



Newsletter
16th September 2022

Attendance

Our target is 96% **W/B 05/09** **W/B 12/09**

Mango (Nur)		
Apple (Rec M)		99%
Peach (Rec C)		98%
Beech (1G)	98%	93%
Maple (1B)	96%	95%
Ash (2R)	94%	93%
Birch (2W)	93%	94%
Lemon (3S)	92%	94%
Oak (3N)	97%	97%
Aspen (4C)	96%	96%
Spruce (4A)	91%	93%
Cherry (5A)	90%	92%
Palm (5D)	88%	95%
Cypress (6W)	99%	97%
Willow (6L)	97%	95%

Please note that our school will be showing respect for Her Late Majesty the Queen by closing for Monday 19th September.

This is an additional closure day since we have an additional national holiday to mark the day of the Queen's official state funeral at Westminster Abbey.

We will re-open as normal on Tuesday 20th September when all clubs etc. will resume.

Dear Parents and Carers,

I trust you are all well. It was wonderful to welcome all of the children back to school last week. We are only saddened the start of the year, has been overshadowed by the death of her Late Majesty the Queen. As explained in the letter I sent to you last week, we have made some adaptations to planned activities out of the deep respect we hold for her.

I wanted to highlight that we have a Book of Condolences in the main Reception and you are all very welcome to write in there, if you would like to. We will keep it there until the end of the mourning period and then we will send it to Buckingham Palace.

Attendance

This has started well in most classes, although please understand that anything under 95% falls short of the school's expectations. Everyday in school counts and we monitor children's attendance very carefully. This is because children who do not attend regularly will fall behind in their learning and this is not fair to them.

Because children's attendance across the country has fallen since Covid, the DfE are very concerned. Please know that it is not possible for the school to authorize leave for holiday during term time because children are expected, unless they are very unwell, to be in school.

Leave this year, will only be authorized in exceptional circumstances, proof of which, must be provided.

Parent consultation timetable

At St. Luke's we have a Parent Teacher meeting early in the new academic year, so that you can meet your child's new teacher and plan targets for their achievement in the year ahead. These will be held on Zoom with each teacher released from class for a whole day to meet with the parent(s) for each child in their class. Please make a note of the date and next week we will share the booking arrangements with you.

Class	Teacher	Date
Beech (1G)	Mr Griffiths	Wednesday 5th October
Maple (1B)	Ms Bingham	Friday 7th October
Ash (2R)	Ms Rotheron	Thursday 6th October
Birch (2W)	Ms Watterson & Ms Bell	Monday 10th October
Lemon (3S)	Mr Stein	Thursday 29th September
Oak (3N)	Ms Naidoo	Friday 30th September
Aspen (4C)	Ms Chauhan	Friday 14th October
Spruce (4A)	Mr Akinyemi	Thursday 13th October
Cherry (5A)	Mr Ahmed	Wednesday 5th October
Palm (5D)	Ms Dewan	Tuesday 11th October
Cypress (6W)	Ms Williams	Tuesday 4th October
Willow (6L)	Ms Lukwesa	Monday 3rd October

School uniform

Thank you for all of your efforts. The children look much smarter this year. Please remember only black footwear. Children can wear the same black trainers for full uniform and PE if you so wish.

Notice for Year 6 parents only

Further to the sharing of information to inform secondary transition this week, we have been asked to share the following with you:

In the information provided by the Local Authority, the website address given was www.eadmisions.org This is in fact not the correct address and should instead be: www.eadmissions.org.uk

We have also heard from Bishop Challoner Collegiate Schools who has said:

“We are sorry to announce that for reasons beyond our control we have had to **cancel our Open Morning on Saturday, 17th September**. We apologise for the inconvenience caused and invite you to register for another one of our Open Events [by following this link](#) “

Homework update

You will by now have received the core homework (including spellings) and the project homework from your class teacher. However, at this school we also offer additional homework for those families who would like more. We want all children to do the core homework, but the additional homework is optional and extra.

This additional homework will only be available through the class Microsoft Team this year and we will not be giving printed copies.

With this newsletter you will receive instructions on how to access the Team. The children will receive their log ins and passwords next week and the additional homework will be available thereafter. Children are asked please, not the change their passwords. If they forget their log ins or passwords, they will be able to get a reminder from their teacher.

In closing, I wanted to share that we in school, are very aware of the stress and worry that the current cost of living crisis is causing everyone. The same concerns that we all have in our domestic lives are magnified in big organisations like our school. It is for that reason that we will have to make decisions, like the one about not printing homework, to try and save money where we can to attempt to meet inflating costs and particularly energy bills.

I hope you can show empathy towards us when we share those decisions. In return I will make sure that if I hear of any support that is available to you, I share it with you as I have in the next section from the Mayor.

It bodes to be a tough year for many of us, but in partnership I hope we can support one another through it.

With best wishes to you all, Rebecca Abrahams

Additional links for your information

[SEND Support Group](#) - Every Thursday morning 10am-12noon at Tower Hamlets & City SEND IAS

[Lego Robotics' Flyer](#) - Inspire your child into engineering and coding

[Families Matter Bitesize Magazine](#) - Autumn 2022 - Back to school after a summer of fun!

[Energy Kidz](#) - October Holiday Club Leaflet

Update from the Mayor of Tower Hamlets:

Locally, we have taken action to help households here in Tower Hamlets. In August, I announced a [£1m Emergency Energy Fund](#) which will provide grants of up to £200 to those identified as most at risk of not being able to pay their fuel bills.

Earlier in July, I announced a new [£2.7m relief package](#) which will provide one-off grants of up to £100 to households most impacted by the cost of living crisis.

This extra support we've put in place is in addition to other help that the council already offers for those struggling financially, such as reductions in council tax, the [Resident Support Scheme](#), free primary school meals, school uniform grants and the hundreds of free activities and food for young people that we put on as part of our [Summer Events](#) programme.

Key dates coming up this half term:

Please note that in response to the sad news of the death of Queen Elizabeth, we have moved the date of Harvest Mass from 26th September to 3rd October. This means we can now have a Thanksgiving event in memory of the Queen, as well as to welcome our new King, on Monday 26th September. I have updated the Parent Calendar circulated last week accordingly and it will be included with the email for this newsletter. Dates coming up will then be highlighted in this section in the coming weeks.