



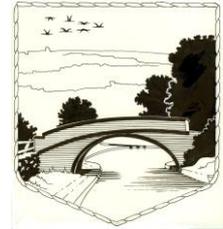
St. Lawrence CE Primary School

With

Little Lawrences

www.stlawrenceprimaryschool.co.uk

Friday 15th March 2019



Dear All

Strong winds, heavy rain, sparkling sunshine...a season of contrasts: a season of growth, a season of colour.

As such, **children from across KS2 and our Yr 6 School Councillors have planted a new tree in the quiet area.**

This Amelanchier...or Service Berry is the Diocesan Centenary Tree (somewhat retrospective) and should provide colour and shade through the year.

I'm hoping that new seating can be placed around it as part of the KS2 playground works. This involves new tarmacked areas and the removal of the willows: it is to be completed over the Easter holidays.



We are delighted to have received from the Sabine family a new bench for our outside area: a reminder of the days that Mr Edward O’Nien collected his grandchildren (the Sabines) from this school even up to my early days as head. ‘May children enjoy time together talking on the bench and may his spirit, kindness and generosity be ever present with them.’

Some of our Yr4 netballers certainly enjoyed their little break!

It is always a pleasure to welcome new children into the school and to welcome back familiar ones that we haven’t seen for a while. **Our Little Lawrences loved hosting the ‘toddler day’ on Monday:** such a beautifully positive experience for all involved.

We are also delighted to welcome Mrs Eve King back to Little Lawrences as she returns from her maternity leave. She will be with the children every afternoon (including lunchtime) from Monday to Thursday and every Friday morning too.

I know that many of us are looking forward to welcoming Angus (Yr 1) back to St Lawrences for a morning in April, good to see an old friend returning to ‘touch base.’

On the first morning of every month, St Lawrences...or more specifically Class 1 hosts ‘Napton Knitters’ – a knitting group who love to hear the cheerful children chirruping as they go to and from PE.

They are a lovely group of ladies led by the delightful Sue Watkins who clearly have a talent for turning strands of wool into prized possessions...but who could they be for?

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 coming Wednesday 20th March, we will be welcoming Mrs Caroline Whitehead from Southam College to our school – it is very much that time of year when our elder children and their families think of their future education. Mrs Whitehead comes in to help with future transitions to Southam College.

Our school choir is rehearsing hard for the Save the Children Concert at Coventry Cathedral on Saturday 18th May at 3pm.

Tickets can be bought at www.ticketsource.co.uk/songforthechild for £10 each with all proceeds going to 'Save the Children'.

Children from across the school (whether in the choir or not) from Yrs 1 to 6 have the opportunity to enjoy Save the Children Workshops with Margaret Wall next Thursday 21st March.



Save the Children



Practical Action – Our Lentern Charity Focus

Please watch out for the details of fund-raising events that are being led by our children to ensure that electricity from solar power is in place to empower those who want to help themselves where there is no mains power available.

Dear parents and carers,

One billion people in the world have no electricity and three billion cook on open fires. We take electricity for granted; some people around the world do not have it as we do.

Who is PRACTICAL ACTION?

Practical Action is a charity that works for various different countries: Bangladesh; East Africa; Latin America; South Asia; Southern Africa; Sudan and West Africa. They help provide electricity for villages to access. Last year they helped 285000 people have easy access to electricity.

Practical Action are doing many things to help globally but we are focussing on the 'Solar Challenge' (a project devoted to putting solar panels in the rural areas of Zimbabwe).

Only half the country have electricity. They consider, what we think of as essentials such as lights and fridges, as unnecessary indulgences.

These solar panels will make an irrigation pump work so that will create clean water so that girls can get an education. The water will grow the crops. The water will pump out 30,000 litres a day. Electricity will make them have computers to communicate.

As the girls do important jobs, many of them miss school often and do not receive the best education possible. The pupils at the school come from far and wide and therefore, they have accommodation at the school. At night, there are no lights as they are seen as luxuries. In addition to this, in the health clinics in the isolated villages, there is no sterile equipment or refrigeration.

What can YOU do about it?

We ask you that you consider donating a little bit of money to Practical Action and make a difference in someone's life. You might be the one who saves a child from dying or the one who gives girls education instead of fetching water each morning. You can also donate by attending our series of fundraising events.

SOLUTIONS

If you donate some money, Practical Action can place an irrigation pump in a village or keep a fridge in access of medicine. Furthermore, the government will match your donation. So if you donate £1, you get £2. Please donate to Practical Action who saves lives all over the world.

The money from our fundraising along with other donations could help beat their record that was made last year: 2.1 million people saved from poverty! This year is a new year. The time will be used wisely and, step by step, Practical Action will support places like the village in Zimbabwe and let them have the things that they need.

Letter compiled by Anna, Seya, Grace N and Mia A-G.(Yr6)

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)

Partnership with Coventry University is paying dividends

Our school in the past year worked closely with Coventry University as part of a research project with regard to spelling. Research has focused on developing a tool to pinpoint particular issues that children might experience - with special regard to spelling - rather than just saying that they struggle – something that is not helpful to anyone!)

I am delighted to announce that, in the past week, we have received some clear results and have been given the tool to use to make that crucial difference. Mrs Butcher is already on the case so that provision to help with specific issues can be tailored.

We intend to extend this research this year with the university to include some other year groups.

Storm Gareth wasn't enough to stop the Cross Country Event at Woodford Halse from being cancelled. Indeed over 200 children took part in each race. Well done to all our runners: they were brilliant!

- Bella (Yr 4) came 3rd and Annie (Yr 3) came 12th in the race for Yr 3 and 4 Girls
- Dan (Yr 4) was 13th and Ollie (Yr 3) was 19th in the race for Yr 3 and 4 boys
- The Year 3 and 4 boys team came third overall
- Isabel Mawby came 14th and Rosa came 15th in the race for Year 5 and 6 Girls
- The Year 5 and 6 girls team came 1st overall to receive a rather magnificent shield!



Thank you to all who accompanied our children to make this opportunity possible and bring back the silverware!

- Our netballers were disappointed to have the match against Southam primary postponed – more time to get a practice in and go for another victory?!
- Our footballers show promise but struggled to realise their potential against St Joseph's yesterday. Things can only get better!

Other News and Notices:

- **The new LED lighting in Yrs 2, 3 and 4, the staffroom and sensory room looks great...**brighter and much more efficient. This has been funded by an unexpected increase in government allocation of capital funding (that can't be used for general school budget).
- **Thank you to those that have answered the call for donations to offset the transport costs of school dinners:** £640 has so far been received. Please note that if and when a cost effective solution is found...we'll STOP asking for these donations. Governors are actively looking at all options for a solution.
- **It has been noted that some seem to ignore the new zigzag lines and road markings!** T bars and Zig zags in the school zone are not to be parked on. Do registration numbers need to be taken and referred onwards? I would really hope not, as would considerate drivers, residents and our Parish Council.



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)

- **I am so impressed with our school councillors at the moment.** They really are taking the message of recycling and advocacy so seriously and want to do something about it. They are leading the assembly on Wednesday for the whole school with a presentation that they have skilfully created. Do look out for the fund-raising ideas that they are working on to support Practical Action. I look forward to meeting with all again next week – it isn't just fund raising on the agenda!



- **Perhaps Alan Hone - from Priors Hardwick, has inspired the Cllrs, and indeed the whole school?** Alan took the time to give a brilliant talk about his passions in life: aircraft and Christian faith and how this led to his association with Mission Aviation Fellowship (MAF). Alan was brilliant. I wonder how our children will combine their passions to make a difference as they grow up? Thank you Revd. Gillian for arranging this for our children.
- **And we say thank you and farewell for now to Mrs Jacqui Johnson** who has been teaching in Class 1 with Miss Foster **and Miss Jodie Simpson** who has been teaching in Class 4 with Mrs Rose. We loved having you both as part of our teaching team this term.

Advanced notices:

- **The Year 4 harp performance** – Friday 5th April as part of the Friday Achievement Assembly at 9am.
- **Our Easter Service** – Monday 8th April at 9:45am.
- **A brass assembly** (and lessons for those that benefit from them) on **Tuesday 9th April.** This will a great chance for children to see and hear a range of brass instruments with Mrs Helen Pugh.

And that is, as they say, just about it. They say that if March comes in like a lion (and it has been a bit breezy), it goes out like a lamb? I wonder how true this actually is? Hold on to your hats this weekend and have a good one. I'll leave you with some thoughts with regard to last week's World Book Day – it was beautiful.

Kindest regards

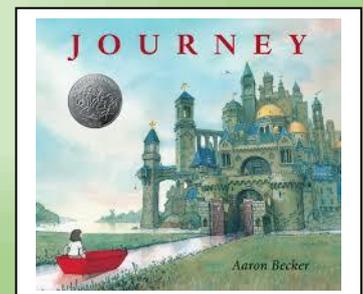
John Brine

Head Teacher

Have you every struggled to find a good book to share? May I pass on the recommendation of our book club that chose '*Journey*' by *Aaron Becker* to share for World Book Day. Be warned...it has no words but be amazed...because children have simply added their own words. Indeed, our Year 6's took each of the 33 pages of magical illustrations to produce 33 pages of the most beautiful text! Children from across the school have produced some most beautiful work with Yr2's and 3's most eager to share their work with me – I have been privileged!

It really is quite a fantastic book to be enjoyed on so many levels. I've also seen some beautiful illustrations also being produced. **The link below is an easy way to follow this magical journey and might be lovely to watch together:**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DRsmuveKWuk>



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)