



## Newsletter

10th December 2020  
Volume 19, Issue 15

### Attendance

	W/B 12/12	W/B 06/01
Mango (Nur)	91%	91%
Peach (Rec B)	93%	93%
Apple (Rec N)	92%	91%
Beech (1L)	96%	96%
Maple (1S)	95%	95%
Birch (2B)	96%	95%
Ash (2C)	95%	95%
Oak (3B)	98%	98%
Lemon (3C)	96%	96%
Aspen (4G)	96%	96%
Spruce (4L)	97%	97%
Palm (5D)	95%	95%
Cherry (5S)	95%	95%
Willow (6G)	96%	97%
Cypress (6S)	94%	94%



### Collective Worship

**Year 2 Ash Class will be leading Mass on Monday 9.10**

**NUT FREE SCHOOL**



**THANK YOU**

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year to you all, and your families. I hope that the start of a new decade is a positive one for you. As always, if there is anything that we can help with, please don't hesitate to contact us.

I was excited to return to school this week. A considerable amount of work continued to be undertaken in the school last term, particularly by leaders in the school, responsible for developing the school's curriculum. I know some of you came to a workshop where we were able to share how the curriculum is being developed. During the course of this term, more information will be shared with you, to increase your understanding of what the children are being taught through the curriculum here at St. Luke's.

#### Update on Homework and class newsletters

As indicated in the last newsletter of the Autumn term, we asked for your feedback on the school and have taken on board feedback in relation to homework.

We will retain the same overall policy, which is detailed under the tab for parents on the school's website. This text will be familiar to you as it has been consistent for many years, and until a few changes were made to the way homework was communicated last term, feedback has always been positive.

I recognise however, having listened to you, that some of you value having homework set each week, because this reinforces our continuing high expectations and also enables you a regular insight into what the children are being taught in class each week. This homework is what is referred to as optional homework. We treat it as optional, not to undermine our expectations as a school, but instead to recognise the varying needs amongst yourselves. We recognise that some of you welcome the regular and additional homework, where as others of you already employ tutors, or take your children to tuition centers, or pack your weekends with other educational activities and so see homework from us as more of a hindrance or a burden.

To continue to recognise the varying needs amongst yourselves, whilst taking on board the feedback received, this is what we will do each half term.

We will continue to set 'core' homework and 'project' homework, starting on Monday 13 January. This will remain on one sheet and teachers will detail all of the spellings lists and mental maths facts (times tables/division facts/number bonds etc.) to be practiced, including differentiated spellings for target children. Your child's class newsletter, also to be sent to you on Monday 13 January, will specify the day of the week when the core learning will be assessed and then teachers will let you know how well your children have done in the tests each week and which words/facts they continue to struggle with if this is the case. Please note that occasionally the time in each week that this assessment takes place may need to change, because we have to be flexible in school, to respond to visitors, visits etc. however, teachers will endeavor to ensure that this assessment takes place weekly.

We will also make available additional homework each week for Maths and English. The English homework will have a grammar focus with the intention of this strengthening children's writing in school. This homework will be linked to the learning that has taken place in Maths and English the week before in your child's class enabling children to revise the skills and knowledge learnt. This homework is the optional homework.

If you would like your child to receive this extra homework, over and above the core and project homework, then please sign and return the slip on your child's class newsletter so their teacher will prepare the homework accordingly. The optional homework will be begin on Wednesday 15th January. Your child will have a homework folder to store their homework sheets in. Optional homework will be sent home on Wednesday each week, to be returned on a Monday. Any work completed will be acknowledged by the class team.

#### Parent Governor ballot

I am awaiting some further information from one of the nominees, so please note that this ballot will be launched next week and will run over a two week period.

#### Update on the swimming pool and grass area

Our plans around the swimming pool have been scuppered slightly. We had hoped to get swimming going again this week, however we are awaiting the delivery and installation of a specialist part that has been on order for some time and there has been a delay with. Please understand we are as eager to start swimming again as you are. Hopefully, this will be able to happen in the next few weeks.

The Tree House structure has received health and safety inspection sign off. Over the next few weeks, through the PE curriculum, Anna will be training the children to use it safely. Once the children have all had their introductory session, they will be able to use it at lunch and play times.

#### Lego Robotics Club

Our Monday and Thursday Lego Robotics Clubs are proving to be very popular at the moment and we would like to add another day. Irina, who leads Engineering Minds, would like to try and increase capacity in her team by recruiting more staff. On her behalf, the advert is attached to this newsletter. Please have a look and if you are interested, please get in touch with her directly.

#### Key dates coming up this half term

- **Friday 24 January: Early Years Open Classroom**—come and join in with the children's learning: from 1:30 – 2:30pm;
- **Thursday 30 January and Thursday 06 February: Parent teacher meetings for Nursery – Y6: 2 – 6pm** in the main school hall. Sign up will be up in the school's main Reception in the week before the first date.
- **Friday 7th February—Fuzz Dix will lead our Parents' Prayer** from 9.00-9.45am in Community House. This is an opportunity for parents to commit the prayers of children in the school to God and to also share prayers of their own, for the school, themselves and their families, and for their communities.

I realise this newsletter is packed each week and could do with some formatting to improve access on devices. This work is ongoing and we hope to improve this later in the term.

With best wishes, Rebecca Abrahams

## Class catch-up

<p><u><b>Nursery</b></u></p> <p>Nursery children have a made a great start to the term, returning full of enthusiasm and lovely stories from the holidays. This term we are learning all about Space. We will be learning about the planets, making spacecrafts and exploring our new spacestation'. Next week we begin Phonics! Our first sound is s, this weekend can you eye-spy any objects that start with s?</p>	<p><u><b>Reception</b></u></p> <p>The children have settled back in brilliantly this week. Next week in Reception we will be recapping our story 'Whatever Next' and engaging in some role play. In Maths we will identify the difference between 2D and 3D shapes. During phonics, we will be learning the new sounds 'ie' and 'ee' as well as practising sounding out and blending CVC words. We hope that you have a restful and enjoyable weekend!</p>	<p><u><b>Year 1</b></u></p> <p>Happy new year, we've all had a great first week of 2020 in Year One! It's a busy half term and next week in English we shall be continuing with our book 'A House That Once Was', using it to inspire our own stories. In Maths we will be adding, particularly looking at using number bonds to 20. Our Science work will involve us investigating objects to work out which materials they have been made from and thinking about why they were chosen. Please make sure you are logging in to Bug Club and that you and your child are exploring all of the great books available on there. Thanks, the Year 1 team.</p>	<p><u><b>Year 2</b></u></p> <p>Welcome back. We hope you had a restful break. We have started our new history topic, The Great Fire of London which will be our literacy focus as well for the next few weeks. We are going to write an explanation book answering lots of questions about the fire and the way it changed London. Next week, our specific focus is how the fire started. In maths, we will continue our division unit, making sure that we know that division is the inverse of multiplication. In science, we will continue to investigate materials and their absorbency. Ms. Chandler is grateful for the children's help in working out which material is best for mopping up her puppy's water spillages! In RE, we will be exploring how Muslims show their commitment to Allah through Shahada and Salat. Have a great weekend.</p>
<p><u><b>Year 3</b></u></p> <p>Welcome back we all hope you had a nice break Next week in Maths we will be continuing are work with multiplication and division with a focus on problem solving. In English we shall be focussing on our new story The Giving Tree. The children will be acting out the story and turning it into a play script. WE read the story this week and they were all very excited to perform and act out the story. Our science focus is forces, magnets so we shall be investigating forces and how they are used in everyday life. Our History this half term is about the Romans so next week we shall be looking at life in Roman Britain. Have a wonderful weekend from Year 3</p>	<p><u><b>Year 4</b></u></p> <p>Next week in Year 4 we have a busy week. In English, we will be learning how the Ancient Egyptians mummified bodies. We will then be writing our own instructions on how to embalm and mummify. In Maths we will be looking at multiplication, with a particular focus on written methods. In our topic lesson, we will be focusing on plotting different events from Ancient Egypt, on a timeline. and Finally, in science, we will start looking at States of Matter. Which looks to be a fun unit for us to explore. We all hope you have a brilliant weekend. Keep up the reading, spelling and times table practising.</p>	<p><u><b>Year 5</b></u></p> <p>Welcome back! Year 5 have returned back to school, re-energized and refreshed ready for this term! In English, we have started our new book - Street child. We have been analysing the characters of the book and discussing why authors use prefaces. Street child, also ties in with our History topic Victorians. In maths this week, we have looked at area of rectangles and squares and irregular shapes. Next week, we will be starting multiplication, multiplying 4 digit numbers using the column method. We are super excited in yr.5 to start our space and earth topic. Have a discussion with your child this weekend about the order of the planets and investigate why Pluto is no longer considered a planet! We hope you have a restful weekend.</p>	<p><u><b>Year 6</b></u></p> <p>In Year 6 next week we will using drama to develop character dialogue based on our new book 'The Wedding Ghost' by Leon Garfield. We will look at the equivalence between fractions and decimals in maths. While in RE we will consider the important ingredients of a message as part of our big RE Question, "How has the Christian message lasted over 2000 years?" As part of the wider curriculum we will be looking at rhythm and beat in music and the work of William Morris in art. We hope you and the children have a restful weekend after our first week back. Team Year 6.</p>

### Community House News

**Coffee Morning** on Mondays from 9.00am in the Community House, please come along and join us for a coffee and a chat.

**Keep Fit:** on Wednesdays 9.00am-10.00am in school. Crèche available on site.

**ESOL Life Skills Course:** on every Thursday, to develop your English Language Skills for work, further learning and everyday life. Assessments to take place on Thursday 10th and 17th October between 1.00pm-3.00pm in the Community House

**Employability Course:** Tuesdays 9:00am-11.30am. This course is in preparation to returning to work. Building skills and confidence. Assessments to take place on Tuesday 8th and 15th of October between 1.00pm- 3.00pm in the Community House.



ANNA FIORENTINI  
THEATRE & FILM SCHOOL

**Celebrate our 20th Anniversary  
and Join the Anna Fiorentini  
Theatre & Film School in 2020**

Classes for 4-18 yrs in Docklands, E14.

Join the award-winning school for  
classes in singing, acting and dance  
with industry professionals.

TO RESERVE YOUR TASTER DAY  
0207 682 1403  
hello@annafiorentini.com  
www.annafiorentini.com

Taster Days  
available on  
8th & 15th  
January  
2020

@afschoo  
@annafiorentini  
Anna Fiorentini School