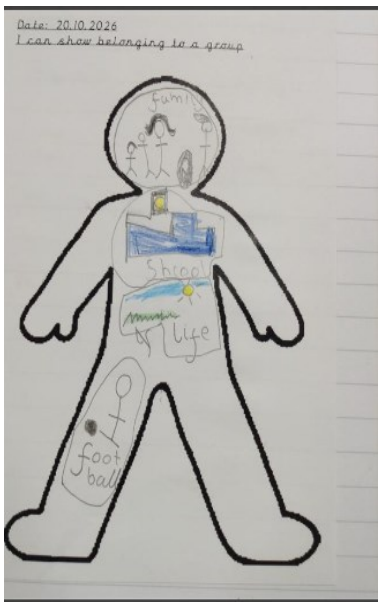


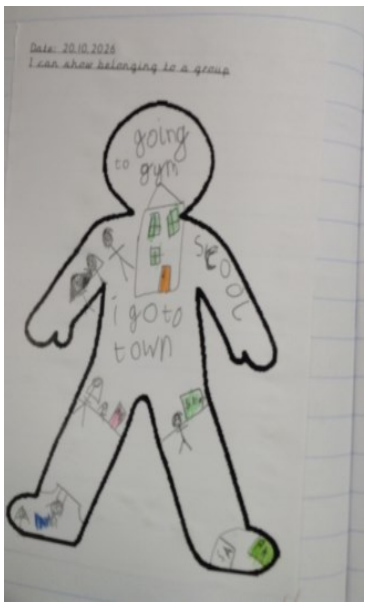

Year 1/2G

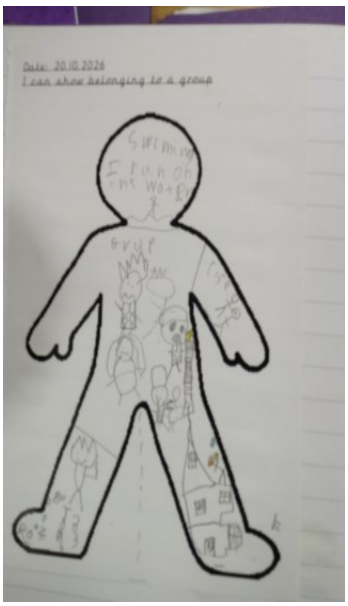
This week, Class 1/2G thoroughly enjoyed taking part in a Tri-Golf sports enrichment session. The children showed great enthusiasm as they practised their golfing skills and worked together to complete a range of fun challenges. In Design and Technology, we have begun our new topic on mechanisms. The children have started exploring how different mechanisms work and are looking forward to designing and creating their own moving products in the coming weeks. In English, we have been reading an alternative version of The Three Little Pigs. The children enjoyed comparing it with the traditional tale, discussing the different characters, events and perspectives within the story.

In R.E this week we discussed how we belong to different groups and communities. The children loved sharing which groups they belong to some football, gymnastics, family and community groups. Thank you for sending in photos!









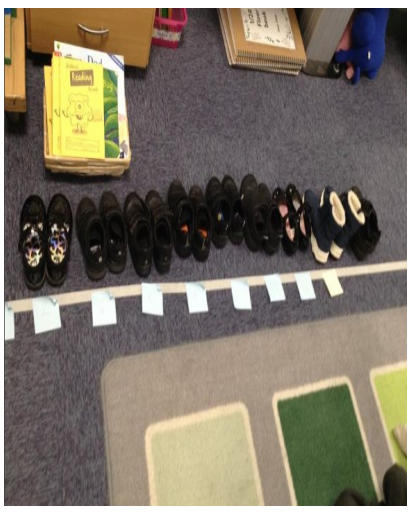
Year 1/2R

We've had a very busy and exciting couple of weeks in class! In History, the children have thoroughly enjoyed learning about explorers, including Christopher Columbus and Neil Armstrong, and have loved discovering how their journeys changed our world. In RE, we have begun our new topic on belonging. It has been lovely to see the children sharing the different groups they belong to and celebrating what makes them special. In Science, we have started learning about animals and have been discussing what makes something an animal. In English, the children produced some excellent character descriptions based on *The Three Little Pigs*, even inventing some wonderful new characters of their own! We are now beginning our learning journey towards writing a narrative retell. In PE, ball skills continue to improve, with great teamwork on display. The children were also incredibly proud to complete their beautiful flower sculptures in Art. Everyone is looking forward to a well-earned rest over half term before returning for more exciting learning adventures!



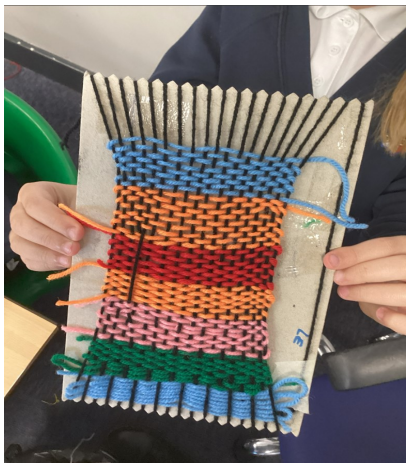






Year 3

As we reach the end of a busy and successful half term in Year 3, I would like to thank the children for all their hard work and enthusiasm. We have enjoyed beginning our new Viking topic and learning about who the Vikings were and why they travelled to Britain. In Science, we have started our Animals Including Humans unit, exploring healthy diets, nutrition, and how our skeletons and muscles help us move, support our bodies, and protect our organs. In Maths, the children have worked hard to develop their addition and subtraction strategies, showing great perseverance and progress. We also thoroughly enjoyed our tri-golf enrichment session yesterday, where the children demonstrated excellent teamwork and sportsmanship. Have a wonderful half term break and we look forward to seeing everyone back at school on 2nd November.



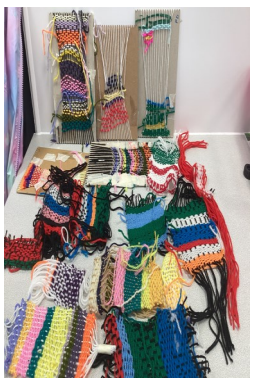




Year 4

What a wonderful start to Year 4 it has been. As we reach the end of our first half term, there is always lots to learn and the children have made a positive start in getting to know the routines, expectations and values that help create a caring, respectful and successful learning environment. We are seeing more children demonstrating Care, Pride, Respect and Teamwork each week, and growing in confidence as they learn what it means to be Ready, Respectful and Safe members of our school community. This half term, pupils have worked on a wide range of topics across the curriculum. In Science, we completed our fascinating Food and Digestion topic, finishing with an exciting investigation last week which allowed the children to apply their scientific knowledge and enquiry skills. We have also thoroughly enjoyed our Warp and Weft Weaving project, where children showed great creativity, resilience and pride in producing their woven pieces. After half term, we will be continuing our history topic with a focus on Viking invasions and we are already looking forward to our special **Viking Day on Thursday 19th November**. This promises to be a memorable experience filled with hands-on learning and opportunities for the children to immerse themselves in Viking life. We look forward to seeing you at our workshop Thursday 19th November at 2pm. Please check Dojo for details regarding the day including an opportunity to dress up. A reminder that our next **Forest School session will take place on Tuesday 3rd November**. Letters have been sent home and all details can also be found on Class Dojo. We are very much looking forward to seeing the children enjoying outdoor learning and developing their confidence, independence and teamwork skills. In Sports Enrichment this week, the children had a great time learning golf skills, taking turns and working as a team. It complemented our work in gym this week where the focus was supporting bunny hop movements in teams, using jumping, balancing and landing skills too. We would also like to reflect on our wonderful Harvest celebrations. It was so lovely to welcome families into school and celebrate together as a community. We were incredibly proud of our children for their confident singing and speaking and for the respect they showed throughout the event. Thank you for your continued support this half term. We hope everyone enjoys a well-earned break and takes time to rest and recharge. We look forward to welcoming the children back refreshed and ready for another half term of exciting learning, new challenges and continued success.

Have a wonderful half term break!









Year 5

In English this week, the children have completed their setting descriptions of Victorian London. We are incredibly proud of how they used powerful, ambitious vocabulary to bring the foggy, historic streets to life on the page. In Maths, the children have been tackling complex multi-step word problems. They have demonstrated excellent resilience by breaking down tricky questions and applying their addition and subtraction methods to find the correct solutions. We completed our art topic on Expressionism this week where the class have created striking portraits using bold colours and dramatic brushstrokes to convey intense emotions. This is proudly displayed outside our classroom for everyone to enjoy. On the sporting front, Year 5 had a wonderful time during their golf session hosted by the Sports Enrichment Service. The children loved learning new techniques, practicing their swings, and showing great sportsmanship on the playground. Have a well-rested half term and enjoy your week off!

Year 6

Year 6 have had an incredible and action-packed residential at Standon Bowers, showing fantastic resilience, teamwork and determination throughout. The children tackled a wide range of challenging activities including high and low ropes, climbing, bouldering, BMX, archery, air rifle shooting, orienteering, shelter and bridge building, and fire lighting. They also enjoyed a memorable visit to Alderley Edge, where they explored the historic mines and learned about local legends. Despite some tricky weather and demanding activities, everyone embraced every challenge with enthusiasm and perseverance, making the most of every opportunity. We are incredibly proud of their positive attitude, courage and willingness to support one another throughout the trip.






Diary Dates

Autumn Term

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

November 2026	
Monday 2nd November	School reopens for all children
Monday 9th November	Parents evening
Tuesday 10th November	Parents evening
Wednesday 11th November	Remembrance Day—Poppies will be on sale
Friday 13th November	Children in Need – wear something yellow non uniform - £1 donation for charity
Monday 16th November	Anti-bullying week: Break the Silence - Wear odd socks
Friday 27th November	Christmas Light switch on 3.30pm—4pm everyone welcome
December 2026	
Monday 7th December	Parent Forum Afternoon 9:30am—10:15am
Wednesday 9th December	Sports Enrichment – PE kit needed for all pupils
Friday 11th December	9:00 am – celebration assembly
Monday 7th December	Whole School Christmas Panto—In school pupils only
Thursday 10th December	Whole School Christmas Dinner—Orders made via ParentPay by Friday 4th December
Thursday 10th December	Christmas Jumper Day
Monday 14th December	9:30 am – Nur/Rec Christmas Play 2:00 pm – Y1/2 Christmas Play
Tuesday 15th December	9:30 am –Y1/2 Christmas Play 2:00 pm – Nur/Rec Christmas Play
Wednesday 16th December	Christmas Services for Key Stage 2 at: 9:00 – 9:30 am for Y5/6 10:00 – 10:30 am for Y3/4
Thursday 17th December	Party Day – children to wear party clothes to school
Friday 18th December	Last Day of term – no Leo's Den **(Mon 21st Dec to Fri 1st Jan Christmas Holidays)**