

The School Journal



**ST LAWRENCE CHURCH OF ENGLAND
VOLUNTARY AIDED PRIMARY SCHOOL**

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Friday 13th September 2024



Gardening Club has got off to a great start, harvesting last year's seeds for this year's beans!

Dear parents and carers,

This week has been busy! It is wonderful to hear our orchestra again this week in hymn practice and celebration assembly. Massive thanks to Fiona for bringing our children together to create such a wonderful sound and well done to our musicians for working so hard to accompany our singing. This week we have also welcomed two pupils from The Arc to join our Year 5 class for art - we love to make links with other local schools to develop all the children. We have also welcomed two PGCE students from the University of Warwick who will be working in the school to develop their teaching knowledge and also support our pupils in Year 2 and Year 6. I had the pleasure of working in Year 1 and Reception class this week, two wonderful classes! We had great fun sharing stories, thinking about feelings, rhyming words and joining in all together. Many of our clubs started this week - there are still spaces available so please get in contact if you would like to sign up. Thank you so all our children, parents and staff for a wonderful week, I look forward to seeing you all after the weekend.

Mrs Beth Hanna

This Week's Awards

Today's Stars of the Week are Oliver (Rec), Cecily (Y1), Catherine (Y2), Emrys (Y3), Megan (Y4), Elise (Y5) and Lily (Y6). Extra-curricular awards were given out to Cora, Joseph, Benjamin, Lily, Agnes, Lucas, Bryn, Mila, Jack, Elise, Olive and Cara. We'd also like to mention Becky who has achieved her Stage 1 swimming, and Fleur who has got through a highly competitive audition process with the Royal Opera House Youth Company to be one of 24 children out of 600 selected for a 4-year training programme in the Arts. We're so proud of everyone and delighted to have been able to recognise these children in the first assembly of the year.

If your child achieves something out of school, we'd love to hear about it and to praise them in our Friday celebration assembly! Please bring awards to the school office by Thursday afternoon, and either email or handwrite something to describe the award, so we can tell everyone what has been achieved!

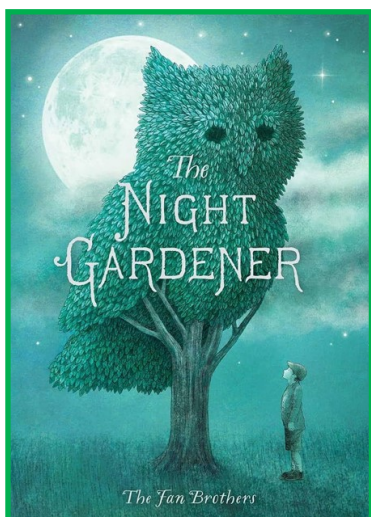


A happy church school that nurtures the unique talents of individuals and brings them together so that 'they will soar on wings like eagles' (Isaiah 40:31)

In **Little Lawrences** we have been continuing to get to know each other as we welcomed 15 new children to our class. The children have been amazing and we have observed new friendships being formed and strengthened. Through the use of rhyme and song we have got to know each other's names, likes and dislikes and these foundations will ensure that every child enjoys their learning journey with us in Little Lawrences. A busy week with both adults and children taking on the many roles of a police officer, bad guy, superhero, hairdresser, artist, mummy, builder, seeker and the big bad wolf!!! These imaginative skills are important foundation blocks for creative thinkers!

This week, **Reception** class have been really wonderful. They are now familiar with our classroom rules and are displaying greater independence on a daily basis. They have enjoyed drawing pictures of their families and describing them. They have also started to participate in daily phonics sessions alongside exploring '3 and not 3' in maths. We are extremely proud of them for being so brave and enthusiastic and for settling into school so well!

What a week in **Year 1!** It has been so busy. The children are settling brilliantly and getting used to their new classroom. They really loved Forest School the last two Friday's and have been excited to discover den building and digging. It was such good fun. We have also been writing our promises this week. We heard the story of Noah's Ark, discussed what a promise means and decided what we would promise each other to make our classroom a happy place to be. The children's writing has really impressed us! In maths, we have been sorting and counting objects. We have found lots of different ways of sorting, by colour, shape and size! What great work. As if all that wasn't enough, we have also been getting used to all the subjects we learn in school now we are in Key Stage One!



What a super start to the year! The children have settled brilliantly into their new class and have risen to the challenge of being **Year 2s**. There was great excitement at the beginning of the week when we had our first Book Club session. This is a chance for children to recommend books to others and hear new and interesting books being read. The children were enchanted by our first Book Club book - *The Night Gardener* by The Fan Brothers. A beautifully illustrated tale of creativity and friendship. The children have made a great start to their maths this week, showing off their knowledge of numbers to 50. We have been looking at the impact of litter on the environment, using our new English book as inspiration. The children were very busy litter picking to ensure our playground was tidy. In topic we looked at maps to refresh our knowledge of the UK and located London, discussing how we would travel from our school. It has been a very busy week, well done everyone for your hard work.

On Monday, Mr Snook attended the **Ride 4 Peace** - United Against Extremism event in Leamington Spa, which was hosted by the Ahmadiyya Muslim Elders Association at Baitul Ehsan Muslim Community Centre. A team of riders from the association were riding from Glasgow to Surrey, which is an awfully long way! They were spreading a message of love and respect for all, human unity and the rejection of violence - echoing our own school values. Part of Mr Snook's job is developing connections between our school and different faith communities in our local area, so he was very pleased to be invited. He spoke with faith leaders, emergency service members, local government employees, politicians and even other teachers. Well done to the riders - we truly value our connections with your community.

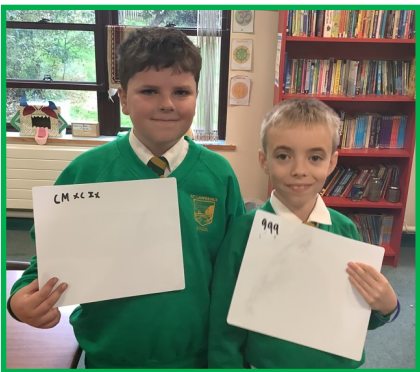


A happy church school that nurtures the unique talents of individuals and brings them together so that 'they will soar on wings like eagles' (Isaiah 40:31)



Year 3 have had a super week this week. We finished reading the book 'How to be a Lion' by Ed Vere which has given us some great inference and art opportunities but also a chance to reflect on the message that 'you don't have to roar to be heard'. We talked about how we can stand up for what's right in lots of different ways... as well as the importance of friendship, no matter our differences. On Thursday, we became geographers. We thought about what might be under the ground then went and did a survey in the school garden. We got stuck into maths, exploring numbers up to 1000. Finally, we must mention Year 3s first visit to the swimming pool. They were all very well-behaved and patient as we made sure everyone was put in the correct group. All of the adults were so impressed with their give-it-a-go attitude too! Well done Year 3!

What a wonderful start to **Year 4!** We have been reading 'The Barnabus Project' in English and have created some wonderful 'failed projects' and 'perfect pets' of our own. In Maths, we have been working on place value, and the class have really impressed me with their focus and enthusiasm for the subject. In topic, we have been looking the different features of rivers and some examples of famous rivers with particular characteristics. The class also had their first afternoon of P.E., which they informed me was most enjoyable. This Friday, I will be setting our first homework (including spellings). Let's keep this up Year 4!



Holiday? What holiday? **Year 5** has really hit the new academic year running. It feels as though the children from Year 4 have emerged from their catalysts and transformed into shirt and tie wearing Year 5 butterflies and with it a renewed vigour and vitality. They are raring to go: enthusiastic, curious, determined and ambitious. This bodes well for some more tremendous, happy learning (and teaching) ahead. In our lessons over the last ten days, we have developed reading, writing, comparing and ordering Roman numerals to a thousand and Arabic numbers to a million and beyond. It's been fun creating numbers and letters with our bodies, matching them with our partners, drawing different representations and exploring manipula-

tives. In Topic, we've been thinking about the polar regions: Arctic and Antarctic and researching some of the wildlife there. We've linked this with our class poetry work 'The Snow-Shoe Hare' and 'Moose' both by Ted Hughes. We have analysed them and identified their themes and their poetic devices: rhythm, personification, hyperbole, alliteration, metaphors... no stanza was left behind. In Science, we discussed what we already knew about 'Space' (planets, Sun, Moon...) and what we'd like to know more about. This led to exploring what some previous civilisations thought and introduced us to our Music lesson using The War of the Worlds' sound tracks. It's interesting how music is a really powerful media to convey intention, imagery and emotion. Mmm...what music makes you smile, weep, relax, wince...?


We've all had a hugely productive week in **Year 6**, and it's been great to welcome back everyone's determination to succeed. In maths, we've made significant progress, covering steps such as working with numbers up to 10,000,000, reading and writing large numbers, exploring powers of 10, comparing and ordering integers, and rounding any integer. In English, we're almost halfway through our class book and have been focusing on justifying opinions, making inferences about characters, using figurative language, identifying the author's intentions, and recording dialogue with correct punctuation. In PE, we've enjoyed working with our new providers. Science has seen us designing and testing our own circuits, while in geography, we've been learning about different types of extreme weather and collaborating to create class fact files. All homework and consolidation tasks have now been set via Google Classroom, with all passwords tested by children as fully functional. Don't forget, the deadline for completion is next Friday.

The **PTA Equinox Extravaganza** is coming up this weekend and we hope you'll join us for this lovely annual event! All the details are on the poster below, and any offers of help will be very gratefully received - please speak to a member of the PTA (there's one in every class so perhaps ask via your WhatsApp or Messenger group). We look forward to seeing you there!

**ST LAWRENCE
SCHOOL PTA**

Equinox Extravaganza

Sunday 15th September
Napton Village Hall
3pm till 6:30pm



LIVE MUSIC FROM THE COLLECTIVE
BOUNCY CASTLES CIRCUS SKILLS CRAFT TABLE
TOMBOLA RAFFLE GAMES
BBQ WITH BURGERS & HOTDOGS BAR

**TICKETS £10 PER
FAMILY**



**TICKETS VIA FIENTA
(NO FEE)**

PTA News

Now the new academic year has started, we'd love to encourage all families to consider getting involved with the **school PTA**. We are really fortunate to have an absolutely wonderful and very proactive PTA, who creatively and tirelessly fundraise for us at school and come up with some brilliant events for school families to be part of. But they are always delighted to welcome new members, and a new year is a great time to find out how you could help and support them! **The AGM is coming up on 10th October in the school hall** and we would love everyone to come along and join us for that. Below are details of some upcoming events, and you'll shortly receive a Dates for the Diary for the Autumn Term which will give you more information. Hope you and your family will get involved and we look forward to having you on board!

Upcoming PTA Events

PTA AGM
TBC

October Events

- ✓ Napton 10K 19th October
- ✓ Autumn Games 16th October

This Sunday
Equinox Extravaganza

3-6.30pm

Napton Village Hall
See you there!