

The School Journal

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

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Head Teacher: Mrs Beth Hanna



Friday 16th January 2026

It has been another brilliant week across the school and I am incredibly proud of all our children. They have been excellent in their attitudes, behaviour, and commitment to learning, making the school a calm, happy, and purposeful place to be. We have seen some wonderful moments this week, particularly during assembly where the singing was fantastic and the orchestra sounded absolutely beautiful. In classrooms, every year group has been working extremely hard. Year 3 have produced some great maths work, Year 4 showed superb focus in their science lessons while studying electricity, and Year 5 have impressed us with their excellent learning behaviours, settling quickly and getting straight on with their work. Year 6 have also been doing some great work on mapping the Maya, showing curiosity and thoughtful engagement with their learning. All staff have been commenting on the positive behaviours seen around school this week. We have noticed so many polite, helpful children who are showing respect for one another and for their school. These small but important actions make a big difference to our school community and we are very proud of them. A special well done to Year 4, who were rewarded with an additional playtime this afternoon. They have worked so hard in class throughout the week, and all staff have noticed a real improvement in the way they are learning and approaching their work. Thank you to our children and staff for another successful week. We are very much looking forward to another great week ahead. **Mrs Bethanna Hanna, Head teacher**

Krishnaana (right) is wearing traditional dress celebrating Thai Pongal, a celebration of the Hindu Harvest.

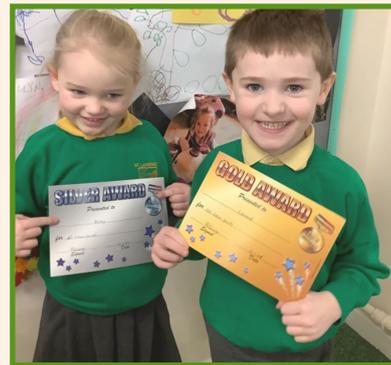


Today's Stars of the Week:

- Reception - Evalyn
- Year 1 - Jude
- Year 2— Ben
- Year 3 - Scarlett
- Year 4—Clara
- Year 5—Seb
- Year 6—Oscar



SILVER: Niamh, Ida J, Cecily and Becky **GOLD:** Leonard



Well done to our Bronze and Silver Team Point Certificate winners:

BRONZE: .Penny, Grace W, Emily H, Lexi, Amy, Wilf, Talitha, Josh, Reggie, Reina, Izzy, Reuben, Daizy, Freddie, Catherine, Eleanor and Leonard.

And well done to our pupils celebrating their extra-curricular activities this week:

Penny for equine activities, Eadie for gymnastics Krishnaana for learning Tamil, Penny for lifeguarding, Emily H for lifeguarding and Emma Macaulay for Stagecoach.



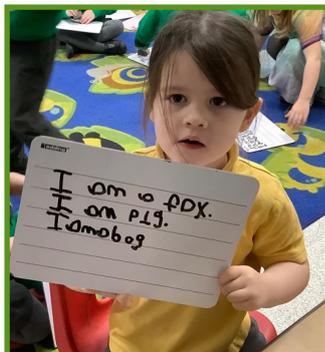
Emily G and Penny (above) played **treble recorder** in assembly.



Raffle Ticket Winners: Tim and Florrie (above right)

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Little Lawrences: The Christmas break is a distant memory as we welcomed 6 new children to the unit and all other children back. This week we have learnt about The World, introducing land and sea and talking about where animals live. This will lead to us exploring the Arctic Circle and following Noah's interests about Polar Bears and Phoebe's love of penguins. This week the children have settled back well and new friendships are forming, Max received our special Compassion award on Thursday for being a great friend and Florence has been ensuring that all her friends are drinking by offering their bottles. In the unit we have explored different texture, using saw dust, Weetabix and Shredded Wheat to crush, throw and build habitats - it has been messy! We also said Happy Birthday to Max and Hattie who turned 4!!



Reception: This week in Reception class the children have been writing sentences in Phonics lessons. They are practising their tricky words and have learnt that names start with a capital letter. We have also been exploring how animals stay warm in the winter, undertaking a science experiment with hot water bottles! We have talked about hibernation and animals that migrate to warmer climates. In their free play, the children have been drawing large scale road maps that lead to wonderful places. They have also taken this interest outside, drawing trails to magical Harry Potter worlds and using chalk and making their own wands. Another interest has been in building dens and collaborating in the sandpit!

Year 1: Year 1 have had a very busy and exciting week! In English, we have been learning all about character feelings through the story Lost in the Toy Museum, and the children have done a fantastic job talking about how the characters might be feeling. We have also been learning about plural nouns and spotting them in our reading and writing. In phonics, Year 1 have been on fire and are growing in confidence every day. In maths, we have been learning all about numbers 11 to 20 and digging deeper to really understand them. We have also enjoyed finding out how toys have changed since our grandparents were children. Well done, Year 1, for another great week of learning!

Year 2: This week in Year 2, we have been working hard on understanding money by making and comparing different amounts of pennies and pounds. We have been practising our inference skills in English as we look carefully at the poem "The Owl and the Pussy-cat". In topic, we have learnt more facts about the Victorian age and sequenced some of the events. We were also thrilled to look at some actual Victorian artefacts with Mrs Watkins. The iron was very heavy and we realised how messy writing would be when using ink out of a pot. We can't wait to see some more artefacts next week. In science, we learnt some more about habitats and thought about why animals choose to live where they do. The start of our new RE topic on "The good news Jesus brings" was very interesting. We looked at the meaning of the word gospel, shared our own good news and found examples of other good news. We were also very impressed with the children's knowledge about keeping safe around medicines in PSHE. What a busy week we have had! Hope you all have a lovely weekend.

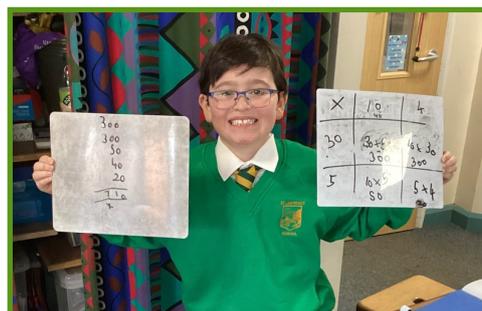
Year 3: In Year 3 this week, we have been reading our class text, Cinderella of the Nile, in our English lessons. We have been focussing on different characters perspectives, thoughts and feelings and learnt how to punctuate speech. In guided reading, we have been looking at a newspaper report and building an understanding of the features and language used so that we can write a newspaper report of our own next week. In maths, we have been looking at 2 digit numbers multiplied by 10 and identifying related calculations. In science, we looked at food packaging and identified which food choices are healthier and which should be eaten less often. In topic, we learnt about the Egyptian timeline and were amazed to learn that artefacts still exist from 5000 years ago! In PSHE, we have been learning about keeping ourselves safe. It has been a very busy week and the whole class have been absolutely fantastic, well done year 3!



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Year 4: This week in Year 4, we have been busy learning lots of exciting new skills across the curriculum. In Maths, we have been learning how to divide by 10 and 100 using place value grids, helping us understand how digits move and change. In English, we have focused on developing our summarising skills by identifying the key ideas in a text. In Science, we learned how to identify and categorise electrical and non-electrical appliances, discussing where we might find them and how they are used in everyday life. In Computing, we continued to build our coding skills by creating repeated shapes and patterns, thinking carefully about accuracy and efficiency. We have also enjoyed learning how to say the different colours in German, practising our pronunciation and building our vocabulary. Well done, Year 4, for your fantastic effort this week!

Year 5: Well done to Year 5 on a great second week of term! We've continued our multiplication work, explored our class book *The Jamie Drake Equation* a little more, written a letter, learned about what a census is and how to interpret data, talked about the best way of ruling a country, and started our space topic - so it's been a really busy few days! It was lovely to award our first bronze team point certificates of the year, do some singing and celebrate our first recipient of a Wednesday "Proud of You" certificate in addition to our Friday Star of the Week!



Year 6: Year 6 have been thoroughly immersed in *Rain Player*, which has fed directly into our English work. We have learnt that Pik intends to challenge Chac, the mighty rain god in a Pok-a-Tok ball game to save his people. Will Pik win? In English, we have explored how dialogue can advance the action, studying Pik's conversations and identifying the rules of speech before writing a missing scene where he persuades a friend to join his team. We then shifted perspective using the passive voice to create match commentaries and newspaper style headlines, before writing diary entries in role using perfect tenses to capture Pik's thoughts on the eve of a big game. Prediction work followed, with some children using symbolism and adverbials of time to write the match itself. In Maths, we converted miles and kilometres, explored imperial measures, and began a new unit on ratio, including deciding when to add or multiply and using accurate ratio language. Our new topic on the Ancient Maya is also well underway, starting with archaeology and inference, moving on to mapping the Maya world, and comparing cities such as Tikal, El Mirador and Chichen Itza with those from Britain and the classical world. We had a super busy week, with plenty of thinking, writing and a few dramatic sporting headlines along the way.



Ronnie Y3 (left) had fun measuring his block tower which he built taller than himself.

A huge thank you to the Diggins, McGregor and Beavan families for constructing the second of the Table Tennis Tables for the KS2 playground. (below)



Archie, (Y3) Rupert (Y5), Seb (Y5) and Harry (Y5) (above) have formed a clarinet quartet. Mrs Evans was treated to a short performance last week & they sounded amazing.



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The Week Ahead - w/c 16th January 2026

Monday 16th January 2026

09:30 Hymn practice with the whole school. Members of the orchestra should bring their instruments to school on Mondays, there is no need to come into school early. Mrs Merrick will collect children from class after morning registration.

Tuesday 17th January 2026

09:30: Year 4 will have their class brass lesson today with Mrs Pugh in the hall. This will be for an hour every Tuesday for the whole of the academic year.

Wednesday 18th January 2026

09:30: Whole school assembly in the hall led by Mrs Hanna

09:30 Invited children leave for IMPROVERS SWIMMING LESSONS -

Thursday 19th January 2026

Friday 20th January 2026

This morning is our orchestra rehearsal in the hall. Please remember to send instruments into school with children for an 08.45 practice in the hall before celebration assembly.

We are having a celebration assembly as normal today at 09.05am in the hall, everyone is welcome. Please drop extra curricular awards and certificates into the office for presentation in assembly.

MUSIC LESSONS:

Monday: Lisa Foxwell will be teaching in the Music Room
Lisa Foxwell's Flute group will meet in the Hall at 10:30

Tuesday: Lisa Foxwell will be teaching in the Music Room
Helen Pugh will be teaching brass in the Hall
Seb Foxwell will be teaching in the afternoon in the Music Room
Alex Sinessi will be teaching guitar lessons today in the Sensory Room

Wednesday: Alex Sinessi will be teaching guitar lessons today in the Sensory Room
Seb Foxwell will be teaching in the afternoon in the Music Room

Thursday: ~~Emma Benson will be taking violin lessons from 11:20 in the Sensory Room~~
(There is currently in-adequate sign up for violin lessons to continue)
Jacob Tanner will be in school taking drum lessons in Room 11
Lisa Foxwell's Flute Quartet group will meet in the Music Room at lunchtime

Friday: Lisa Foxwell will be teaching in the Music Room
Lisa Foxwell's Recorder group will meet in the Hall at 10:30
Lisa Foxwell's Clarinet Quartet group will meet in the Music Room at lunchtime

PE LESSONS:

Reception: Thursday AM, **Year 1:** Wednesday PM (plus forest school kit for Fridays),

Year 2: Tuesday PM and Friday AM, **Year 3:** Monday PM and Thursday PM ,

Year 4: Monday PM and Wednesday PM , **Year 5:** Tuesday PM and Friday PM,

Year 6: Thursday PM and Friday PM

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