



Newsletter

04th October 2019
Volume 19, Issue 04

Attendance

Our target is 96%.

Attendance this week has been much better. Everyday counts. Please keep this up!

Please note W/B W/B
difference 23/09 30/09

Mango (Nur)	96 %	96%
Peach (Rec B)	96%	96%
Apple (Rec N)	95%	94%
Beech (1L)	96%	97%
Maple (1S)	92%	94%
Birch (2B)	97%	97%
Ash (2C)	94%	95%
Oak (3B)	98%	98%
Lemon (3C)	96%	96%
Aspen (4D)	98%	98%
Spruce (4L)	92%	93%
Palm (5D)	90%	91%
Cherry (5S)	95%	95%
Willow (6G)	97%	98%
Cypress (6S)	95%	95%



Mass
All Welcome
Monday
9.15am

Dear Parents and Carers,

Investment in ICT

I promised last week to share with you all, the tremendous investment we have made as a school over the summer, to update the hardware which supports the efficient and effective delivery of both the computing curriculum and all other subjects.

In addition to the new, improved sound system in the hall for our performances and presentations which we shared with you last term, we have spent circa £100k on the following:

- New desktop computers for each classroom and the library;
- 15 I pads for each year group to share, meaning that with one between two, a whole class in each year group can be using them at anyone time, with access to many educational apps;
- 30 Chromebooks which will be based in our new 'Computing Suite', where teachers can deliver Computing lessons, with an additional -
- 30 Chromebooks that are 'mobile', in trolleys, so they can be taken to classes anywhere in the building as required.

Ms. Nagahawatte has been working hard to develop the Computing curriculum with teachers, so that children will be learning new knowledge and skills, including working on Office 365 and GSuite platforms, coding, animating, filming and game-making, as well as continually revisiting online safety. Ms. Nagahawatte promises to share some of the children's work, as we go through the year, through the school's website.

This considerable investment is in addition to the up grade to WiFi undertaken last year. We have also purchased the first new interactive whiteboards for classrooms, which is part of a plan to upgrade every classroom over the next few years.

We feel really proud knowing that we have managed to secure the hardware that enables a modern curriculum to be delivered, that all of your children will already be benefiting from. In this rapidly developing field, one is always running to keep up, but this puts us in a much stronger position than we have ever been in before and one that we will continue to build upon, year on year.

Here are some year 5s enjoying their new kit!



Playground update: I am pleased to announce that the second phase of works being paid for by the school are due to start on Monday. This is the resurfacing of the front playground to make it fit for teaching sports like tennis, netball and basket ball, thus improving further, the provision for PE as well as lunch times.

Letters have been sent home with all of the Year 1 and 2 children today detailing changes to the way they arrive at and leave from school for the duration of these works. These letters are also attached to this newsletter.

To facilitate these temporary arrangements we would like to request that people avoid using the main reception as a waiting area at the end of the day, just for that critical time between 3:30 and 3:45pm. We apologise for any inconvenience caused and hope the end product will be worth it. Any questions, please write to me on: head@st-lukes.towerhamlets.sch.uk

The works to the 'green area' that the PTA are financing are progressing well. The tree house structure is really taking shape with the rope bridge now installed. I am often in school over the weekend and see the builders hard at work to create this triumph! The next phase will be the landscaping around it to include a maze by specific request of the children, as well as other areas to inspire creative and expressive play as well as more growing.

It will be such an achievement once every part of the site as been upgraded, made fit for purpose and accessible all year round. Not much longer to wait now....

PTA update: Thank you for supporting the fruit and bake sale last week, we raised £245.50 towards the playground redevelopment, the next bake sale is on 18th October.

The Multi-Cultural Afternoon is next Thursday 10th October, after school from 15:45 – 17:00. Entrance will be via the back playground and not through the main reception. We rely on your food donations to make this event a success – be that a national dish, family favourite or shop bought goods. Don't forget to sign up in Reception if you'd like to perform at the event, and please return your flag designs by Tuesday 8th October to be in with a chance of winning one of three £10 Amazon vouchers.

Thank you to all of you who attended the Parent Teacher Consultations. If you have not managed to have an appointment, please contact Pat or Absana in the office so that one can be arranged for you.

With thanks and best wishes, Rebecca Abrahams

Class catch-up

<u>Nursery</u>	<u>Reception</u>	<u>Year 1</u>	<u>Year 2</u>
<p>Next week in Nursery we will be continuing to talk about ourselves and share our special cuddle toys. In the creative area we will be exploring colours using lots of different materials, in the construction area we will be encouraging the children to use words to describe the size such as big, small, tall, short and for outside we will be exploring didn't textures of leaves, conkers and sticks.</p>	<p>Next week in Reception we will be reading the story 'Funnybones' and discussing the different ways we spend time with our families. We will also be role playing the story. In Maths, we will continue to look at 2D shapes and we will be introducing size ordering. In phonics, we will be learning the sounds 'c', 'k' and 'e'. In RE, we will be discussing what makes us unique! We have been collecting a lot of lost property without a name so please could you ensure all clothing items are labelled. Finally, please avoid jewellery, toys and sunglasses in school. Have a good weekend!</p>	<p>Next week in maths we will finish our unit on place value. We will be placing numbers on a blank number line to see if we can put them in the correct place. We will then move on to looking at addition. We will start by using a part whole model. In English we are continuing with our story 'Lost in the Toy Museum'. Some of our own toys will be going missing from the classroom and we are going to have to find them! We will also create a model of our own main character, getting ready to write a story next week. In science we will be exploring our senses and in topic we will start to make an information book about old and new toys. We hope you have a lovely weekend.</p>	<p>We've had a great week in Year 2. One of our highlights was a special visit from Ms. Erler and her baby Skye to answer our questions about caring for a baby, linked to our Science topic. Next week in English, we will be exploring vocabulary and writing setting descriptions of a scene from our book, Traction Man Is Here. In Maths, we are moving on from place value to addition and subtraction so remember to practise your number facts to 10! In Science, we are learning about healthy hearts and why exercise is good for us. In History, we will be writing in role as Florence Nightingale to Sidney Herbert to request money for improvements of Scutari Hospital during the Crimean War. We will also continue making our finger puppets of animals! Lots coming up! Have a wonderful weekend.</p>
<u>Year 3</u>	<u>Year 4</u>	<u>Year 5</u>	<u>Year 6</u>
<p>Year 3 have had lots of fun using natural sticks and paint to create prehistoric cave paintings. In literacy, we have begun planning our own endings to the traditional story of Hansel and Gretel. Over the weekend children can think up some exciting sentence openers to use in their writing. In maths, we will be moving on to addition and subtraction and applying our skills of reasoning and problem solving. We are very proud of Year 3 for the improvement they have already made in their music lessons!</p>	<p>We have had a fun week in year 4 this week. Both classes had brilliant attendance, which is always nice to see. Looking forward to next week, in English we will be having a big focus on grammar. This is in build up to our big final project. In maths, we will be concentrating on negative numbers. In topic, we will be looking at the life of a Viking. We will also be researching different Viking food, especially Viking bread. This is in preparation for final part of our topic, which is... baking Viking bread. Have a restful weekend.</p>	<p>This week, year 5 have identified strategies to develop suspenseful writing and created their own suspenseful tales. In maths, we have grasped place value and number ordering up to 1 million. Next week in English we will continue to look at suspense as we draw to the end of our Macbeth book. In maths we will start to apply previous learning and look at addition and subtraction. Year 5 will embark upon an adventure of a lifetime as our residential trip to Gorsefield approaches. Children will be learning key skills and independence throughout the week. We may even discover the next Bear Grills in year 5, as action and adventure awaits.</p>	<p>Next week in Year 6 we will be looking at the story of Rose Blanche and touching on the horrors of the holocaust which will link with our big question, 'What can we learn from conflict?'. We will be looking at character descriptions and how we can refer to thoughts and emotions. In maths our focus will be on long division and factors ensuring that we make use of a formal written method to show workings. 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 Thursdays 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.



Flu Nasal Spray

A reminder that all flu nasal spray forms must be returned to school by 11th October, whether it's a consent or refusal. The Immunisation will be in on Wednesday 30th October to carry out the procedure.