



St Leonard's Newsletter

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"Nurturing Faith & Inspiring Success"

St Leonard's C of E Primary
School
Mitcham Lane, Streatham
SW16 6NP

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October News



When considering life in schools, I have always referred to the second half of the autumn term as, "the silly season".

There are lots of changes to the usual routines so that we can prepare to entertain you all at Christmas. Naturally, whilst this is a lot of hard work, when done well, it's also tremendously valuable for children, staff and families alike.

Over the next few weeks, the school will be full of singing, dancing and acting. Whilst we'll be desperately trying to put the "th" into "Bethlehem" (don't hold your breath!), we'll be focused on putting "Christ" into "Christmas". We look forward to sharing in our Christmas events with you. Details of these are on the next page of this newsletter.

As if December wasn't busy enough, the general election which has been called has affected the school and is likely to affect us further.

We are lucky that productions are not taking place on the 12th December. However, our Reception children are visiting London Zoo for the Living Nativity on that day. I will not be cancelling this trip under any circumstances but naturally I can't influence any decision taken by London Zoo.

I have not granted Lambeth permission to use our main hall as a polling station, as the hall will still have staging, lighting and music equipment from the production on the 11th. I have, however, offered them the Keegan Centre and am awaiting their decision.

I will be speaking with the Chair of Governors and as soon as I have confirmed information from Lambeth, you will immediately be informed. At the time of writing, it is likely that the school will be open for Reception children only on 12th December. However, please don't go booking tickets for Winter Wonderland and the like for your other children until you receive confirmation of this!

On a brighter note, I'm delighted that the stretch of Mitcham Lane closest to our school now officially has a 20mph speed limit. I'm already beginning to see a slight improvement in driver behaviour. However, as the darker mornings and evenings increase, please model the behaviours that we wish to see from other drivers. These measures are in place to protect your children. I am going to continue to ask Lambeth for better street furniture because I still think that they can do more.

Finally, amongst all this "busy-ness", I'd like to take a moment to thank you for your continued support which so many of you show to the school staff on a regular basis. It's much appreciated.

**Best wishes,
Simon Jackson - Head Teacher**

Bible Reflection

Thankful
&
Blessed

"The Lord is my light and my salvation;
whom shall I fear?
the Lord is the strength of my life;
of whom shall I be afraid?"

— Psalm 27:1

WANTED



Keyboard Player



We now have a bass player and a drummer and are just looking for a keyboard player for this year's Junior Christmas Production. It's always great fun and a fantastic way to become involved in the life of the school. Let me know if you would like to be involved. Mr J.

School Photographs



The school photographer will be in school on **Monday 4th November**.

Every child present will be photographed individually. Siblings will also be automatically photographed as a family group. Details of how you can view and purchase the photographs will be sent separately.

Families are reminded that, firstly, only siblings who attend St Leonard's may be photographed and, secondly, should any child be absent on the day, it will not be possible for the individual photograph to be rescheduled.

New Deputy Head Teacher

Mrs Laura Akhtar has been appointed as our new deputy head teacher and we look forward to welcoming her in January.



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@StLeonardsCEP

Poppy Appeal

All adults and children at St Leonard's are made aware of this school's rich history. This includes the contribution made by 176 former staff and pupils in World War One, 37 of whom died in this conflict. Our Herbert Hill Chapel Hall now includes a display case for the memorial book which names these individuals. You will shortly be receiving a letter about our annual collection for the Royal British Legion's Poppy Appeal and how you can make a donation. We hope that you will be able to support this charity and thank you in advance for any support that you are able to give.



Parents Evening Arrangements

Apologies for the technical problems experienced when trying to make appointments. I'm pleased to say that these have all been rectified.

Please make every effort to attend one of these evenings. **Please also be aware that, should you arrive late, it may not be possible for you to have an appointment on that evening.**

Christmas Diary

We always try and help working parents when producing the school calendar and know that you appreciate receiving advanced notice of these events. As such, the dates and times for all key events are listed below.

Early Years Nativity in the school hall

Mon 2nd Dec at 2:00pm
Tues 3rd Dec at 10:00am

Years 1 & 2 Nativity at St Leonard's Church

Thursday 5th Dec at 2:00pm
Friday 6th Dec at 10:00am

Junior Production in the school hall

Tuesday 10th Dec at 6:00pm
Wed 11th Dec at 6:00pm

Junior Carol Service At St Leonard's Church

Tuesday 17th Dec at 6:00pm

Dates for your Diary



Forthcoming events

The dates of all the major events for the Autumn term are listed below. New events are highlighted yellow.

Mon 4th Nov	Individual School Photographs
Mon 11th Nov 09:00 - 10:00	IPC Workshop for parents in Keegan Centre
Wed 13th Nov 3:30pm - 5:30pm	Parents Evening
Thurs 14th Nov 3:30pm - 7:00pm	Parents Evening
Fri 22nd Nov 3:30pm - 5:30pm	Winter Fair
Mon 25th Nov 09:00 - 10:00	Maths Workshop for parents in Keegan Centre
Thurs 12th Dec	Rec Trip to London Zoo - Living Nativity
Fri 13th Dec	Junior Christmas Party
Tues 17th dec	Infant Christmas Party
Thurs 19th Dec 2:00pm	End of Term

Attendance

Our target is 97% for each class. Please note your child's class. The whole school attendance is currently 96.88%.

Attendance by Class

RG - 97.27% RP - 97.77%
1H - 95.15% 1P - 97.31%
2G - 97.44% 2S - 97.88%
3M - 97.89% 3W - 94.67%
4H - 94.51% 5V - 98.16%
6B - 97.64%

Excellent attendance is absolutely vital for all pupils. You are reminded that no holiday requests will be authorised at any point in the school year. **This includes requests to visit relatives in other countries.** Pupils should attend school when suffering from a cough or cold, but not from sickness or diarrhoea. Registers are checked by the Local Authority, so parents may be contacted by an attendance officer if their child's attendance causes concern.

95%	=	47 LESSONS MISSED EACH YEAR 8 days in total or 1 week and 3 days
90%	=	95 LESSONS MISSED EACH YEAR 16 days in total or 3 weeks and 1 day
85%	=	142 LESSONS MISSED EACH YEAR 24 days in total or 4 weeks and 4 days
80%	=	190 LESSONS MISSED EACH YEAR 32 days in total or 6 weeks and 2 days