



Newsletter

24th September 2021



Dear parents and carers,

I hope this newsletter finds you all well. I would like to extend a warm welcome to all our new Nursery pupils this week, who have started to settle in really well. This week, I would like to update you on the following:

Value of the week

This week we have been focusing on the value of **enthusiasm**, something I have seen in abundance this week around the school. Staff shared some lovely examples of how children have been enthusiastic in school, particularly towards their learning. Keep up the hard work, and a big well done to everyone named below!

Reception Peach	Anchita Menon
Reception Apple	Anwita Hazra
Beech	Alima Alausa
Maple	Grayson Bell
Birch	Paulie King
Ash	Matas Brinius
Lemon	Charlotte Smith
Oak	Ella Bellinger
Aspen	Violet Hill
Spruce	Farah Hafidh
Palm	Halima Islam
Cherry	Kaisha Darquarh
Willow	Eaf Hossain
Cypress	Harry Weaver

Parent consultations

Last week, I shared the dates for the parent consultations for children in years 1 to 6. As a reminder, for children in Nursery and Reception, these will come later in the term after baseline assessments have been completed.

We will continue to hold these meetings via Zoom, using exactly the same system as last year. Each appointment will be 10 minutes long, and there will be times from 9:30am to 5pm available. In order to book your appointment, please ring the school office. You will receive a Zoom link prior to your meeting. If you would prefer a telephone call, please state this at the time of booking.



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The dates for each class teacher are:

Date	Class
Tuesday 28 th September	Year 1 Beech class, Mr. Stein
	Year 2 Ash class, Mrs. Rothern
	Year 4 Spruce class, Mr. Akinyemi
	Year 6 Willow class, Ms. Lukwesa
Wednesday 29 th September	Year 5 Palm class, Mr. Griffiths
Thursday 30 th September	Year 2 Birch class, Ms. Naidoo
	Year 3 Oak class, Ms. Bell and Ms. Bingham
Friday 1 st October	Year 5 Cherry class, Ms. Budden
Monday 4 th October	Year 1 Maple class, Mx. Reader
	Year 6 Cypress class, Ms. Williams
Friday 8 th October	Year 3 Lemon class, Mrs. Chandler
Tuesday 12 th October	Year 4, Aspen class, Ms. Dewan

Attendance

Last week, I began sharing the weekly attendance statistics with you again for each class. Now that Covid restrictions have eased, attendance is a top priority for us. After the levels of disruption that we have all experienced, I am sure that you all agree that it is a priority that children attend school every day, and on time. We hope to see that our overall attendance remains at or above 96% every week, and we will be celebrating classes who achieve this every week in our collective worship on Friday. Please support us by ensuring that your child comes to school every day, and only takes time off for exceptional circumstances.

A big well done to all the classes who achieved 96% or above this week, and in particular to Beech class for achieving 100%!

Peach	94.8%
Apple	93.4%
Beech	100%
Maple	93.6%
Birch	97.7%
Ash	98.7%
Oak	99.2%
Lemon	97.6%
Aspen	94.2%
Spruce	88%
Palm	98.3%
Cherry	96.3%
Willow	94.4%
Cypress	95.5%



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Harvest

On Monday 4th October I am pleased to be able to share with you that children from years 1 to 6 will attend a special Harvest service at the church, led by Father Tom. This will be done in two groups, as we are doing in school for Collective Worship, to avoid overcrowding at this time. We would please ask for children to bring in dried or tinned goods that can be donated at this service. All food items will go to the local food bank, so please donate as generously as you can.

Focus on children's learning

Our focus and absolute priority this year is on the children's learning. You will recall from a letter from Mrs. Abrahams sent at the beginning of this academic year, that staff have put an enormous amount of work into planning a highly ambitious and engaging curriculum for the children. From seeing the work in children's books, and from dropping into their lessons, I can already see that the children's learning has got off to a very strong start.

Mrs. Abrahams also shared with you the key factors that influence successful learning. These are: children being **ready and present** for their learning, **wanting** to learn, and being **enabled** to learn. As parents, we ask that you help us in achieving this by supporting your child at home.

This week, it has been lovely to see the number of children coming into school with a book bag and a book in their hands, and being able to talk about what they are reading. In order to support your child in being **ready** to learn, please ensure that your child comes into school every day with their reading book, their homework on the correct day, and the correct equipment for school. Please also ensure that they are wearing the correct, smart uniform and arrive at school on time. By starting each day in this way, there are shared high expectations from home and from school that ensure that children are ready to learn every morning.

Parent surgeries

We have received some really positive feedback about the parent surgeries that happened this Monday. As a reminder, Mrs. Abrahams and I have scheduled some times when parents are able to drop in to see us with any questions, issues or recommendations that you may wish to share with us. You do not need to make an appointment, but please be aware that there may be a little bit of a wait, as we see parents on an individual basis. The next dates are:

- Wednesday 20th October, at 9am
- Monday 22nd November, at 9am
- Monday 22nd November, at 2:30pm

Musical Mayhem Autumn Term!

We loved being back at St. Luke's this summer term, and we can't wait to continue classes from Friday 10th September. Classes are suitable for infants students who are currently in reception, year 1 and year 2. The 50 min class will take place Fridays at 15:30 with extremely limited availability to ensure Covid safety. In the Autumn Term, we have many events planned - Bermondsey Street Festival, Halloween Week, Charity Carol Service and Christmas Parties and working towards our theatre production in the Spring Term.

Musical Mayhem has been running for over 7 years and can't wait to continue classes at St Lukes. For more information head over to their website www.musicalmayhem.org or send Lyndsey an email at info@musicalmayhem.org



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ENTHUSIASM

Holiday Childcare October Scheme 2021

The Tower Hamlets Holiday Childcare Scheme is now open for bookings for the October 2021 Scheme for working parents' resident in the borough and vulnerable referrals. Non-working parents / carers can book from 5th October 2021. We will be having a slightly reduced capacity for this scheme as we continue to follow government guidance. For more details please click on the link [government guidance](#).

Scheme dates

Monday 25th – Friday 29th October 2021 (5 days)

Venue

St Mary and St Michael Primary School, Sutton Street, Stepney, E1 0BD

Please support and share this information with families who may benefit from our scheme. To refer a child please complete our [referral form](#) and support the family to book following the steps on our [booking system](#). Referral forms can be sent to holiday.childcare@towerhamlets.gov.uk at any point, bookings are accepted when open (see dates above.)

More information can be found on our website www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/hcs.

Have a lovely weekend.

With best wishes,

Cristina King
Head of School

ENTHUSIASM



In Oak Class we're learning about the Stone Age. We've been looking at cave paintings to find out information about how people might have lived in the past. We created a map of a new settlement using paint. We practised the skills of dabbing and focused on the accuracy of our brush strokes.