



Newsletter

18th November 2022

Attendance

Our target is 96%	W/B 07/11	W/B 14/11
Mango (Nur)	91%	83%
Apple (Rec M)	93%	90%
Peach (Rec C)	89%	82%
Beech (1G)	91%	81%
Maple (1B)	88%	68%
Ash (2R)	91%	91%
Birch (2W)	97%	91%
Lemon (3S)	87%	86%
Oak (3N)	97%	96%
Aspen (4C)	94%	95%
Spruce (4A)	99%	95%
Cherry (5A)	95%	91%
Palm (5D)	94%	94%
Cypress (6W)	96%	98%
Willow (6L)	98%	97%

Value of the week

Mango (Nur)	Nailah & Sharon
Apple (Rec M)	Jude
Peach (Rec C)	Layla
Beech (1G)	Ismael
Maple (1B)	Leroy
Ash (2R)	Hadassa & Kilyan
Birch (2W)	Madison & Sienna A
Lemon (3S)	Liyanna & Taylor
Oak (3N)	Edward & Marina
Aspen (4C)	Atharva & Zoltan
Spruce (4A)	Ellenora & Dalal
Cherry (5A)	Kenya
Palm (5D)	Roman
Cypress (6W)	Tallulah
Willow (6L)	Sonny



Dear Parents and Carers,

It is fitting that we are focusing on the value of partnership in school this week, since most of the items that I want to share with you today, are enhanced through our working in partnership together with you.

Children's health and attendance

As you know, I am constantly monitoring children's attendance and at the moment, the overall attendance in school is concerning.

It is clear that the further we get away from the heightened restrictions that the Coronavirus pandemic brought coupled with the very mild weather that we have all been experiencing, the more viruses there appear to be in circulation.

Furthermore, because people are not testing for Covid anymore, it is difficult for us in settings, to know whether Covid is circulating or not.

Certainly reports in the press, and evidence in the community, is that Covid is very much present, as is the Norovirus and Scarlet Fever.

To respond to this in school, we are reminding all staff and children of the importance of the hygiene measures that were in place during the Covid restrictions. We are also aware of increased mask wearing generally and we are encouraging our staff to wear masks when they are in crowded places and particularly when travelling to and from work. This week, we kept year groups separate and we put whole school events onto Teams, to seek to 'circuit break' any transmission of Scarlet Fever, of which we have had a handful of cases over the last few weeks.

I share this to please encourage you all to be mindful of the spread of viruses and to encourage you to reflect on measures that you can take at home to protect you and your family.

I get no pleasure from moaning about attendance all of the time. I only do it because we want your children to benefit from the fabulous curriculum that the teachers are working hard to deliver and we care about the children's well being, and the impact that absence can have.

If together we can take measures to keep the children well, then they will not miss out on any of their vital and enjoyable learning.

Traffic outside of school

Regretfully, I need to share with you that earlier this half term, one of our precious children, was hit by a car as they were coming into school one morning. Luckily on this occasion, the car was driving very slowly and was able to stop quickly, meaning that whilst very shocked by the experience, the boy was not badly hurt.

To respond to this, many of you will have seen, that we are putting the 'people' back outside on the hazard lines for the morning drop off and afternoon pick up, and when possible—either myself or another member of the Senior Leadership team are also seeking to supervise keeping that area clear so that children can cross the road and get into school safely.

On the whole you have all been very patient with us doing this however I have noted the following that I would ask please, we avoid doing, since it does make the drop off and pick up unsafe for children:

1. Sometimes cars stop in the middle of the road and let children climb out into the road. This puts them at risk. It also makes it difficult for anyone else to cross the road. Furthermore, it means that traffic backs up both ways making it more difficult for other cars to pass which in turn makes other areas unsafe for crossing too.
2. Some times cars do the right thing and park in one of the available spaces, however children are then brought out of the car into the road rather than on to the pavement side. This again puts the child at risk and can cause the same problems with a build up of traffic each way because cars cannot pass.

As a parent myself, I understand only too well the challenge of the morning routine and we also understand that the reason behind these car behaviours is usually the fact that we are all rushing, however no one wants on their conscience the harm of another person when it could so easily have been avoided.

So my plea is that we keep in mind the reason for the measures being taken. They are not to make people's lives difficult. They are to protect every valued member of our community.

Safeguarding and On Line Safety

I wanted to share with you that consistently, one of the safeguarding risks that we have to deal with in school, is associated with children's on-line experience, either through gaming or through what they see as a result of their on-line activity.

At St. Luke's, we have our IT support from a company called 'Clever ICT' and they have agreed to put together a workshop to support you as parents, in making your home connections as safe as possible for your children. This is because we have to opt in to safety measures at home.

The Clever ICT team, in this workshop, will talk parents through how to do that and also provide the opportunity for any questions that you have to be asked.

This workshop will be held remotely on **Monday 12 December at 5:30pm**, well timed just before the long Christmas holiday.

Please make a note of the date and time and try to attend.

Joining details will be sent out closer to the time.

EYU Parent Consultation

Please note below Early Years Parent Teacher meeting dates to discuss your child's Baseline assessment and how they will be supported in school. We ask please that you contact the school office to book in to meet with your child's class teacher.

Class	Teacher	Date
Mango Class	Nina Quinn	Monday 21st November
Apple Class	Tamsin McFarlane	Thursday 24th November
Mango Class	Nina Quinn	Monday 28th November
Peach Class	Georgia Carney	Tuesday 29th November

These meeting will take place via zoom. Zoom links have already been sent out via class dojo's and we will also be sending them out via email. We look forward to seeing you for your appointment.

Nativities

I wanted to update you with the school plans for this year's Nativities, as I know you look forward to these and love to be able to come and observe your children taking part. Please make a careful note of these because some of the dates and organisation differ to that that was published in the school calendar at the start of the year.

This year, Years 1—3 will do a performance together and Years 4—6 will do their performance together.

The date are:

Year 1-3 Morning Performance - Tuesday 6th December (9:30am)

Year 1-3 Afternoon Performance - Tuesday 6th December (2:30pm)

Year 4-6 Morning Performance - Tuesday 13th December (9:30am)

Year 4-6 Afternoon Performance - Tuesday 13th December (2:30pm)

The Early Years Nativity will be on Wednesday 7th December, time, first performance at 9:30am and the repeat at 2:30pm.

Each class is singing a Christmas carol so every child is performing, with then a few children from each class taking on speaking parts. Parents can support their child by helping them to practise their song at home!

We look forward to welcoming you in to enjoy the shows.

Next PTA event

Please note that the next PTA event is scheduled for Thursday 8th December. This will be the children's Christmas Disco. It will be held in two halves with Nursery to Y2 from 3:45 to 4:45 and Y3 to Y6 from 5pm to 6pm. The disco will be in the main hall with some stalls and food in the lunch hall area. The PTA are looking for prize donations from parents for the tombola. They are going to place a big plastic box in main reception and would be so grateful if you could donate anything. This is really a heads up for an up and coming event. More details, including a possible non-uniform day, will be announced



very soon.

Please share the date with your children and so they know that there is something coming up to look forward to very soon.

Flu Vaccination

We are aware that some children missed out on having their flu vaccination the first time around, however please do not worry, catch-up dates are being provided and we have been asked to share these with you.

If you gave consent for your child to have the vaccination but they missed it, the vaccination team are revisiting St. Luke's on 1st December, to catch up those children.

If you did not give consent first time around but would like your child to have a vaccination, here are the details of how you can make that happen.

The catch-up clinics for children who have missed any of their school age vaccinations are taking place at Gough Walk Surgery, 21 Newby Place, London E14 0EY for the following vaccinations:

Flu Vaccinations – Reception – Year 6

Polio Booster – 6-9 Year old's

Date:	Time:	Venue:
Tuesday 22nd November	3:30pm-6pm	Gough Walk Surgery. 21 Newby Place. London E14 0EY
Wednesday 30th November	3:30pm-6pm	Gough Walk Surgery. 21 Newby Place. London E14 0EY
Thursday 8th December	3:30pm-6pm	Gough Walk Surgery. 21 Newby Place. London E14 0EY

Parents can book a place for children who have missed vaccinations.

If you would like to attend, please either call on: 0207 613 9422

or alternatively email: towerhamlets@v-uk.co.uk to make an appointment.

I realise there is a lot of information in this week's newsletter. If you are aware of people who do not regularly read it – please do bring it to their attention.

Have a great weekend. Best wishes, Rebecca Abrahams

Additional links for your information

Great Island Bake off on Saturday from 4.00pm—5.30pm, [please click this link for more details](#)

Key dates coming up next term:

Week beginning 21st November: Parents of children in **Nursery and Reception** will be invited to **meet the teacher** to discuss the outcomes of your child's Baseline Assessment—see earlier in the newsletter for details of how to book.

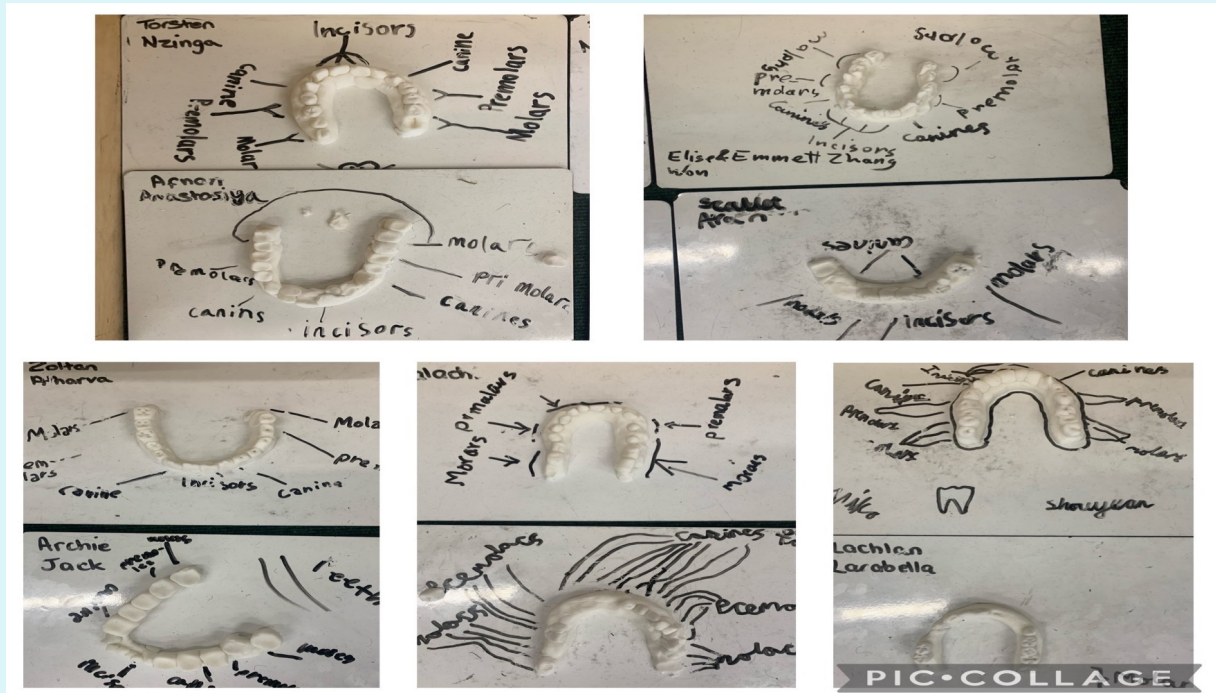
Thursday 24th November: **Year 5 Palm Tree Class Assembly**, 3pm—parents of Palm Tree class children invited to watch.

Week beginning 28th November: Parents of children in **Nursery and Reception** will be invited to **meet the teacher** to discuss the outcomes of your child's Baseline Assessment.

Monday 5th December: **Year 6 go to Gorsefield** for the week.

School Catch - Up

Year 4 Aspen Class had a very exciting Science lesson this week learning all about teeth. Here we have made some fantastic models of all the teeth within our mouths, all made from Fondant Icing (we didn't eat a single piece!)



Year 5 have been investigating the effects of air resistance. They have been in search for the perfect parachute, which will be the one that makes a person fall the slowest. It will cause air resistance to push it up with the biggest force. Children tested their theories and found the parachute with the larger surface area took more time to land than the parachute with a smaller surface area. Children concluded the larger parachute which took the most time had more air resistance, therefore making it safer to land with. Ask your child about the theory of Galileo and supporting evidence by Professor Brian Cox. Please follow the link to see this awesome experiment for yourself <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E43-CfukEgs>



ONLINE CONTENT

10 tips to keep your children safe online

The internet has transformed the ability to access content. Many apps that children use are dependent on user-generated content which can encourage freedom of expression, imagination and creativity. However, due to the sheer volume uploaded every day, it can be difficult for platforms to regulate and moderate everything, which means that disturbing or distressing images, videos or audio clips can slip through the net. That's why we've created this guide to provide parents and carers with some useful tips on keeping children safe online.



1 MONITOR VIEWING HABITS

Whilst most apps have moderation tools, inappropriate content can still slip through the net.



2 CHECK ONLINE CONTENT

Understand what's being shared or what seems to be 'trending' at the moment.



3 CHECK AGE-RATINGS

Make sure they are old enough to use the app and meet the recommended age-limit.



4 CHANGE PRIVACY SETTINGS

Make accounts private and set content filters and parental controls where possible.



5 SPEND TIME ON THE APP

Get used to how apps work, what content is available and what your child likes to watch.



6 LET CHILDREN KNOW YOU'RE THERE

Ensure they know that there is support and advice available to them if they need it.



7 ENCOURAGE CRITICAL THINKING

Talk about what people might post online and why some posts could cause distress.



8 LEARN HOW TO REPORT & BLOCK

Always make sure that children know how to use the reporting tools on social media apps.



9 KEEP AN OPEN DIALOGUE

If a child sees distressing material online; listen to their concerns, empathise and offer reassurance.



10 SEEK FURTHER SUPPORT

If a child has been affected by something they've seen online, seek support from your school's safeguarding lead.

NOS National Online Safety®
#WakeUpWednesday

