



January 2019

# January Newsletter

## WELCOME BACK

Welcome back to a new term, and Happy New Year! Thank you to everyone who came to support us over the Christmas period, whether it be attending our Early Years and KS1 plays, coming to the Christmas disco, or watching the Carol concert. We are grateful for your continued support - it is very much appreciated.

We have a very busy Spring term ahead with much to fit in. We would be grateful if you could spend a few minutes reading our newsletter, as we have tried to include as much information as possible about the term ahead.

As always, if you have any worries or questions or require further information about anything, please come and talk to me or my staff. We will always try our best to help you.

Kind Regards.

*E. Allbutt*

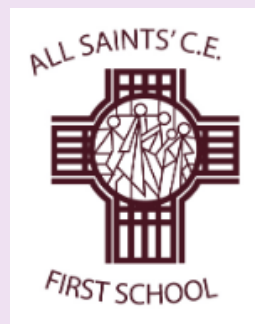
## FINDING OUT MORE

Remember that you can always find out what is happening on our school website.

We have a parents' calendar, term dates, useful information section, news and latest newsletters plus forms to download, curriculum information and lots more.

Our facebook page will allow you to see what we are currently doing in school. There are lots of photos so you can keep up to date with what's going on in school, and see just what your children are doing!

Texts are sent as quick reminders to the primary contact for each child. If you are not receiving texts, please let us know so that we can update your number.



## DIARY DATES

### JANUARY

Sun 27 -Messy Church 4.30pm

Mon 28—Y2 SATS meeting  
6pm

Thu 31—PTFA Chocolate Bingo  
6pm

### FEBRUARY

Tues 5—Y4 Standon Bowers  
Meeting 6pm

Wed 6/Thu 7—Parents'  
Evening

Mon 11—PTFA Meeting 6pm

Thu 14—Young Voices Concert

Fri 15—Red Nose Day

Mon18-Mon 25 HALF TERM

Tue 26—Children Return

### MARCH

Fri 15—Red Nose Day

Mon 25—PTFA Meeting 6pm

Thu 28—Mothers Day Cafe

### APRIL

Thu 11—Easter Disco

Fri 12 Non-uniform (Tins and  
Jars)

Fri 12—School Closes for  
Easter



## LEEK FOODBANK

Did you know that All Saints' is a registered distributor for Foodbank Vouchers?

Did you know that last year over 1.3 million emergency food supplies were given to families across the country, a 13% increase on last year.

In our area, nearly 120,000 foodbank supplies were issued to

families in need.

If your family is finding it difficult to make ends meet, for whatever reason, please come in to see Mrs Allbutt. School can provide vouchers for food to help for many reasons: low income, benefit delays, benefit changes, debt etc.

Please share this knowledge with others. Thank you.

*“Did you know that All Saints’ is a registered distributor for Foodbank Vouchers?”*

## LEEK NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN COMPETITION

In September, the children entered a competition to design a logo for the Leek Neighbourhood Plan. We are pleased to announce that Emily Fleet in Yellow Class has designed the logo that will be used by the Leek Neighbourhood Plan Team. Thank you to all who entered.

## PARENTS' EVENING

Parents' evenings are Tuesday 5th and Wednesday 6th February.

Feedback from parents about previous parents evenings has shown that parents feel that appointments do not keep to time and the waiting times are too long. As a result of this feedback, we will trial bells to keep appointments to 10 minutes. We are hoping that this will stop parents waiting for lengthy periods of time to see the class teacher.

***However, we would appreciate your feedback. This system will be trialled for the Spring term, and a decision will be made for future parents' evenings depending on parent feedback.***

In addition, can we also ask that parents who bring children along to parents evening take responsibility for their behaviour, by ensuring that they are supervised at all times, and not allowing them to run around the hall or school building. Thank you for your understanding in this matter.

Don't forget  
parents'  
evening!



This year, on 15th March, we will be participating in Red Nose Day. Please look out for a letter in your child's bag with more information.

## REMINDERS

Please can we remind you to supervise your children at the start and end of the school day by ensuring that your children stay off the grassy banks, railings and walls at the start and end of the school day. The banks are steep and slippery, and there have been a few accidents. In addition, the grass is becoming very worn in places.

We would also like to remind all parents that the playground is not supervised until 8.50am when the school bell goes. Before this time, children **MUST** be supervised by parents. We will be unlocking the playground gate shortly before 8.50am, to ensure that children remain supervised until this time as we are concerned about the number of children who are left on the playground unsupervised before school. We are sorry for any inconvenience.

### SAVE OUR HOSPITAL HAVE YOUR SAY ATTEND THE MEETING

St Edward's Church of England Academy  
Westwood Road, Leek  
24 January at 7pm

**DON'T FORGET TO GET YOUR TICKET**



**MOORLAND PEOPLE MATTER**

**We Want Better Than Care Homes for Our Elderly**

**WE WANT OUR REHABILITATION BEDS IN LEEK FOR OUR COMMUNITY**



Scan this QR code to order your free tickets to the Leek Hospital meeting online.

## ACADEMISATION

Unfortunately, our legal date for conversion to be an academy has been delayed slightly. We aim to convert in the next few

months and are hopeful that conversion will happen this term. We will let you know as soon as we know more. As always, if you have any questions about this process please come and talk Mrs Allbutt.



We are still participating in the battery recycling scheme called the 'Big Battery Hunt'. The scheme raises awareness about the problems caused to the environment by throwing batteries away and encourages children to recycle their waste. Please remember to send in used batteries (AAA, AA, C, D and 9v only) for your children to recycle. Boxes to collect batteries will be sent home soon. If you prefer not to send used batteries with your children, there will be a collection point at the office.

*Emily and Mrs Sherratt collecting used batteries.*



## UNIFORM BANK

St Luke's Church have started a uniform bank for all the first and middle schools in Leek. Recycling uniform has financial benefits, but also has a positive impact on the environment. If you have any school uniform in good condition that you no longer require, please drop it into school. If you require uniform, contact the office at St Luke's (ring Cate on 07914201385). A small donation of 50p per item will go to church charities.



## CAR PARKS

We are sorry to have to inform you that several members of staff have had their cars damaged (at considerable cost) whilst on the school car parks. The damage seems to be consistent with zips, bags etc. and the most likely cause is children playing/running around the cars at the start and end of the school day.

Please can we ask you to ensure that you keep your children away from parked cars at all times, including your pre-school children.

Thank you for your understanding.

## SCHOOL ABSENCE

Once again, school absence is an issue national and locally. As a school, we do understand that on occasion, parents are unable to take time off for holidays in the school holidays. However, we do need to remind you that we can ONLY authorise holidays for exceptional circumstances. More information on what qualifies as exceptional circumstances can be found on our school website.

As an insight as to why good attendance is so important, we would like to share a snapshot of attainment compared to attendance in OUR school. In our school, the percentage of good attenders (over 95%) who are at least where they should be in English is 87%. In the same cohort the percentage of low attenders (under 95%) who are at least where they should be in English is 44%. This is repeated in other year groups and other subjects and this is why good attendance is so important.

*"If your child's attendance is 95%, during the time at our school they will miss the equivalent of just under 1 term of school. If a child's attendance is 90%, will miss the equivalent of 6 months of school. If your child's attendance is 80% they will miss the equivalent of 1 year of school. "*

### HOW YOU CAN HELP.

- Whilst we understand there is a cost implication, please try to book holidays in school holiday time if you can.
- If you debating whether or not your child is well enough to be in school or not, feel free to send them in. We will always ring if it turns out your child is unwell.
- If your child has sickness, please keep them off for 1 day. Children only need to stay off for two days for sickness and diarrhoea. Please DO keep your children at home in these instances to stop illness spreading around school.

If you are unsure about whether your child needs to stay at home, please contact the school or look on our school website. In the useful information section of our website we have an NHS leaflet which explains common illnesses and informs parents of whether or not children needs to stay at home, and for how long.

If you are struggling to get your children to school for reasons other than illness, please come and talk to us. We are always here to listen and we may be able to help you.

**PLEASE PARK SAFELY AT THE START AND END OF THE DAY, NOT ON ZIG ZAGS OR YELLOW LINES. PLEASE RESPECT OUR NEIGHBOURS AND PLEASE DO NOT DRIVE ONTO SCHOOL PREMISES TO DROP OFF OR PICK UP CHILDREN FROM KIDS CLUB. THANK YOU.**