



Dear Parents,

The weather yesterday was wonderful albeit a chill in the air. As I've mentioned in previous bulletins, each week we are focusing on a school value and/or an element of our jigsaw programme to celebrate togetherness and well-being.

Last week the children were focusing on 'making a healthy choice' with a number of children in each class being mindful of keeping themselves hydrated throughout the day to improve their concentration - Puffins were really focused on making healthy choices during their lunchtimes. It is so incredible that we are now a flagship school for our PSHE Jigsaw programme!

Celebration

Last week, our new daily reading groups started really well and our children were eager to be involved in an abundance of reading activities! The beginning of each day is so exciting as we enter the Spring months with our children participating in a time devoted to reading following an enthusiastic playtime together as they arrive at school.

During last week, one of the reading groups were focusing on a piece of text called 'Shards of glass.' By the end of the week the children composed a short piece of text based on their reading.

Martha – Once I can't see the platform anymore, I look at the broken bottle. I hope that the bottle will help someone else. My ticket still seems a mystery – where am I going? I lift my bag onto a table and slump down beside it.

Lailani – I walked along the narrow aisle passing occupied seat after occupied seat – not one was empty. Perhaps the reason the train was so full was because just like me, all of these people were trying desperately to find their missing shards of glass.

St Levan Primary School



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Academic year

2022 – 2023

**Spring term 2022 –
2023**

Bulletin 21





Head teacher's Awards

Lailani - for an outstanding piece of writing in her reading group.

Martha - for an outstanding piece of writing in her reading group.

Hettie - for her determination to succeed in her mathematics lessons.

Erin S - for her wonderful kind attitude to her peers in class.

Ashton – for his determination to swim a length of the pool.

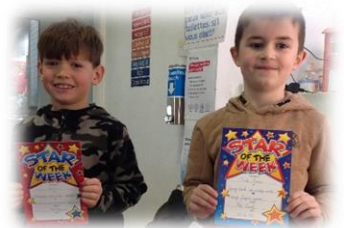
Stars of the week

Choughs Class – Miss Ferguson

Bertie – for remembering every single capital letter in your rainforest rules. Ace!

Puffins Class – Miss Finch

Jack P – for trying hard in writing and using finger spaces.



Attendance

Our whole school attendance

91% Choughs

95% Puffins

94% Overall

Please be mindful that good attendance is vital for learning for all of our children. The national minimum expectation is set at 96%. Please help us achieve this on a daily basis and support your child's learning.



Lastly, sad news unfortunately; Paula will be leaving St Levan school community on Friday the 17th of March 2023 to take up a different administrative post at a child care centre closer to home. I'm sure you will agree that she has been an integral part of St Levan school life for many years and from a personal point of view she has supported me enormously in my first year! She will be sadly missed by one and all. We all wish her well and good luck in her new post.

Thank you for your continued support.

Mr Mark Francis

Head teacher

Chough Stuff

In Geography, we have started our learning on Brazil. We used Google Earth and atlases to locate Brazil on a world map before zooming in to identify some of the physical geographical features like rivers and mountains. We used what we'd learned to make a giant map of Brazil on the playground. Many laughs were had inventing mnemonics to remember the names of Brazil's neighbours and even more when we thought Sao Paulo was called Soa Paula.

This is our lesson sequence for this half term. →



Aim
What is it like for the plants forest on the floor?

Method
1. get 2 pots and cotton wool
2. put the cotton wool in the pots
3. water it!
4. put seeds in it.
5. put one in the sun and one in the dark



In Science, we are continuing our learning about plants. The children worked in groups to devise experiments about what plants need to grow. Everyone was keen to find out what it's like for plants growing on the rainforest floor where it is very dark. The children worked collaboratively to set up their experiments and record predictions, aims and methods. Most of us thought the plants in the dark would only grow a little bit or not at all.

Felix: "Plants need sun so we should put one in the dark to see what happens."

Kris: "We need seeds. Plants grow from seeds."

Tia: "To make it a fair test, we're only going to change one thing. Everything else, like the pot and the seeds and the water is the same."



Prediction
Kris and the group think that it's not going to grow in the dark.

Equipment
pot wool seed water

UKRAINE

One-Minute Silence

24th February 2023
11am GMT

In solidarity with the people of Ukraine, we all marked the one-minute silence in our classes on Friday at 11am. If any of the children want to find out more, there is a BBC Newsround special on iPlayer about the children of Ukraine: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episode/m001jf7d/newsround-specials-ukraine-the-childrens-story>

Super Scientists!

Tiny tortoise (who usually helps us out in maths by asking us to explain when he's got things wrong!) wrote us a letter:



Dear children at St Levan with whom I get maths problems wrong all the time, I have recently been to the dentist and they have told me that:

- That I am a very unusual tortoise as I appear to have human teeth! and
- That I am NOT doing a very good job of brushing them and they are covered in plaque!

It is clear that I need your help! I went into Sainsbury's yesterday evening to get some toothpaste as the dentist said it will help me get off all the plaque and leave my breath smelling minty fresh, but there were SO MANY to choose from! I just didn't know which to pick. Can you design an experiment to help me decide which toothpaste is the 'best'. I got 4 for you to test out!

Let me know which you think is the best!
Lots of smiles and hugs!

Tiny Tortoise



As soon as Puffins realised Tiny needed their assistance, they immediately dashed to work devising plans for how they could decide which of 4 toothpastes would be best for tiny and his plaque-based problem.

As a class, it was decided that completely dry permanent pen on the tables (sorry Tasha!) could be a good plaque substitute and Puffins were quick to recognise all the variables they needed to try to control:

- Amount of water
- Amount of toothpaste
- How much pen
- The type of pen
- Who brushed
- How hard they brushed
- Different surfaces of tables

And so the list went on!

The testing:

With stop watches, pipettes, toothpastes and brushes, Puffins diligently tested then retested (to obtain mean averages) the length of time it took to scrub away the pen from the tables. After only a few minutes, the aroma of mint filled the classroom and it wasn't long before each group had their results.

Overall, Macleans was proven to be the quickest at removing pen and also for giving the mintiest whiff.

Tiny was delighted and his smile now shines brightly!



St Levan Logophiles!

We reading, writing and language at St Levan!

SYNONYM:

A word which has the exact same, or very similar meaning to another word.

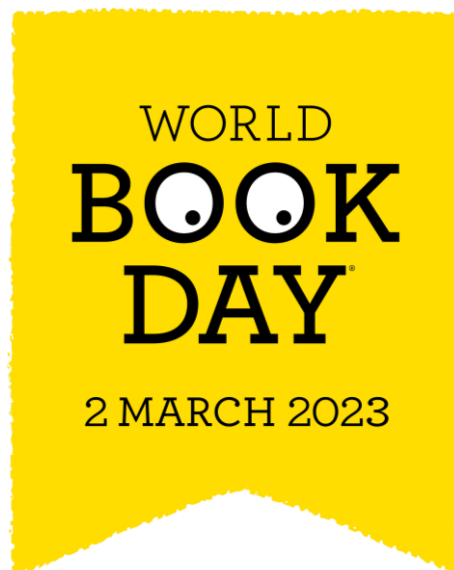
Find an unusual and interesting synonym for the word '**walk**' which you think no one else will have!

A new challenge for the newsletter!

We will present you with different writing and language based challenges.

Complete them at home (anyone can get involved!) and be prepared to share your ideas on Monday break times at school!

We will meet on the playground to discuss what you have come up with...



World Book Day is always a spectacularly exciting day within the school calendar each year. Many book characters are always on display and we have planned a number of immersive reading activities for the children. With the added skill of John Brolly in the afternoon, I'm sure it will be another superb day at St Levan school!

Note - There is another proposed NEU strike day scheduled for Thursday the 2nd of March - **St Levan school will be fully open.**

Don't forget to dress up!!!

£1 Book Tokens will be distributed this week and a £5 book token is up for grabs for the best dressed!!

