



Newsletter

9th October 2020



Dear Parents and Carers,

This week, I would like to update you on the following:

Cleaner Air Day 2020

Yesterday was Cleaner Air Day. This has been an issue high on the agenda at both local and national levels for some time now. Teachers have spent time this week talking to their classes about air pollution, and the role that we can all play in reducing this, along with ways to keep healthy. Mr Griffiths and Anna have worked to create a short video about this topic, for Cleaner Air Day, with our year 4 School Councillors and School Travel Ambassadors. This was shared with classes yesterday, and below is a link to the video for you to see for yourselves. A big well done to our School Councillors Travel Ambassadors for working hard to create this!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ODTH-fuTYWM>

Staffing update

I would like to update you on a staffing change towards the end of half term. On the 21st October, one of our longest serving members of staff, Jill Balzanelli, will be leaving us. Over the 18 years that she has been here, Jill has been an invaluable member of our team. Her commitment to the care and learning of the many children that she has worked with has been incredible, and she has had a lasting impact on the education of many that have worked with her. We will be incredibly sad to see Jill leave, but we wish her all the very best for the future. I am sure you will join me in sending Jill our fondest wishes, and in recognising how much she has been valued, by children, parents and staff alike, at St. Luke's, for the many years that she has been here.

School Council

Next week, each class' School Council representatives will be leading a class discussion on their return to school, and how they feel about the new way in which we are operating in bubbles. Mr Griffiths, our School Council lead, will be taking the feedback from each class and sharing it with teachers and leaders. We always very much value the children's views on what is happening in school, and we seek to act as best we can to address arising issues or concerns that are brought to our attention.

Tower Hamlets Education Wellbeing Service

We have signed up to this service, commonly referred to as THEWS. We are working in partnership with Tower Hamlets to provide guidance and support around mental health, and how to support your child's emotional wellbeing. Harriet Pickering, our SENCO, will be running an online workshop for parents on Friday 16th October, from 10:30 -12:00. Please see the attached flyer for further information, and for how to sign up.

Medication

A reminder, please, that if your child requires medication in school, for example, for asthma or eczema, that parents must bring it into school with details of how it is to be administered. This must be brought into the school office, so that it can be checked and signed off. Thank you for your support with this.

Illness

We appreciate that with the current Covid measures in place, that there can be some confusion around procedures if your child is unwell. If your child is unwell with anything that does not present with Covid symptoms, then generally they are able to return to school as soon as they feel better. There may be occasions where certain periods of absence will need to be observed following some illnesses. The NHS link below provides exact timescales for most common childhood illnesses and ailments. If you are contacted during the school day to collect your child because they are unwell, you will be informed about the symptoms that they are presenting with.

<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/healthy-body/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

Toys

Finally, I just wanted to remind parents that toys are not to be brought into school. We want to avoid any unnecessary upset if toys are lost or damaged in any way. Thank you for your cooperation with this.

Wishing you a lovely weekend.

With best wishes,

Cristina King

Head of School