



Friday 17th January 2025



Weekly Newsletter

🎭★Gufus Theatre★🎭

Early this week our youngest children in school were treated to an amazing puppetry performance from the Gufus Theatre again. They performed another amazing puppet show. This was a silent show, and the children were encouraged to share their ideas of what was happening throughout. Our children from Reception to Year 3 really impressed us with their contributions, and they were extremely polite to the puppeteers.

Another magical experience for our children! 🎭👏



🕒Advance Notice- School Visits🕒

Over the next few weeks, we have a number of classes heading out of school to enrich their learning on educational visits. Please keep an eye out on both ParentMail and Tapestry for information regarding these visits.

Wednesday 29th January

Reception

They can't go over or under it, so they'll have to go through it as our Reception class go on a bear hunt in Lilford Woods!

Tuesday 4th February

Year 1

Our Year 1 class are off to Bolton Museum to learn more about Playful Pastimes as part of their history topic.

Tuesday 4th February

Year 3

To take part in a Roman workshop our Year 3 children will become Romans for their day as they enhance their history topic.

Wednesday 5th February

Year 5

As part of their topic on the Industrial Revolution, Year 5 are heading to Bradford Museum to further develop their understanding of this brilliant topic.

Wednesday 12th February

Year 6

To complement their learning about the Ancient Egyptians, Year 6 are off to Bolton Museum where they will take a virtual tour around burial chamber of the pharaoh Tutmosé III.

Thursday 13th February

Year 5

A visit to the Palace Theatre to watch the Horrible Histories performance about the Terrible Tudors

What a busy, yet exciting few weeks we have in store!

🏀🏈⚽Sporting News⚽🏈🏀

On Monday we have our first sports event of the year as a group of Year 5 & 6 children will be representing St John's at the ATSA Dodgeball competition at Fred Longworth High School. Good luck to those selected and we look forward to hearing how you get on.

Over the coming weeks and months, there will be more opportunities for children to represent school as part of football and rugby squads, cross-country teams and even a swimming squad to name a few. If your child has been chosen, we will notify you via Tapestry. Thanks for your support!

Advance notice:

Year 6 Parent/Carer SATs Meeting

On Monday 27th January, Mr Thomason will be holding a meeting for current Year 6 parents and carers to share information about their child's end of year assessments and how we can support them over the coming months.

Advance notice:

Swimming Lessons for Y3

Swimming lessons will begin Thursday 13th February. Please see Tapestry for further details and information.

Reminder!

We would like to ask parents and carers to avoid parking on any double yellow lines around school during drop-off and pick-up times including those who are using our AFA & HAF clubs.
Thanks, LSJP Team

App of the Week:

History at a Glance



An amazing app that allows you to explore world history in an interesting and fun way.

Holidays – not allowed in term time

Again, we are continuing to receive notifications from families regarding taking holidays in term time. We politely remind parents and carers that holidays should not be taken in school time.

Holidays are unauthorised absences and may result in penalty fines as shared in the updated warning notice on attached. Holidays in term time also have a detrimental effect on children's emotional well-being as often when they return to school, particularly after a 2-week absence, friendship groups have often moved on/shifted.

To help with scheduling holidays for the next school year, attached is the holiday list for the **2025-2026** academic year.

Thank you for your co-operation.

Polite Reminder

We would like to remind Parents and Carers that Tapestry is the main communication tool used in school and there are many messages posted throughout each day beginning early in the morning to late in the evening. We understand that you will post at a convenient time for yourselves; however, we are sure that you will appreciate that many of these messages appear outside of our staff's working day. Please take into consideration that our staff members have families and lives away from school too and that if messages are received outside of usual working hours, they may not be able to and are not expected to respond immediately. Each of our classes has a minimum of 30 pupils so it would not be feasible for staff to respond to 30 requests in this manner. Staff will always endeavour to respond to any Tapestry messages at the earliest opportunity, but this may not always be immediate. Thanks for your support, LSJP Team

OTHER DIARY DATES

DATE	Event
Each Sunday	St Mary's Church Sunday Service @ 10am with Sunday School. Junior Park 2K Run @ Leigh Sports Village (free for 4-10yr. Old's) 9am
Monday 20 th January	Year 5/6 Dodgeball Competition @ Fred Longworth High School
Monday 27 th January	Year 6 Parents/Carers SATs Meeting @ 3:30pm and 5:00pm
Wednesday 29 th January	Reception Visit to Lilford Park- Going on a bear hunt!
Tuesday 4 th February	Year 3 Visit- Chester for a Roman workshop
Tuesday 4 th February	Year 1 Visit- Bolton Museum
Wednesday 5 th February	Year 5 Visit to Bradford Museum – Industrial Revolution workshop
Wednesday 12 th February	Year 6 Visit- Bolton Museum for an Ancient Egypt workshop
Thursday 13 th February	Year 5 Visit- Palace Theatre (am)

Dear Parents and Carers,

IMPORTANT CHANGES TO THE LAW REGARDING PENALTY NOTICES FOR UNAUTHORISED ABSENCE FROM SCHOOL

A new National Framework for Penalty Notices for school absence, including unauthorised holiday absence, is being introduced following changes to the law. These new Government regulations will come into effect from 19 August 2024, and we wanted to bring this to your attention now, as it will affect when penalty notices are issued in Wigan.

In line with the [Working together to improve school attendance \(applies from 19 August 2024\) \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://publishing.service.gov.uk), Wigan Council will prioritise the 'support first' approach expecting that support will have been offered to families in cases where it is appropriate, and parents/carers are encouraged to communicate with the school should any support be required to improve attendance.

Penalty Notices are requested by schools and academies and issued by the Local Authority to the parents/carers of statutory school age children, per parent, per child. For example: two children in a family absent from school for a leave of absence may result in each parent receiving a Penalty Notice for each child at the below rates.

What are the changes?

1. There will be a new national threshold of 10 unauthorised sessions for any reason (equivalent to 5 school days) within a rolling 10 school week period for when a penalty notice must be considered.
2. The new rules mean you will no longer be able to take your child out of school for one week's holiday without a penalty notice being issued.
3. There will be an increase in the penalty fine from £60 to £80 if paid in 21 days. If the fine is not paid by the first 21 days, it will rise to £160 if paid within 28 days of being issued.
4. If a second penalty fine is issued to the same parent for the same child within a 3-year rolling period, the fine will automatically rise to £160 with no option to pay the lower rate of £80.
5. If a parent then commits a third offence in a 3-year rolling period, the local authority will need to consider other enforcement options available to them.

We would like to thank parents and carers for their support in making sure that children do not miss any learning time.

Yours sincerely,



Catherine Pealing
Assistant Director – Education

A Registered Charity
No: 1207535

presented
by:



Aladdin



**WEDNESDAY 22ND JANUARY -
SATURDAY 1ST FEBRUARY 2025**

St Joseph's Hall, Chapel St Leigh, WN7 2DB

Wednesday, Thursday, Friday: 7:15 pm

Matinees: 25th, 26th, 1st - 1 pm

Saturday Evening: 6:15 pm

TICKETS:

ADULTS - £12 UNDER 16s - £6

10% DISCOUNT FOR GROUPS 10 AND OVER
[TICKETSOURCE.CO.UK/ST-JOSEPHS-PLAYERS](https://ticketsource.co.uk/st-josephs-players)



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