

PRINCIPAL'S NEWS



Dear Parent/Carer,

It has been a fantastic first term. As well as the positive OFSTED visit students have been producing some amazing work and been involved in so many great enrichment opportunities.

Mulberry are working with us on a weekly basis and we are seeing the impact they are having. Thank you to all the parents that came to meet the Mulberry team last week. A really positive event.

As a school we are going to follow up on uniform next term. There will be no major changes, however, we are going to follow up on the issues we shared with you last year.

We have reviewed this and we will write to confirm arrangements for skirts and trousers for female students and the branded items currently on the uniform list. Any amendments will be actioned before the end of term 2.

There will be no immediate changes to the uniform from Mulberry, a new logo may be added for parents purchasing new items of uniform next academic year.

Have a great half term and we look forward to welcoming the community back on the 4th of November.



ACADEMY SUCCESSES

This term has been a busy and successful one for The St Leonards Academy.

We are very grateful to PC Paul Eastes and Jake Heaton for delivering a fantastic and thought provoking assembly on the concerning side of the use of AI to create fake images.



This was followed by an assembly by Kate Heitzman DSL and Kirsty Webb Assistant Principal on the use of Derogatory Language. We are asking everybody in the Academy community to stand up and join us in our pledge to ensure everyone is valued and included.



Our incredible Breck Ambassadors have officially continued their training for 2026. They are preparing to deliver powerful and thought-provoking assemblies to our new Year 7 students, raising awareness about online safety and the importance of making safe choices online. We are so proud of their enthusiasm, teamwork, and commitment to making a positive difference across our school community.



We have been delighted to welcome over 600 families into the academy during term 1 to our Year 6 Open Events. 11 Open Mornings, 2 Open Evenings, and a number of 1:1 tours.

The Open Evening was the busiest we have seen, a fantastic display of all that we offer at The St Leonards Academy was on show for parents and children. The transition trail was a highlight and the following 5 children were selected from the completed entries to win a goodie bag.

- Whatt P—WSL
- Emily B—WSL
- Honey S—Robsack
- Ellis C—St Leonards C of E
- Jaxson W—Silverdale
- Vincent G—St Pauls



Please take a look at our website and the presentations and information are all in the dedicated year 6 area.

<https://www.thestleonardsacademy.org.uk/resources-for-students/year-6-transition>

YEAR 6 OPEN EVENTS



Global Girls Leading Summit 2025



On Friday 10th October, we had the privilege of attending the Global Girls Leaders Summit at Mulberry School for Girls in London. Eleven of our Year 9 and 10 students took part in an inspiring day filled with thought-provoking talks and empowering workshops, led by remarkable female leaders from around the world. We left feeling inspired, uplifted, and motivated by these amazing women who have made history and continue to improve the lives of women and girls across the globe.

Student Parliament & Sierra Leone Foundation

Building Global Connections

Today we were delighted to welcome visitors from the Hastings Sierra Leone Friendship Link as part of our town's ongoing partnership with Hastings in Sierra Leone.

We were honoured to have Francis Mason, a teacher visiting from Sierra Leone, join us as a guest of honour at our Student Parliament meeting, alongside Roger Mitchell, a local trustee who has supported the link for over 20 years.

Our students had the fantastic opportunity to ask Francis questions about life in Sierra Leone and explore ways that St Leonards Academy can continue to support and strengthen this special international friendship in the future.

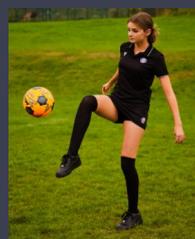
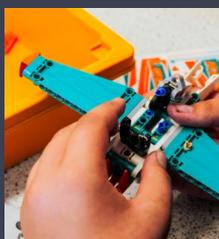


CAREERS NEWS

ASPIRE DAY SUCCESS

Our first TSLA Aspire Day with Year 11 earlier this month focused on setting progression goals, planning for the future, and taking time to recharge. Students took part in:

- College applications during Period 1
- Intense revision sessions in Period 2
- Adventure & wellbeing activities in Period 3 — Wellbeing Walks, Football, Lego Building, Mindful Colouring, Badminton, and Just Dance.



Year 11 showed great focus, energy, and enthusiasm throughout the day showing exactly what it means to **Aspire and Achieve**.



Careers in Sport Experience Day

TSLA students had an incredible opportunity to visit Brighton & Hove Albion Football Club to explore the wide range of jobs and careers in sport — from coaching and performance analysis to media, marketing, and event management tour the stadium, getting a behind-the-scenes look at what it takes to run a professional football club.



Club	Location	Time	Staff Member	Who?
Monday				
BREAKFAST CLUB	CANTEEN	8AM - 8.30AM	BTH / FEL	ALL YEARS
SENSORY CIRCUIT	COVE	8AM - 8.30AM	COVE STAFF	INVITE ONLY
KNITTING/CROCHET	L15	BREAK 1	MISS MEGIT	ALL YEARS
FOOTBALL	FIELD	3-4PM	PE	KS4
NETBALL	HARDCOURTS	3-4PM	PE	ALL YEARS
Tuesday				
BREAKFAST CLUB	CANTEEN	8AM - 8.30AM	BTH / FEL	ALL YEARS
SENSORY CIRCUIT	COVE	8AM - 8.30AM	COVE STAFF	INVITE ONLY
SEN HOMEWORKS CLUB	COVE	3-4PM	COVE STAFF	INVITE ONLY
VOLLEYBALL	SPORTS HALL	3-4PM	PE	ALL YEARS
DANCE CLUB	MAIN HALL	3-4PM	FELIX	ALL YEARS
Wednesday				
BREAKFAST CLUB	CANTEEN	8AM - 8.30AM	BTH / FEL	ALL YEARS
SENSORY CIRCUIT	COVE	8AM - 8.30AM	COVE STAFF	INVITE ONLY
SEN HOMEWORKS CLUB	COVE	3-4PM	COVE STAFF	INVITE ONLY
FURTHER MATHS	C32	3-4PM	MISS SIMS	YEAR 11
COOKING IN THE COVE	COVE	3-4PM	COVE STAFF	INVITE ONLY
ART IN THE COVE	COVE	3-4PM	COVE STAFF	INVITE ONLY
FILM CLUB	L25	3-4PM	MISS WIGFALL	ALL YEARS
CHESS CLUB	E17	3-4PM	MISS HEALY	ALL YEARS
ART CLUB	U8A	3-4PM	MRS KING	ALL YEARS
PRIDE CLUB	L24	3-4PM	MISS CHUTE	ALL YEARS
GYM AND TRAMPOLINE	SPORTS HALL	3-4PM	PE	ALL YEARS
FOOTBALL	FIELD	3-4PM	PE	YEAR 8 AND 9
Thursday				
BREAKFAST CLUB	CANTEEN	8AM - 8.30AM	BTH / FEL	ALL YEARS
Friday				
BREAKFAST CLUB	CANTEEN	8AM - 8.30AM	BTH / FEL	ALL YEARS
SENSORY CIRCUIT	COVE	8AM - 8.30AM	COVE STAFF	INVITE ONLY
Friday				
BREAKFAST CLUB	CANTEEN	8AM - 8.30AM	BTH / FEL	ALL YEARS
SENSORY CIRCUIT	COVE	8AM - 8.30AM	COVE STAFF	INVITE ONLY
SCIENCE BEYOND THE CL	E41	3-4PM	MR HALL	KS4
SEN HOMEWORKS CLUB	COVE	3-4PM	COVE STAFF	INVITE ONLY
GCSE TRAMPOLINING	SPORTS HALL	3-4PM	PE	KS4
FOOTBALL	FIELD	3-4PM	PE	YEAR 7



During Term 1 there has been a wide variety of extra-curricular clubs and activities to engage in. In term 2 this offer will change but expect more fantastic, engaging and fun opportunities.

Please let Mr. Thompson know if there are any clubs you would like to see on offer.

All clubs are free to attend.



ENRICHMENT

Year 11 Netball Champions

A huge congratulations to our incredible Year 11 Netball team who won the district competition

TSLA proudly hosted the event in tough, wet conditions — but that didn't stop the players showing amazing resilience, teamwork, and determination. They played brilliantly, winning three matches and 1 draw to take the overall victory. Thank you to Miss. Dunstall for the great coaching and leadership throughout.



FREE CHESS WEBINARS

CSC
Chess in Schools and Communities

Starting Tuesday 18th November 2025

Information and registration: chessinschools.co.uk/webinars

ATTENDANCE NEWS

Celebrating Attendance Success – Every Day Counts

As we reach the end of this term, we are proud to celebrate the continued improvement in attendance across our school community. Thank you to all parents and carers for your ongoing support in encouraging students to attend every day and arrive punctually. Your partnership makes a real difference.

Good attendance is one of the most reliable predictors of academic success. Students who attend school regularly not only achieve stronger grades but also develop better focus, resilience, and motivation — qualities that are essential for further education, apprenticeships, and employment. Missing even a few days can have a real impact on learning and confidence, especially as students work towards key assessments and exams.

This term, an incredible **792 students have achieved attendance of 96% or above** — a fantastic accomplishment that reflects their dedication and commitment. We're also delighted to see many others making strong improvements and taking pride in their attendance.

To recognise and celebrate this effort, we've introduced a range of rewards that have been a huge hit with students. Each week in assembly, every student with 100% attendance for the previous week is entered into a draw for a **£10 voucher and certificate**. We also give out **regular sweet treat rewards and skip the lunch queue passes** for excellent and improved attendance, which have helped to create a real sense of community and belonging within our Academy. We shall be looking at more ways to celebrate our fantastic students over the coming months.

As we look ahead to the next term, we encourage all students to keep striving for excellent attendance. Every lesson contributes to their progress, and every day in school brings them closer to achieving their goals.

Thank you once again for your continued support. Together, we can make every day count — and help every student reach their full potential.

As always if there is anything you would like to talk through or any support needed please do contact us - we are very happy to help in any way we can.

Wishing you all a restful and enjoyable break,
Nicola Sully
Assistant Principal—Pastoral and Attendance



KEY DATES

Start of Term 2—Tuesday 4th November

Disney Residential Trip— Thursday 20th November—
Sunday 23rd November.

Year 11 Photographs— Thursday 27th November.

Matilda School Production— Wednesday 3rd—Friday 5th
December.

End of Term 2—Friday 19th December 12:00 pm finish.

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