



The School Journal



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

Dog Lane, Napton, Southam, Warwickshire CV47 8LU

Tel: 01926 812447

e-mail: office@stlawrenceprimaryschool.co.uk

www.stlawrenceprimaryschool.co.uk

Head Teacher: Mrs Beth Hanna

Friday 20th September 2024



Dear families and friends of St Lawrence,

It has been a busy week at school but I have seen so much wonderful learning. In reception the children had a fantastic time picking apples and blackberries to make a crumble which was absolutely delicious. We definitely have some chefs in the making! Year 5 went on a very successful trip to Church Leyes Farm, where they were creating temporary art installations using the natural materials they found. I know that Bob and Pat were very excited to welcome some of our older children up to the farm to enjoy the great outdoors and the wonderful environment we have right on our doorstep. We had two wonderful performances in celebration assembly this week from Lily and Daizy, thank you so much for sharing your talents with us. Once again, we had a huge range of achievements celebrated today, I am always amazed at how much the children here do outside of school - you are really soaring in so many ways. I can't wait to see what next week brings. I wish all a very happy and safe weekend, while eagerly anticipating the start of another exciting week at school.

Mrs Beth Hanna

Harvest Festival is coming up on Tuesday 1st October and we will be encouraging families to make a donation of food on that day. We'll give you more details next week but wanted to let you know in advance. Thank you in anticipation of your support!

This Week's Awards

Today's Stars of the Week are Bradley (Y6), Evelyn (Y5), Frances (Y4), Joseph (Y3), William (Y2), Alfred (Y1) and Riley (Reception). **Extra-curricular awards and mentions** were given to Alexander, Maisie, Isabelle, Francesca, Annabelle, Cara, Jack, Barney and Bradley. **Raffle ticket winners** were Eli, Rose and David, and we gave out the first **bronze awards of the academic year** to Maybel, Immy, Dylan, Lyla and Ronnie!

Very well done, everyone!



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)



This week the children in **Reception Class** have learnt about the seasons and have continued to explore this independently in their play. They have been very creative, with many of them collaborating to make autumnal collages. They have also really enjoyed picking apples and making apple and blackberry crumbles.

This week has been another busy week in **Year 1!** We have had fun working on our new story 'The Lion Inside' by Rachel Bright. This is a wonderful story which is set in Kenya and so fits with our topic beautifully. As part of our topic, this week we have been looking at our local area. We talked about all the things you can see out and about in Napton. This means that, later in the term, we will be able to compare our village to a village in Kenya. In maths, we have been counting from larger numbers and representing numbers in different ways. To do this, we headed outside to collect groups of objects to help us. We had great fun! Next week we are looking forward to finding out about Autumn as part of our Forest School session.



Year 2 have had another very busy week, full of lots of excellent writing and superb maths skills. The children have been showcasing their understanding of place value, demonstrating tens and ones using different mathematical resources. In English we looked at using expanded noun phrases to describe the main character of our feature book - The Secret Sky Garden. The children are hoping that the lonely, little girl in the story finds her family or friends. We had some excellent, thoughtful discussions in RE this week, investigating what makes us who we are, with many children deciding that 'kindness' was a very important part of who they are. Our Book Club session this week was a great opportunity for everyone to share their favourite book, discussing why they recommend it. It's been a jam-packed week and the children definitely deserve their weekend, well done everyone.

A plea from Mrs Foxwell!

If your child plays the **recorder**, please ensure your child's instrument (at the very least, the case) is **clearly named**. Most of our recorder players own the exact same instrument and it's very difficult to tell the difference between them if they're not labelled. We recommend [MyNametags](#) who sell durable sticky labels which are ideal for naming children's stuff easily and quickly.



Year 5 had a lovely visit up to Church Leyes Farm on Thursday to see Bob and Pat, create ephemeral art and drink hot chocolate! We are so grateful to Bob and Pat for their hospitality and to Mrs Rose for organising the trip: a wonderful time was had by everyone and some glorious art created.

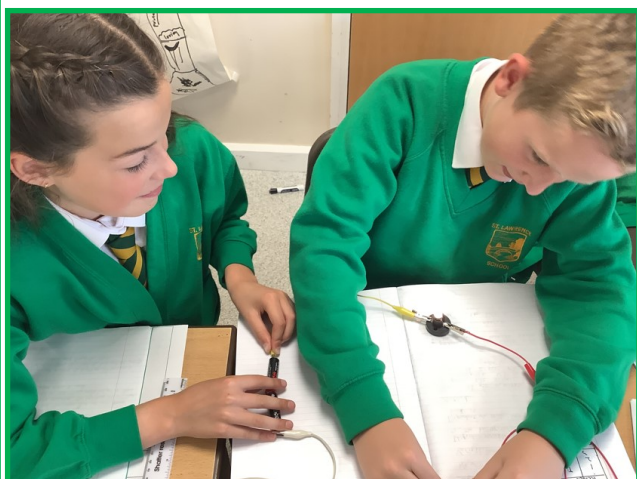
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This week, in topic, **Year 3** learnt about the structure of the Earth. Then in science we explored the three different rock types: igneous, sedimentary and metamorphic. We learnt how they form and then used magnifying glasses to look closely at some different rock samples. We used our observation skills to see all the different properties. It's amazing to think about how igneous rocks came from volcanoes and we'll learn more about how volcanoes are formed later in the term. This all made for a great introduction to our new English text 'The Street Beneath my Feet'. We will be spending the next few weeks exploring this marvellous and very uniquely presented text as well as writing our own versions. Also this week, Mrs Monk began working with Year 3 on their new RE curriculum. We have a new focus as we reflect on our own world views and how they are shaped. Finally, well done to Year 3 for another great swimming session. They got into their groups and showed off their swimming and jumping in skills! (Sorry to Rosie Coombe who may have got a little wet with all the splashes!)

This week, **Year 4** have been doing some lovely writing with expanded noun phrases, fronted adverbials and prepositional phrases, based on 'The Barnabus Project'. They had their second brass lesson, and have been doing excellent work on partitioning numbers and using number lines in Maths! The class are getting to grips with their new routines, and I appreciate their efforts. They are also lovely singers! I was pleased to see that most of the class had been using spelling shed to practise their words, and I would encourage all pupils to do so, as many times a week as possible. Thank you to those who brought in (or submitted online) their topic homework! I enjoyed reading your research!

This week in **Year 5** we've been exploring multiplying and dividing by powers of 10 and rounding numbers to the nearest 10, 100, 1000, 10,000, 100,000 and a million. We have linked these with distances between different celestial bodies and with the sizes of tundra and various biomes and species... In our poetry sessions we've analysed a variety of Haikus and collaborated in creating our own in pairs, firstly on aspects of Antarctica and then on Space: it was pleasing to see confidence growing when incorporating kigo and kiriji in them. Our privileged trip to Bob and Pat's Farm (Church Leyes) on Thursday, saw superb teamwork on ephemeral art - temporary art installations using natural materials to compose imagery of nature's beauty. There were many wonderful discussions, negotiations, compromises and resource choices as aspects of the polar regions dotted the farmland. This bustle of happy, productive activity enticed a few curious sheep and hens to strut across and get in on the action- thus delighting some and causing others to sigh, "Shoo, stop eating my polar bear...!" They even wandered into our campfire area, probably alerted by the oohs and aahs of milky cocoa, cream and marshmallows. Thank you to Bob, Pat, Fiona, Helen Eadon, Marion and our friends from The Arc School for sharing our special experience and for supporting us so kindly and generously.

This week in English, **Year 6** reached Chapter 24 of *The Last Bear*, uncovering hidden ideas and deepening our understanding of the plot. We examined how repeated words and phrases are used for effect and focused on adverbs of possibility and frequency to write short reports. Please check this week's spellings on EdShed - as detailed homework is signposted via Google Classroom. In Maths,



we tackled the P1 SATs Arithmetic quiz, with highlights and analyses coming soon. Again, check consolidation homework on Google Classroom, covering integer comparison, rounding, and negative numbers. In Topic, we created A2 posters on extreme weather, now displayed outside our classroom. In Science, we conducted experiments investigating how factors such as wire thickness, material, and length, as well as the number of batteries, affect bulb brightness and buzzer volume. We used our scientific skills to plan and conclude based on our results. Finally, in PE, we enjoyed Monday gymnastics - a reminder to bring PE kits each week.

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What a wonderful time we had at the **PTA Equinox Extravaganza** last weekend: it was a brilliant start to the academic year! Huge thanks go to so many people for their different contributions to the event. We're so grateful to everyone who took part, and delighted to have raised more than £750 for the school!

St Lawrence School PTA

Equinox Extravaganza

Over £756
raised

A MASSIVE THANK YOU TO

THE COLLECTIVE

**MESSY
CHURCH**

**SHOWTIME
CIRCUS
STUDIOS**

**KELLY WEATHERHEAD
BOUNCY CASTLES**

**THE
FOLLY**

**WHITE HART
UFTON**

**DR HAZEL
SKIN
SOLUTIONS**

**JOSIE'S
PLACE**

**& ALL THE
VOLUNTEERS**

PTA News

Now the new academic year has got underway, 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 have already received 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

Save the Date
Wreath Making
28th November

PTA AGM
10th October
8pm School
Hall All
Welcome

October Events

Autumn Games 16th October

Napton 10K 19th October