



Newsletter

17th December 2020
Volume 19, Issue 16

Attendance

	W/B 06/01	W/B 13/01
Mango (Nur)	91%	91%
Peach (Rec B)	93%	93%
Apple (Rec N)	91%	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%	94%
Cherry (5S)	95%	95%
Willow (6G)	97%	96%
Cypress (6S)	94%	94%



Collective Worship

Year 2 Birch Class will be leading Mass on Monday 9.10

NUT FREE SCHOOL



THANK YOU

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.

Dear Parents and Carers,

I trust that you have all enjoyed a good week.

I think it is fair to say that it has been a challenging one here at St. Luke's.

School lunches

Some of you may be aware that we have had some issues with our catering contract since we returned from the Christmas break. Last term, some of you shared with me that there were some menu choices that the children were not altogether happy with. We arranged for you to meet with Principles' Managers, and that work is ongoing, to revamp the menu for next half term.

However, since the Christmas break, the Head Cook Mel has been off work unwell. This has in turn led to a number of issues regarding the production of the school lunches. We are indebted to Mike Gleeson and Sue Hudson, who have spent many a lunch time in the kitchen, helping out.

Yesterday, I had a long conversation with one of the company's directors. It seems that there has been an absence of management personnel for a number of months. Today, I am meeting the new Area manager responsible for our school, and I have been reassured that service will be greatly enhanced as of next week.

I am sorry that we have experienced these issues. I well appreciate how important it is to serve the children a meal that they can look forward to each day. That is the precise reason why we changed the provider of our catering a year ago. The purpose of this update today, is to seek to reassure you of that, and demonstrate that we are taking action to have this situation resolved as quickly as possible.

Mice

Some of you may also have noticed that there has been an odour in the main reception all week.

At St. Luke's we have a rigorous programme of Pest Control, because for maintaining hygiene standards in a building in London, this is essential. The issue for us arises, when the building is unoccupied for an extended period, as it was over the two week Christmas break. For the rest of the year, we remain open and so the problem is manageable.

I want to reassure you that Bob is working very closely with Pest Control. The interior of the building is not overrun with mice and we know this because there are no droppings. Freshly baited, the issue is in hand.

On a daily basis Bob works really hard to check all areas and remove any issues. The problem is, that he cannot get to all of the vents underneath the floor. He will also be in over the weekend to attend to this. I have no doubt that once we return next week, we can once again cease worrying about this.

Parent Governor Election

Onto more positive topics, I am pleased to be able to announce, that the ballot for our next Parent Governor, will open on Monday.

We have four nominees this time around and they are:

- Minu Batish, mum to daughters in Year 1 and in Year 4;
- Hylton Bellinger, father to daughters in Year 1 and in year 5;
- Benjamin Dalwood, father to sons in Year 1 and Year 3;
- Emma Morrison, mum to a daughter in our Nursery.

Each nominee has written a short piece for you to read, describing why they would like to represent you as a Parent Governor.

On Monday, the oldest child for each family in the school, and all other children, will bring home one sheet that will have each nominee on and a slip for you to vote with.

You have until Friday 31st January to cast your vote. Please bring your voting slip, with your vote, into the main Reception sometime before then, and deposit it in a box that will be provided.

For working parents, who are unable to visit the school, please scan your slip and return it electronically directly to me at: head@st-lukes.towerhamlets.sch.uk

On 31st January at 5pm, all votes cast will be counted and the outcome reported firstly to the nominee themselves and then to all of you in the newsletter the following week.

Any questions on this important decision for the school, please don't hesitate to ask.

Today we will shortly be welcoming visitors from our partner school, Reculver Primary School. I look forward to telling you all about it, next week. With best wishes for the weekend and week ahead, Rebecca Abrahams

Class catch-up

Nursery

In Nursery this week the children have really enjoyed starting their Phonics. Next weeks sound will be "a", please remember that sheets will be available to take home for the sound but they are not compulsory and do not need to be sent back to school they are just a bit of fun for at home! All the children are really engaged with our space topic and have been learning lots of fun facts. Next week we will be reading Q Pootle 5 and learning how to retell a story. Please ask your child about what they have learnt about space to encourage their curiosity about our topic.

Reception

Next week in Literacy we will be reading the book: Man on the Moon. We will also be writing simple sentences using our phonics to help us sound out words. In Phonics we have learned the following diagraphs so far: ai, oa, ie and ee. Next week we will be learning: or and z. In maths next week we will be learning to add using concrete objects. In RE we are learning about why Jesus is special to Christians. We are looking forward to seeing you next Friday at 1:30pm. Have a lovely weekend.

Year 1

Another busy and enjoyable week in Year 1. Next Tuesday we have our trip to Museum of London Docklands, please see the separate letter for all the details. Back at school; in English we will be reading The Three Little Pigs and in Maths we will be working on addition and subtraction with numbers up to 20. For our work in Computing we will be learning to word process on the new Chromebooks! Thanks for your continued support, Year 1

Year 2

Year Two have been working really hard this week. We'd like to take this opportunity to a highlight that we are studying time and shape this half term in maths and not fractions. The children have made a good start at reading quarter past and quarter to on analogue clocks. We have been writing about the Great Fire of London in Literacy using conjunctions and noun phrases to expand our sentences. Next week we will continue learning to tell the time to 5 minute intervals. In RE we will be looking more closely at the third and fourth pillars of Islam. In History we'll be continuing our research on the history of bread by tasting different loaves. In Science we'll continue our research into the properties of materials. Have a great weekend.

Year 3

Year 3 have begun reading information books in class about the Romans and we are glad to hear lots of excited discussion about their core project homework - please send these in as soon as they are complete so we can celebrate work and display it in the classrooms. Next week we begin reading a Roman myth, with lots of drama and retelling, as well as building a vocabulary bank to help write a diary entry in role. In Maths we explore division using partitioning, first without remainders and then progressing on to with remainders. A reminder that homework is due in on Monday, along with our first spelling and times table test of the year. Enjoy your weekend!

Year 4

What a fantastic week we have had! We all thoroughly enjoyed our trips to the Wallace Collection. Next week we will be continuing our journey with Osiris, by writing our own legend. In Maths we will be using partitioning to divide, and dividing three digit numbers by one digit number. In RE we will be continuing to study Hinduism. In Science we will be looking at states of matter, and the changes that different matters go through. Have a brilliant weekend!

Year 5

Year 5 are incensed at finding out the conditions of a Victorian Workhouse. We have been totally enraptured by our class text "Street Child" and can't wait to find out next week if 'Jim' escapes. By then we will be experts in detailing what life was like inside these institutions in order to write a report on the conditions of a workhouse. In maths we have been focusing on multiplication and by using these skills we will use the inverse operation of division next week. In History we're linking our English curriculum focus with the Victorians to further our knowledge of this industrious period. The RE focus remains on Sikhism and their belief in being equal and serving others. Enjoy your weekend.

Year 6

In Year 6 next week following an immersion activity we will be writing a suspense paragraph based on a journey through a haunted forest. In maths our focus will continue to be on percentages. In computing we will be making the use of our subscription to Office 365 and developing our own Excel spreadsheets. In RE will look at ascension and Pentecost and what that meant for the early spread of Christianity. We hope you have a great weekend, if you get chance to check out the free Winter Lights exhibition in Canary Wharf it would be a good opportunity for children to engage with our new science topic about light. Team Year 6.

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.

Employability Course: Tuesdays 9:00am-11.30am. This course is in preparation to returning to work. Building skills and confidence.



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Taster Days
available on
8th & 15th
January
2020

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