



Newsletter

6th December 2019
Volume 19, Issue 12

Attendance

Our target is 96%.

I am SO impressed by our classes with 97 and 98% with is excellent attendance!

	W/B	W/B
	25/11	06/12
Mango (Nur)	92%	91%
Peach (Rec B)	93%	93%
Apple (Rec N)	93%	93%
Beech (1L)	97%	96%
Maple (1S)	95%	95%
Birch (2B)	97%	96%
Ash (2C)	96%	96%
Oak (3B)	98%	98%
Lemon (3C)	96%	96%
Aspen (4G)	97%	97%
Spruce (4L)	97%	97%
Palm (5D)	95%	95%
Cherry (5S)	96%	96%
Willow (6G)	97%	97%
Cypress (6S)	96%	95%



Collective Worship on Monday 9th December will be led by Year 3B Oak Class who will be sharing: **Down Through the Roof - Jesus heals a paralysed man: Luke 5**

Dear Parents and Carers,

There is much to update you on this week, so I will get straight into the notices:

Firstly, I need to share with you that Ms. McLucas has made the decision to take time out from teaching and as such, after a period of absence, she will not be returning to the school. Ms. McLucas worked at our school for a number of years and during that time she enabled considerable progress for us in terms of both the teaching of French as well as Music. I know she worked closely with a number of you in regards to your child's music provision and that you greatly appreciated her support. We are thankful to Ms. McLucas for the positive impact she had on our school and we wish her well for the future. Ms. McLucas has asked me to share this note from her, to all of you:

'I have come to the decision to take a short time out of teaching and initially will continue to focus on spending time with family, friends and travelling a little whilst reflecting upon what my next role should be.

I have been deeply touched by my experience at St Luke's in many ways. I have been so rewarded to witness the development, enthusiasm, engagement and appreciation of the lovely children in French and Music. I have had a wonderful opportunity to work together with so many amazing, kind, supportive, appreciative, special colleagues and parents.

Apart from the daily inspiration of teaching and being with St Luke's children, highlights for me have been working in partnership with colleagues to establish a link with and take Year 5 children to visit a French village school, to secure European funding for a staff CPD French language and culture residential visit and seeing the maturity, confidence and talent of our children performing in school concerts and their progress under the dedicated guidance of music, dance and drama tutors who work with them too.

I am very grateful for the experience of being part of this community. Thank you so much. I wish you all the best.'

Winter Concert: Thank you to all of you who came to show your support for the children performing in the Winter concert on Thursday. I am sure you will all agree with me that the children did extremely well, showing so much courage in their individual and group performances. I hope you will also join me in thanking everyone of the adults involved in tutoring and preparing the children as well as helping them to perform on the day. In particular, I would like to thank Natalie Trew, who led on all of the prior administration and organization as well as the coordination of the event on the day. I have no doubt that you agree that she did an amazing job putting on a seamless event! I am so pleased that we have so many children learning instruments here and that they have regular opportunities to demonstrate the progress they are making in the development of their wonderful skills.

Musical Mayhem: Today the children in Years Reception to Year 2 all experienced a taster session with this company. They will be running an after school club at the school in the New Year. They came recommended to me by a parent of little girl in Year 2. Please ask your child what they thought, and watch this space for dates and prices in the New year.

THAMES Music: In recent weeks, a number of scheduled tutor music lessons have been cancelled at short notice. In response, the Head of Thames Music Service, who provide the lessons, has asked me to make sure that all parents are aware of the following: 'In line with all instrumental teaching provided by THAMES, when private pupils are not available for a scheduled lesson (due to a school journey, secondary school visit, doctor's appointment etc.) they will be charged for the lesson unless they have given the tutor at least seven days' notice. In the case of unavoidable late notice due to sickness, lessons may be re-scheduled at the tutor's discretion and will most likely be 'double-ups' on a day when the tutor is scheduled for other teaching in school.'

Air Quality: Mr. Griffiths as asked me to share the following with you: <https://www.airtext.info/> is a website that monitor the air pollution around parts of London. Particularly important for our asthmatic children.

Key dates coming up:

- Wednesday 11 December at 11am, **Nursery** will do their Christmas performance.
- Thursday 12 December: **School is closed** because it is a Polling Station for the General Election.
- Monday 16 December: Two performances of our **Nativity by Years 4—6**, in church. 9:30 am and then repeated at 5:00pm.
- Friday 13 December: Your children can wear their favorite **Christmas jumper** as we all seek to give generously in support of 'Save the Children UK' in line with our ambition as a school to take action to reduce the impact of poverty.
- Friday 13 December: When the children are all dressed in their Christmas Jumpers, they will also have their **Christmas lunch** in school!
- Wednesday 18 December 2019: **Nativity** performed by **Years 1—3**, starting at 2:30pm, in the main school hall.
- Friday 20 December: This is the **last day of term**, and as we do at the end of every term, we close at 2pm with no clubs, including energy Kidz, after school on that day. Early closing—2pm.

I will close by sharing an act that really touched me this week. I was lucky enough to have the opportunity to take Year 5 Cherry Class on their trip to the Museum of London this week. As we were walking from Bank Station to the museum, one of the boys in the class reached into his pocket and gave some money to a gentleman sitting on the pavement. He did not make a fuss, did not even discuss it before hand, just gave from his own purse, generously. It is moments like those that we see the school's vision and values in action. Have a great weekend, Rebecca Abrahams.

Changes to Social Housing: we've been sent this link to share, please follow the link if you would like to know more about the upcoming changes to social housing in Tower Hamlets.

https://www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/ignl/council_and_democracy/consultations/Social_housing_review.aspx

Class catch-up

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Nursery</u></p> <p>This week in nursery we have been practicing our songs ready to share them with you next week. We are now in full Christmas mode with lots of fun activities planned from counting and making trees to using lots of glitter in making play dough. Please see songs listed outside nursery door with times on for our singing.</p> <p>Have a great weekend</p> <p>The nursery team</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Reception</u></p> <p>Next week is our big day...Nativity!! We are so excited to perform for all of you next Tuesday at 2:30pm. The children have worked so hard and can't wait for the show! In literacy we will be writing Christmas cards and letters to Santa. We will continue with blending in phonics. In maths we will continue to work on recognising numbers up to 20. Remember school is closed on Thursday due to polling day. Have a great weekend.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Year 1</u></p> <p>Next week in year 1 we will be looking at place value in maths. We will be consolidating counting to twenty, forwards and backwards, beginning with 0 or 1, from any given number. We will also be counting, reading and writing numbers to 20 in numerals and words. In English we will be finishing our information books about the UK and publishing them. We are learning lots of facts about the United Kingdom! In RE we are learning about the character of King Herod in the Nativity story, we will be getting ready to do printing in art by designing our block that we will use to print and making winter pictures in science. We also continue to practise our songs to get ready for the Nativity! Have a lovely weekend.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Year 2</u></p> <p>This week has been busy and exciting in Year 2. One of the highlights was our Music Mayhem session on Friday, we had lots of musically focused fun! Next week, we will be writing our own version of Into the Forest, changing the fairytale characters that the boy meets on his journey. In maths, we will continue to develop our understanding of multiplication. In science, we will perform simple tests related to saving water. We will also be practising our songs for the upcoming Nativity production!</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Year 3</u></p> <p>We have been working on our poetry about our visit last week. This week we will continue to do this focussing on super sentences using verbs, adverb and adjectives.</p> <p>We shall be looking closely at our local area in particular the history and how its changed over time. In Maths we shall be using our skills to solve timetables problems including multiplying and dividing. Have a lovely weekend!</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Year 4</u></p> <p>We have had a fantastic week this week in Year 4, which ended with a brilliant trip to the museum of London. Next week in Maths, we will be looking at our Times Tables, and finding fact families within the times tables. In English will continue to look at Play scripts, and eventually build up to us writing our own play script, that we will then perform to the class. In R.E we will continue to look at the idea of Peace and what this means to Christians around the world. Have a fantastic weekend, and don't forget to keep up the reading.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Year 5</u></p> <p>It has been a week of linguistic creativity in year 5! In English we are exploring play scripts and creating our own dramatic monologues which will be performed in class next week. We had a thrilling trip to the Museum of London discovering the historic beasts of London and listening to their monologues. In maths, the children have been analysing numbers, exploring why cube numbers are called cube. We will continue with multiplication and division next week. In R.E children have been investigating Christmas cards and carols, to ascertain how art and music convey Christmas. In science, we continue to experiment with forces and understand how they can have practical and impractical effects.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Year 6</u></p> <p>Year 6 will be continuing to work on position and direction and geometry next week. We will complete our 'Explorer' themed adventure stories in English and we are looking forward to the 'Fantastic Beasts' exhibition on Tuesday. In science we have been focusing on living things and we will be assessing our knowledge about a range of different organisms next week. In computing we will continue to work on webtech tutor to build our knowledge about HTML and it would be great if children could continue to develop their coding knowledge at home. Have a great weekend! 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.

Isle of Dogs Children's Choir

The Isle of Dogs Children's Choir has been going strong for almost a year. It will move from St Edmund's primary school to Seven Mills primary school in January 2020. They are planning to move the choir to a different Isle of Dogs school each year. This is to make the choir more accessible to more children in Tower Hamlets. The choir will continue to take place on most Wednesdays during term time, 4.00-5.00pm. It is completely free of charge. Some children from our school have really enjoyed it. If you think your child would be interested, please see the application form circulated with this newsletter.