



## Newsletter

13th March 2020  
Volume 19, Issue 23

### Attendance

|               | W/B<br>02/03 | W/B<br>09/03 |
|---------------|--------------|--------------|
| Mango (Nur)   | 87%          | 91%          |
| Peach (Rec B) | 95%          | 93%          |
| Apple (Rec N) | 89%          | 91%          |
| Beech (1L)    | 97%          | 96%          |
| Maple (1S)    | 95%          | 95%          |
| Birch (2B)    | 91%          | 95%          |
| Ash (2C)      | 94%          | 95%          |
| Oak (3B)      | 89%          | 97%          |
| Lemon (3C)    | 89%          | 96%          |
| Aspen (4G)    | 93%          | 96%          |
| Spruce (4L)   | 96%          | 97%          |
| Palm (5D)     | 87%          | 94%          |
| Cherry (5S)   | 93%          | 95%          |
| Willow (6G)   | 96%          | 96%          |
| Cypress (6S)  | 952%         | 94%          |



### Mass

Led by Cherry Class  
Monday at 9.10am  
All Welcome

NUT FREE SCHOOL



THANK YOU

#### Key dates coming up:

- Thursday 26 March will be our **Spring Concert** from 2:30pm.
- Friday 03 April, there will be a further **Early Years Open Classroom**. Contrary to what is published in the School Calendar, this will start at 1:15 and finish at 2:00pm.
- The last day of the Spring term is Friday 03 April when we will close at **2pm** and there will be **no after school clubs**.
- We are closed for **Polling** on Thursday 7th May 2020 (*which we have taken as a statutory INSET day, so whether or not the elections go ahead, we will still be closed if not already*) and a Bank holiday on Friday 8th May 2020.

Dear Parents and Carers,

#### Coronavirus Update

I am writing to keep you updated regarding the school's response to Coronavirus. We receive regular information from Tower Hamlets, the London Diocesan Board for Schools, Public Health England and the DFE and act upon these as appropriate. We will keep you informed of any new advice through email and on the website as information comes in.

As you may have heard on the news there are currently no plans to close schools or cancel any large events and gatherings. We are therefore continuing to focus on ensuring good habits of hygiene to minimise the spread of any infection.

This mainly entails:

- Making sure there is plenty of hand sanitizer and soap to enable effective, regular handwashing and teaching children the 20 second rule;
- Making sure there is a plentiful supply of tissues so that children and adults can use tissues for sneezing or blowing noses and then disposing of these in a bin;
- Additional cleaning of surfaces that are touched frequently such as door handles, stair rails and tables;
- Implementing a revised approach to risk assessment, where trips outside of school are concerned, so that additional safety measures are taken to seek to protect the children and accompanying adults in the event that use of public transport is required.

As you most likely know, the guidance changed yesterday and the current most up to date advice is to keep your child at home (for 7 days) if they present with the symptoms associated with coronavirus which are a very high temperature and/or a persistent, dry cough.

We have been looking to the future and drawing up contingency plans. The information to date indicates that children are most likely to experience mild symptoms if they contract the virus. However, it could be that if the virus spreads, the school could experience significant staff shortages, either due to illness or the need for individuals to self-isolate. We will endeavor to keep the school open in the event of multiple staff absences, but please be aware that this may involve introducing precautionary measures such as cancelling clubs or trips, requiring children to bring a packed lunch (if we have a shortage of staff in the kitchen) and avoiding large gatherings such as whole school assemblies etc. We will plan for these if issues arise and update you as soon as we are able to.

Clearly, we hope the above will not be needed, however we feel it is important to inform you of actions which may need to be taken.

We are also refining our Business Continuity planning for what would happen if all schools had to close. This will be communicated with you if that eventuality occurs. Please note the school will only close if directed to do so by Public Health England and we will notify you if this happens.

What parents should do:

- If your child suffers from a respiratory disease (e.g. asthma), ensure the school is provided with up to date medication;
- Reinforce that children should regularly wash their hands using the 20 second rule, (singing Happy Birthday twice!)
- Keep children off from school if they are unwell until they have fully recovered and communicate the accurate reason for the absence to the school office—i.e. if they are in fact unwell with other symptoms like sickness, for our tracking of attendance, we need to be able to distinguish the actual impact of this particular Coronavirus. Please do not keep children off of school, if they are not unwell, but out of concern.
- Inform the school immediately if you, or your child, has had to contact NHS 111 and if anyone in your family is self-isolating;
- If you have recently travelled, please check the website below for information.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-specified>

**It is more important than ever that we are able to communicate with parents quickly and efficiently. The main way in which we will be doing this is through email. It is therefore essential that we have the most up to date information for you so please inform us if you have recently changed your phone number or email.**

I will write to you again if there are any significant changes to the above.

#### Communication with staff

These are uncertain times which all of us may experience as an increase in stress. Please can we be mindful that we are all feeling in this way, and concern for one another's well being couldn't be more important. We have had some experiences in the last few weeks where parents have had concerns and have wanted to discuss concerns there and then, at morning drop off for example. Please understand that it would be better for all concerned, and in keeping with the school's values, to arrange a time to speak about things away from the children and when staff are not trying to get the day off to a positive start for the children's learning. Our children after all are also sensing the anxiety present in the community at the moment, and more than ever we want to provide them with a safe place for learning that may serve to alleviate some of their worries. Our staff also deserve to be able to respond to issues professionally, with thinking time and therefore in an informed manner.

Thank you for your consideration, With best wishes, Rebecca Abrahams

## Class catch-up

| <u>Nursery</u>  | <u>Reception</u>   | <u>Year 1</u>   | <u>Year 2</u>  |
|---|--|---|--|
| <p>This week in nursery we have really enjoying our book of the week Naughty Bus and have been practicing our "e" sound. Next week we will moving on to "h" sound and our book of the week will be My Digger is Bigger. In maths will be making shape transport pictures and making special cards for mothers day in art. lastly as we go into my last week with your children I would like to thank you for all your support, kind words and understanding, I know your children will continue to make great progress with the amazing team of staff I leave behind. Thank you Sue</p>                 | <p>Next week in Literacy we will be reading the story: Truck in the Duck and we will be learning about rhyming word eg. cat,mat and truck, duck. In maths we will be looking at the concept of sharing eg. share 10 cookies between 2 bears. In Phonics we will be learning these sounds: ue and er. In RE we will be learning why the cross is special to Christians. In our circle times we will continue to learn about being and staying healthy. Thank you for supporting sports relief and have a lovely weekend.</p>            | <p>Next week we are learning about measuring capacity. We will be measuring in ml and comparing the sizes of different containers. In English we will be making beegu puppets and then writing instructions on how to make them. We will be continuing with our topic learning about our local area we will be using google maps to see how far we are from different local landmarks. We hope you have a lovely weekend!</p>   | <p>In Year Two this week we've been working very hard in all our lessons and were so happy to be back swimming! Next week we will continue to work on Fractions in Maths and write our own versions of The Sea Monster in Literacy. In RE we will continue to investigate our big question How do Easter symbols help us understand the meaning of Easter for Christians? In Geography we'll be investigating the location of hot and cold areas of the world. We'll continue to investigate seed growth by planting cress in Science. In Art, we're painting in the style of Van Gogh. We hope you all have a lovely weekend.</p> |
| <u>Year 3</u>   | <u>Year 4</u>  | <u>Year 5</u>   | <u>Year 6</u>  |
| <p>What an exciting end to the week with our Sports clothes and football tournament - thank you everyone for cheering on and taking part! Over the weekend, don't forget to research information about the pet you have chosen and to find out some interesting facts to bring to class ready for our English work involving instructions and other types of sentences, including questions. In maths we will be calculating the perimeter, using our knowledge of converting between mm, cm and m. In Re we will begin to look at the Easter story and the roles of the different people involved.</p> | <p>We have had a fantastic week in year 4 this week. We have enjoyed dressing in our sports clothes and taking part in fun sports activities. Next week in Geography, we will be looking at rivers from around the world, and the impact they have on the planet. In RE, we will continue to look at the links between the last supper and how Christians worship today. In English, we will be moving on to descriptive writing. And in Maths, we will be looking at decimals, specifically hundredths. Have a brilliant weekend.</p> | <p>What a week! Year 5 have been busy: cycling, learning, fundraising and pitching their business ideas. Next week, we will develop this further to urge the creative writers in the children to craft wonderful descriptive texts. In maths, the children have fathomed fractions- much to our delight! The children are confident and able to multiply unit and non-unit fractions by integers and can solve these by improper fractions and mixed numbers (or vice-versa) confidently. Next week we will be exploring decimals and percentages. We look forward to seeing all of our yr.5 parents, next Thursday (19/03/2020) for the children's Dragons' den pitch from 9:30- 11:30am. The next business tycoon, is indeed in year 5!</p> | <p>The focus on maths next week is on ratio and scale factor having looked at perimeter, area and volume in recent weeks. In English we have been writing a character back story for our Camp Green Lake characters and will continue to use our class book 'Holes' as a literacy focus. We have began our topic unit on fair trade and sustainable development and will be looking at how the UK trades with El Salvador in our next geography lesson. Our RE focus remains on Easter and the big question, "What does the festival of Easter mean to Christians?" We hope you 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.

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

### The Strings Club

Dear Parent/Carer, We're really excited to be bringing an assembly to St Luke's Tower Hamlets in May to inspire children with our music workshops. In the meantime, why not join us at one of our Holiday Camps this Easter? Rated 5\* by parents on Netmums, our Ofsted registered, multi award-winning Holiday Camps bring together the very best of music and childcare to engage and inspire your child every school holiday. Each day is wonderfully different and includes a range of exciting workshops alongside high quality small group classes. There's free hire of an instrument too! Childcare Vouchers accepted too.

Claim a FREE day of childcare on us! We have an exclusive "Bring a Friend Offer" - created especially for those new to us at The Strings Club.

For more info please note attached flyer along with newsletter.