



St Lawrence CE Primary

NEWSLETTER

Friday 21st November 2023

'Being the best we can be, because with God all things are possible'

Dear Parents

Thank you for your understanding in sending warmer layers in with your children- the weather is so unpredictable that we need to be prepared, as the children will go outside at break and lunch whenever possible.

The children have been working so hard, and filling the schools with laughter and learning; it really is a joy to spend time with them. We have been impressed with the attendance figures in recent weeks, and ask you to do your best to keep these figures high as we head into colder weather where germs might be more prevalent. Please look at the attendance information on the website if you are not sure about whether to send your child in to school.

We are getting underway with our new Spiritual Ambassadors at both schools and look forward to sharing more with you, and from them, very soon.

Wishing you a happy weekend,
Mrs Nash





Celebrating success this week

AWARDS THIS WEEK GO TO....

HEAD TEACHER AWARD

Alexa - for wonderful work writing rhymes.

ST LAWRENCE VALUES AWARD

Our St. Lawrence Values Award is an award nominated by the pupils and teachers to reflect the school's values represented in the 'St. Lawrence Way'. This week **Mrs Mountcastle** has nominated **Johnny** for showing compassion when others are feeling sad.

TEACHER AWARDS

Class One

Alyena - for trying really hard to blend sounds to make words. Well done

Class Two

Ivy - working really hard with her phonics and her writing.

Eowyn - for her fantastic work with money over the last couple of weeks

Class Three

Cameron - for providing good, full answers to his guided reading questions.

Eric - for continuously approaching activities with a cheerful attitude and always striving to do his best.

Class Four

Reuben - for a well organised discussion text, weighing up if a teenager should be able to become a professional spy.

James - for explaining his reasoning thoroughly in his discussion text about whether a teenager should be allowed to become a professional spy.

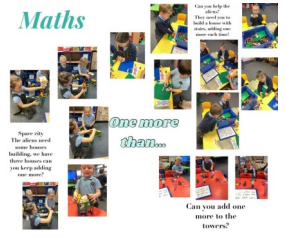
ATTENDANCE AWARD



Class 3 have won this week's Attendance Trophy with an attendance figure of 98%
Very well done!



This week in class.....



CLASS 1

Another busy week in Class 1. We have been learning about the solar system and how the planets orbit the sun. The children really enjoyed trying to remember the planet names, their order and how they move.

In maths, we have been learning about one more and one less. The children thought really carefully about counting on and counting back to support their learning.

In English, we have been learning to use our phonic knowledge to learn about rhyming words.

CLASS 2

This week in Class 2 we have been writing character descriptions for the Gruffalo. We read the story before heading out to forest and worked together to build a house for the Gruffalo, who is huge and scary. The children wanted to make 'cement' so they added water to the mud to help the sticks stay together. Then we had some fun splashing in muddy puddles!

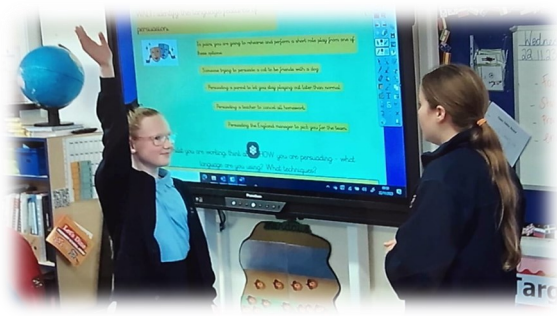


CLASS 3



This week, Class 3 have been having great fun practising their javelin throwing skills. Mr Mullinder has been very impressed with their ongoing determination to always do their very best.

CLASS 4



This week Class 4 have been busy investigating how they can change the size of shadows in Science and thinking about the language of persuasion, with children presenting role plays persuading the England manager to sign them or teachers to cancel homework!



Message from the ECO Team....

Message from the ECO Team....

4 Ways to waste less this Christmas—

1. Choose recyclable wrapping paper : avoid foil and glitter. Try using recyclable paper ribbons and bows rather than plastic.
2. Buy cards printed on recycled card and choose designs that can be used afterwards eg. gift tags. Cards decorated with glitter and foil CANNOT be recycled.
3. A real Christmas can be replanted in the garden after Christmas.
4. Make your own Christmas crackers and fill them with small gifts your family will want to keep.

ST LAWRENCE CHRISTMAS POST BOX

The schools Christmas post box will be located outside the school office from Monday 4th December until the end of term for pupils to post their cards to friends and members of staff. The post box will be emptied by the children daily.

Please ensure that the name of the child/teacher and their class number is marked on the envelope!



Recycle - Bring your used Christmas cards in to school on Monday 8th January and we will recycle them for you.



Christmas events.....



Thursday 30th November - Class 3 and 4 Theatre trip

Monday 4th December — Mufti Day - Children to come to school in Mufti in exchange for items for Christmas hamper.

Thursday 7th - ECO Christmas craft event 1.30—3pm.

Friday 8th - Christmas jumper day.
PTA — Film night 5.30pm.

Tuesday 12th - Class 1 and 3 Theatre trip.

Wednesday 13th - Parent appointments.

Tuesday 19th - Class 1 and 2 Nativity 2pm at St Lawrence Church.

Wednesday 20th - Christmas dinner in school.

Thursday 21st - Carol service in St Lawrence Church at 1.30pm.
Last day of term.

Friday 22nd - PD Day : School closed.

Merry Christmas



Invitation to our ECO Christmas Craft event

Thursday 7th December

1.30pm—3pm



We are inviting **ONE**
parent/carer into school

to make

2 eco Christmas crafts
with their child/children



Please let the office know who will be attending
this event





Christmas Dinner

This year Kay will be cooking the Christmas dinner on Wednesday 20th December. The cost of a school dinner is £2.50 for class 3 and 4 pupils. Class 1 and 2 do not need to pay.

If your child **DOES NOT** require a Christmas dinner please inform the office by Friday 1st December so that Kay can order all the produce in time.

If we do not hear from you we will automatically put your child down as having a cooked dinner.



SENCO Drop in session



You are invited in to our SENCo drop-in sessions on Tuesday 5th December 9am to 10.30am to meet Mrs Osborne and discuss any concerns or to catch up on your child and how they are getting on in school.

Please note that there are no time slots given and there may be a small wait at busy times.



Dates for your Diary.....

| DATE | EVENT |
|-----------------|--|
| NOVEMBER | |
| Thursday 30th | Class 3 and 4 Theatre trip to Theatre Severn |
| DECEMBER | |
| Friday 4th | Mufti Day |
| Wednesday 6th | Class 2 trip to Jackfield Tile Works |
| Thursday 7th | ECO Christmas Craft event 1.30–3pm |
| Friday 8th | Christmas jumper day PTA–Film night–tickets on sale |
| Tuesday 12th | Class 1 and 2 Theatre trip to Oakengates Theatre |
| Wednesday 13th | Parent appointments |
| Thursday 14th | Class 3 Trip to Think Tank |
| Tuesday 19th | Reception and Class 2 Nativity @ St Lawrence Church |
| Wednesday 20th | Christmas dinner in school |
| Thursday 21st | Carol service in St Lawrence Church–1.30pm St Lawrence Church carol Service - 7pm |
| Thursday 21st | Last day of term |
| Friday 22nd | PD Day–School closed |
| JANUARY | |
| Monday 8th | Back to school |
| FEBRUARY | |
| Friday 9th | Last Day of term |
| Monday 19th | PD Day–School closed |
| Tuesday 20th | Back to school |



Back By Popular Demand

The Friends of
St. Lawrence Presents...

Christmas Movie Night

Friday 8th December 2023

17:30 – 19:30

**Tickets cost £3.50 and will include
drinks and snacks.**

Tickets will be available to purchase from
the school office from Monday 20th November.

Pyjamas
and
dressing
gowns are
encouraged!

All funds raised
will go towards
supporting the
children in
school

Movie
choices will be
made in school



Activities outside of school....

Creative Christmas



Art

Biscuit decorating

SATURDAY 2ND DECEMBER

2.30 – 4.30PM

St Peter's church, Edmond

Craft

prayer

edible nativity

Carols



All welcome 0-100! If you are aged under 18, please remember to bring an adult ☺

Please let us know you are coming, so we know how many cakes to bake

Call/text/WhatsApp Rev. Kay: 07378 252716 or email kay.the6parishes@gmail.com

Why not try something new



EDUCATING KIDS OUTDOORS LTD.
CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY CLUB

TUESDAY 2ND - FRIDAY 5TH JANUARY 2024

Full Day 9:00am to 4:00pm - £40 / HAF funded place £5
Short Day 10:30am to 4:00pm - £35 / HAF funded place FREE

About Us

If you're new to **EKO** we are all about having fun outdoors whatever the weather. We might be bug hunting or plant spotting or den building or creating natural art or music or gardening, the list is endless. There will always be something new to try. We are based at Weston Park and have our own dedicated **EKO Outdoor Learning Site and Shelter** as well as use of the extensive grounds.

So what do you need to know?

- Each day is a new adventure. We start with guided activities in the morning and have free flow activities in the afternoon.
- We provide a hot lunch and healthy snacks throughout the day, taking into account dietary choices and allergies. We encourage children to try new foods and expand their palates, but rest assured that no one goes hungry!
- On Thursdays, we welcome Steve Guy, aka **the Hungry Guy**, who teaches us how to prepare, cook, and enjoy delicious foods. Please note that Thursdays are less flexible and may not be suitable for certain SEND children who require more outdoor time.
- Our Christmas Holiday Club is in partnership with the Holiday Activity and Food programme (HAF), and we're thrilled to offer free places to children with HAF codes from **Shropshire, Staffordshire and Telford & Wrekin** councils.
- We welcome children of all abilities and have ample experience supporting those who receive SEND assistance in school. If your child requires 1:1 support or attends a non-mainstream school, please contact us before booking. Currently, we can only accommodate one 1:1 child per day.

Find out more

Take a look at our website www.ekolearning.org.uk and if you have any questions or concerns email us at info@ekolearning.org.uk.



Department for Education

Educating Kids Outdoors Ltd, registered charity in England and Wales (1191685)
A company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales company number 12114074.
Registered office: Astol Farmhouse, Norton, Shifnal, Shropshire TF11 9EW

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

What Parents & Carers Need to Know About WHATSAPP

16+ in UK & EU; 12+ rest of world.

WhatsApp is the world's most popular messaging service, with around two billion users exchanging texts, photos, videos and documents, and making voice and video calls. The app offers end-to-end encryption, meaning messages can only be read by the sender and the recipient(s). Not even WhatsApp can read them. Updates to its privacy policy in 2021 reportedly caused millions of users to leave the app. But the new policy was widely misinterpreted: it only related to WhatsApp's business features, not to personal messages.

'Prize' Scams

WhatsApp users occasionally receive messages from unauthorised third parties or fraudsters pretending to offer prizes – encouraging recipients to click a link to win. A common scam involves a warning that someone's WhatsApp subscription has run out, aiming to dupe them into disclosing payment details. Other scams include instructions to forward a message to earn a gift or reward.

Enabling Fake News

WhatsApp has unfortunately been linked to accelerating the spread of dangerous rumours. In India, some outbreaks of mob violence were reported to have been sparked by false allegations shared on the app. WhatsApp itself took steps to prevent its users circulating hazardous theories and speculation in the early weeks of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Connections with Strangers

To start a WhatsApp chat, you need the mobile number of the person you want to message (they also need to have the app). WhatsApp can also access the address book on someone's device and recognise which of their contacts use WhatsApp. If your child has given their mobile number to somebody they don't know, that person could then use it to get in touch via WhatsApp.



Disappearing Messages

With 'disappearing messages', users can send messages that vanish from WhatsApp after seven days. A new feature also erases photos and videos from chats after they've been viewed. These files can't be saved or forwarded on, making monitoring what children are discussing problematic – and if someone sent your child an inappropriate message, it would be difficult to prove. Content can be reported to WhatsApp, however: ensure your child knows how to do this.

'Only Admins' and Cyberbullying

Group chats and video calls are great for connecting with multiple people in WhatsApp, but there is always the potential for someone's feelings to be hurt by an unkind comment or joke. The 'only admins' feature gives the admin(s) of a group control over who can send messages. They can, for example, block people from posting in a chat, which could make a child feel excluded and upset.

Live Location Sharing

The 'live location' feature lets users share their current whereabouts, allowing friends to see their movements. WhatsApp describes it as a "simple and secure way to let people know where you are." Indeed, it is a useful method for a child to let loved ones know they are safe. But if your child is in a chat with people they don't know, it means they will be exposing their location to them, too.

Advice for Parents & Carers

Report Potential Scams

Advise your child not to engage with any message that looks suspicious or too good to be true. When your child receives a message from an unknown number for the first time, they will be given the option to report that number as spam. They can also report a contact or a group as spam by tapping on the contact or group name to open their profile and scrolling down to 'report spam'.

Explain about Blocking

If your child receives spam or offensive messages, calls or files from a contact, they should block them. Communication from a blocked contact won't show up on their device and stays undelivered. Blocking someone does not remove them from your child's contact list – they would also need to be deleted from the device's address book. The option to block someone is on their contact info screen.

Create a Safe Profile

Even though someone would need your child's phone number to add them as a contact, as an extra precaution it's worth altering your young one's profile settings to restrict who can see their photo and status. The options are 'everyone', 'my contacts' and 'nobody'. Choosing one of the latter two ensures their profile is protected.

Leave a Group

If your child is part of a group chat that makes them feel uncomfortable, or has been added to a group that they no longer want to be part of, show them how to use the group's settings to leave. If someone exits a group, the admin can add them back in once; if they leave a second time, it is permanent.

Use Location Features Sparingly

If your child needs to use 'live location' to show you or their friends where they are, advise them to share their location only for as long as they need to. WhatsApp gives 'live location' options of 15 minutes, one hour or eight hours. However, your child can manually choose to stop sharing their position at any time.

Delete Accidental Messages

If your child has posted a message in the wrong chat or sent a message that they immediately regret, they can delete it. Tap and hold on the message, choose 'delete' and then 'delete for everyone.' WhatsApp allows seven minutes to delete a message after it's sent – but it's important to remember that recipients may have seen (and taken a screenshot of) a message before it was deleted.

Fact-Check Messages

You can now fact-check messages that have been forwarded at least five times in WhatsApp, by double-tapping the magnifying glass icon to the right of the message. From there, your child can launch a Google search and decide for themselves whether the message was accurate or not. It's a good way to encourage young people to question things they see online.

Meet Our Expert

Parveen Kour is a social media expert and digital media consultant who is passionate about improving digital literacy for parents and children. She has extensive experience in the social media arena and is the founder of Kids N Click: a web resource that helps parents and children thrive in a digital world.



© 2023 National Online Safety. All rights reserved. This guide is for informational purposes only. It is not intended to be a substitute for professional advice. For more information, please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com. WhatsApp is a registered trademark of WhatsApp Inc. All other trademarks are the property of their respective owners.