



St. Lawrence CE Primary School

Executive Head Teacher - Ms. Helen Osterfield

Head of School - Mrs. Alison Moore

Dear Parent and Carers,

11th December 2020

As the penultimate week of school draws to a close, it gives us time to reflect on the first term in school whilst living through a pandemic, consider how well the children have transitioned back in to school life, showing courage, resilience and commitment to learning. We have faced our challenges this half term and it has been difficult for staff, parents and most importantly our pupils having to close for two weeks. We would like to thank you for your kind words, support and understanding during this difficult period and it has been lovely to hear how many of our pupils missed being at school and couldn't wait to return.

**SUCCESS IS NOT FINAL;
FAILURE IS NOT FATAL:
IT IS THE COURAGE TO CONTINUE
THAT COUNTS.**

WINSTON S. CHURCHILL

This is one of my favourite Winston Churchill quotes and having seen it recently, think it sums up the feeling of the school community over the last few weeks so thought I would share it with you all. We will continue to move forward and have the courage to do so to make the school experience 'the best it can be' for our pupils.

Next week our Christmas celebrations and festivities begin and we are looking forward to a final week of Christmas cheer with the pupils. Kay is planning to serve up a Christmas lunch on Tuesday and it is on this day that we are asking children to come dressed in their Christmas jumpers. Please don't go out on a special shopping trip to buy a Christmas jumper if you haven't got one, alternatively children can wear their own clothes. A number of children have asked if they are allowed to wear festive head wear including hats and festive hair bands, and the answer to that is a resounding yes! Children will be watching the virtual pantomime of Cinderella on this day and making Christmas crafts. On Thursday, children will be celebrating in classes by having Christmas parties and it is on this day we have said children can wear their own clothing which includes warm party wear.

The PTFA held their meeting this week via a virtual capacity and spoke about their plans for the new year with members of staff from school. We have attached a link to their Parent and Staff Survey , which runs until Sunday. If possible, the PTFA ask that you spare a few moments of your time completing the survey for them.



St. Lawrence CE Primary School

Next week we will bid farewell to our Executive Head teacher, Miss Osterfield as she embarks on her long overdue retirement. Miss Osterfield was due to retire at the end of the Summer term but changed her plans so that she could support the re-opening of Tibberton and St. Lawrence Federation following the full closure due to Covid-19. Her experience and expertise has supported us all and it has been a privilege working with her over the last two years, she will be greatly missed. Mrs Rebecca Nash, will take up post as our new Executive Head teacher in January and has made a welcome video for you, which can be viewed on the school website.

As you will have seen from an earlier letter sent out this week, school will now be closed on Friday 18th December as schools received guidance from the DfE recommending that we close on Thursday 17th December as this ensures school leaders can meet the track and trace guidelines set out by Public Health before Christmas Eve. We apologise for any inconvenience this may have caused. School will resume for pupils on Tuesday 5th January 2021.

Have an enjoyable weekend and stay safe.

Mrs Moore and the Team at St. Lawrence



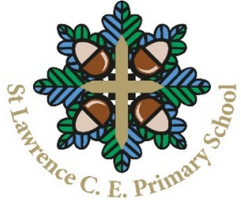
Our Week at St. Lawrence

Class One



Class 1 have really enjoyed learning a new skill in PE this week. They have been practising the skills of a swing and putting in Tri-golf on a beautiful, sunny morning. The children have also been very busy practising their Nativity performance which they are looking forward to sharing with you next week. In RE we have been learning about Christian symbols such as the cross, a dove and a candle. Ask your child if they can tell you about what a symbol is and what Christian symbols represent.



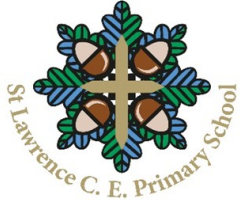


Our Week at St. Lawrence

Class Two

This week in Class 2 we have been working on subtraction in Maths. We have built up to exchanging confidently when needed and have used physical resources to help visualise the concept. We have continued our work on timelines in History and looked at the life of a fictional Argentinian character called Mafalda; in keeping with our Cultural Pathways work in school. On Thursday afternoon, we started the first of two sessions in Forest School where we built stick frames ready to use next week; we will use these with cameras to frame different views of school. The children did brilliantly learning to select appropriate sticks, plan frames and tie knots to hold their frames together.





Our Week at St. Lawrence

CLASS 3

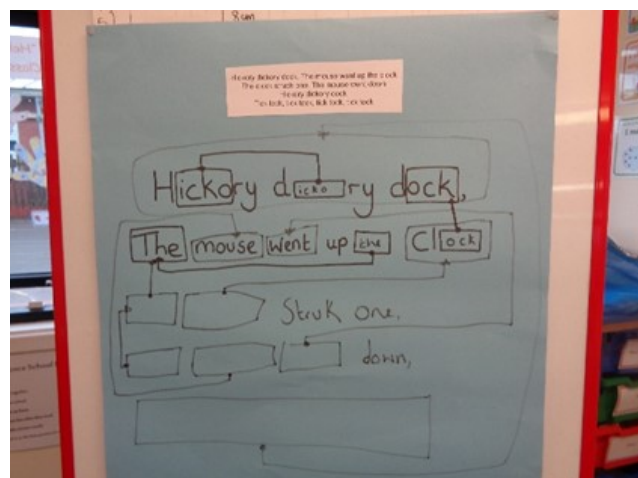
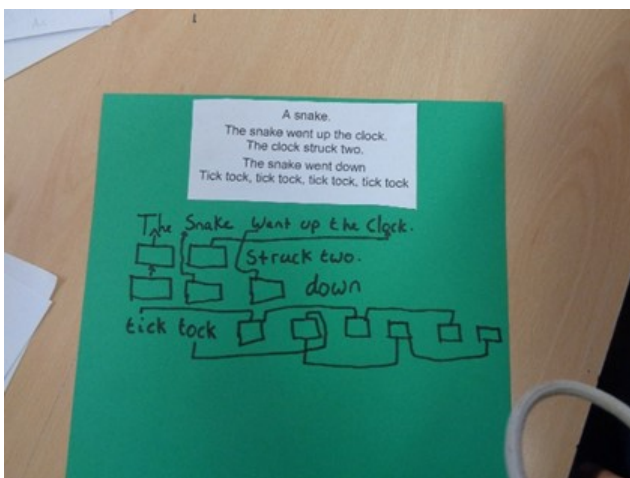
This week years 5/6 learnt about Artificial Intelligence. We discussed the advances in Robot technology and looked back at the famous Chess match between Gary Kasparov and Deep Blue.

We all took part in a Turing Test to see if we could identify a robot from the answers it gave to simple questions. We were unable to tell which people were human!

We also challenged a computer program to games of Noughts and Crosses. The computer won every time!



This week year 4 learnt about Text Compression, and how computers save storage space. The pupils were taking nursery rhymes and looking for letter patterns so they could compress the text and save space.





Celebrating Success this week!

CLASS 1

- Millie - trying hard to remember her sounds
Max - showing kindness to another pupil

CLASS 2

- Alexis - for focusing on her learning
Aidan - for being the best he can be in lessons

CLASS 3

- Daisy - Excellent journalistic writing in English
Angelica - for settling in your new school quickly and having a positive attitude to every lesson



House Points Winners

This week the winning house is **St Patricks** gaining **61** points.

Well done to **Ellie** and everyone who is a member of this house.



| House name | Points this week | Points so far |
|-------------------|------------------|---------------|
| St David | 34 | 79 |
| St Patrick | 61 | 120 |
| St Andrew | 33 | 75 |
| St George | 41 | 78 |



OTHER NEWS...



St Lawrence C.E. Primary School Terms and Holidays 2020/2021

Autumn Term 2020

Term begins Thursday 3rd September
Half Term Monday 26th October to Friday 30th October
Term ends Thursday 17th December

Spring Term 2021

Term begins Tuesday 5th January
Half Term Monday 15th February to Friday 19th February
Term ends Thursday 1st April

Summer Term 2021

Term begins Monday 19th April
May Day Monday 3rd May
Half Term Monday 31st May to Friday 4th June
Term ends Tuesday 20th July

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Staff PD Days: Tuesday 1st September 2020
Wednesday 2nd September 2020
Friday 18th December 2020
Monday 4th January 2021
Wednesday 21st July 2021



OTHER NEWS...



FRIENDS OF ST LAWRENCE

Thank you to those who have already taken the Friends of St Lawrence survey so far, we've gained some really positive and constructive feedback, and hope that you found it easy and user friendly to submit your answers.

We'd still love to hear everybody's thoughts in regards to how you can support or provide ideas, and receive info from The Friends of St Lawrence so the survey will remain open over the weekend.

To access the survey, please use the link below or scan the QR code. You will need to use the password of **Friends2020** to take the survey.

<https://forms.gle/6HCA7jBDU69811wa9>



Responses to the survey will be accepted until Sunday 13th December.
Thanks in advance, for supporting the survey.

Kind Regards,

The Friends Committee, on behalf of the Friends of St Lawrence

PLOITE REMINDER - - Parking

For the safety of the children and other motorists could we please remind parents not to park on the zig-zag lines at the front of the building when dropping off or picking up their child.

