



**Newsletter**  
25th September 2020



Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope this newsletter finds you well. Once again, there is a lot of information to communicate with you this week.

#### Coronavirus updates and advice

This week, once again, Coronavirus, continues to dominate the news. The new restrictions outlined by the government do not affect us as a school, and we will be able to continue operating using the same systems and procedures that we have done since the return to school at the beginning of September. Of course, our risk assessment is rigorously implemented to seek to minimise any risk to members of our community. On that note, I would like to thank you for following our procedures at drop-off and collection times. By following these, we are working together to keep everybody safe.

Tower Hamlets have produced some very helpful advice for parents in relation to Coronavirus, answering questions you may have around self-isolation, testing and symptoms, and the new regulations announced this week. I have attached two letters to this newsletter, and you will find further helpful information by following this link:

<https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/UKTOWERHAMLETS/bulletins/2a1f3b9>

You will have most likely have heard that the NHS Covid-19 App has been launched this week, in order to support the tracking and tracing system. The use of the app is an optional addition to the ongoing Track & Trace requirements, not a replacement. Schools as an organisation are still legally required to undertake Track & Trace as a single entity, but we are also being asked to promote the app to students (this would not be applicable to us, as it is for pupils over the age of 16), their parents, and staff, asking them to download the app and Track & Trace as individuals. Further information on the app can be found here:

<https://www.covid19.nhs.uk/>

#### Year 2 start of the day

In order to manage the flow of people onto the site in the morning, there will be a slight change to the way that year 2 children are dropped off in the morning. Most year groups have a 'soft start', whereby parents drop their child off at the gate, and the children make their way up to class where a member of the class team is there to greet them. We are going to be adopting this for year 2 from Monday onwards. The timings will remain the same. Therefore, we will be asking parents to drop their child off at the front playground gate from 8:45am, with the expectation that they are in class by 9am. A member of your child's class team will always be at the gate to greet them. Thank you for your cooperation with this.

#### Reception pick-up arrangements

Reception parents are already aware of the changes to their pick-up arrangements, but I did want to make the rest of our parents know of this too. Again, to support in managing the number of people in one area at the same time, parents of Reception children will be able to collect their child from 3:05pm. You will see social distancing markers along the fence outside of this area, and we would kindly ask that you line up against these in order to avoid overcrowding on what is a fairly narrow street. I understand from Ms. Tough that this has been working well this week. Nursery collection will continue to be from 3:15pm, as before.

#### Parent consultations

I wrote to you last week with details of how our parent consultations will be running this year. I am now able to provide you with a timetable for each class teacher, from years 1 to 6. As I explained, we are going to be running the consultations over the course of one day, with a 10-minute appointment slot per parent, through video calls on Teams, using your child's login. Appointments will be available between 9:30am and 5pm.

You will be able to book an appointment by ringing the school office from Monday morning. The office staff will ask for your preferred time and your contact telephone number. If you would prefer a telephone call from your child's teacher, please could you specify this at the time of booking, as we will otherwise assume that we will be making a video call to you via Teams.

The timetable of dates is as follows:

Date	Teacher
Wednesday 30 <sup>th</sup> September	Mr. Griffiths, Aspen class
Wednesday 30 <sup>th</sup> September	Ms. Naidoo, Birch class
Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> October	Ms. Dewan, Palm class
Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> October	Ms. Chandler and Mr. Stein, Beech class
Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> October	Ms. Williams, Cypress class
Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> October	Mr. Akinyemi, Spruce class
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> October	Ms. Butt, Maple class
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> October	Ms. Lukwesa, Willow class
Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup> October	Ms. Sheppard, Ash class
Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup> October	Mr. Cavendish, Lemon class
Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> October	Ms. Bingham, Oak class
Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> October	Ms. Budden, Cherry class



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#### Music provision & Music Mark Award

Music is an important part of our weekly timetable, and all class teachers are using Music Express with their class this year to cover the music curriculum.

In addition, we have an experienced team of music tutors who offer the following provision for our school across the school year:

John Blackburn - Drums - Year 1&2  
Jesse Bescoby - Recorders - Year 3  
Chris Bearman - Brass - Year 4 & Year 6 continuers  
Daniel Gea - Strings - Year 4, Year 5 & Year 6 continuers  
Gavin Marsh - Guitars - Year 5 & Year 6 continuers

Mr. Griffiths will be meeting with tutors to talk through our Covid-19 risk assessment, and will finalise arrangements on Thursday 1st October. Music sessions with tutors will then resume on Monday 5th October.

We are also delighted to let you know that our school has been nominated to become a 2020/21 Music Mark School.

The local music service have recognised the value that St. Luke's places on music. We are thankful for all the hard work our staff have put in over the last few years to ensure that pupils at our school are able to access and engage with a high-quality music education.

We are pleased to celebrate this good news with you and our commitment to delivering a broad and balanced curriculum at St. Luke's.

#### George Green's Open (Virtual) Evening

Due to Covid-19 restrictions, George Green's Secondary School will not be holding traditional Open Mornings or Open Evenings. Instead, they have made a range of videos and other resources that will be available on the George Greens website.

The following website has more information: <https://www.georgegreens.com/Parents/Transition/>

On Monday, Year 5 and Year 6 children received a flyer about George Green's virtual opening evening. This will be hosted "live" by Jon Ryder over Microsoft TEAMS on **September 30<sup>th</sup> at 3pm**. You can use the link above to register for this event.

#### Year 3-5 Parents: Accelerated Reader

In year 3, children at St. Luke's begin to take part in the Accelerated Reader Program. Accelerated Reader is a way of benchmarking children to ensure that they have an appropriate reading book to support their development. Over the next week, your child will take an initial reading test based on their comprehension skills. This will be done in small groups. Once this is completed, your child will be given a reading level. Your child's reading level will be sent home and discussed during parent's evening. Your child will have the opportunity to take out a second book from the class library box which is within their reading level. Once your child completes their book, they will take a short comprehension quiz based on the book. As your child improves, the comprehension questions increase in difficulty. This process will continue until the end of the term. At the beginning of Spring and Summer term, your child will then take another benchmarking test to reassess their reading level. We will also be setting up parent profiles so that you can login at home and see how your child is engaging with reading. Accelerated Reader is used in conjunction with your child's daily reading lessons as an additional way to support your child in developing their love of reading.

Wishing you a restful and enjoyable weekend.

With best wishes,

Cristina King

Head of School