



Newsletter

20th December 2019

Attendance

	W/B 09/12	W/B 16/12
Mango (Nur)	91%	91%
Peach (Rec B)	93%	93%
Apple (Rec N)	93%	92%
Beech (1L)	96%	96%
Maple (1S)	95%	95%
Birch (2B)	96%	96%
Ash (2C)	96%	95%
Oak (3B)	98%	98%
Lemon (3C)	96%	96%
Aspen (4G)	97%	96%
Spruce (4L)	97%	97%
Palm (5D)	95%	95%
Cherry (5S)	95%	95%
Willow (6G)	97%	96%
Cypress (6S)	95%	94%



Collective Worship
Monday 6th January, Mass
for Epiphany



Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you to everyone who came to support both the Years 4—6 Nativity and then the Years 1—3 Nativity this week. We hope you enjoyed them as much as the children enjoyed doing them. Our value this week has been enthusiasm and there has been no shortage of that evident in the school this week! My thanks go to all of the staff, who work so hard with the children to enable them to deliver such strong performances.

Furthermore, thank you to everyone who supported the Christmas Fayre this week also. Members of the PTA, with your support, worked so hard again, and certainly the buzz in the air suggested another enjoyable social occasion was experienced by our school community.

Parent Survey

Thank you to everyone who took the time to respond to our survey in the last few weeks. I would like to clarify that the survey we adopted for this purpose is the one used by Ofsted to survey parental opinion when they visit schools. Because Ofsted use it and it is a well tested model, countless schools around the country adopt it annually.

In total we received 94 responses. On the whole, the responses were positive. I am pleased, that 96% of children are happy in school, although I worry about the remaining 4%.

On that note, it is worth sharing that the results are anonymous. This means, where you have given feedback pertinent to your own experience, we cannot identify you, so please do not think that a lack of follow up by us indicates a lack of care on our side. I hope to lead the school in such a way that you feel able to bring things to my attention, so if we have not had a face to face discussion about any thing mentioned, please do email me so that we can arrange a time in the New Year on; head@st-lukes.towerhamlets.sch.uk

Analysing the responses, I was struggling to marry that 93% of responders felt their child was doing well at school, but only 80% felt our expectations are high enough. Having read the comments carefully, I sense that the change to the way homework has been shared this term, has left some of you feeling like our expectations of children have lessened or that you are less sure of what they are learning in the classroom each week.

We will reflect over the holidays and report back to you in the New Year on this. Please anticipate class newsletters to go out by Monday 13th January and homework to start then too to provide time for thoughtful discussions to take place and any resulting changes to be reflected in our communication with you.

Here follows a summary of your responses; where the percentage given is the percentage of positive responses to the question.

1	My child is happy in school	96%
2	My child feels safe at this school	93%
3	The school makes sure pupils behave well	90%
4	My child has been bullied and the school dealt with the bullying quickly and effectively	90%
5	The school makes me aware of what my child will learn during the year	87%
6	When I have raised concerns with the school, they have been dealt with properly	86%
7	The school has high expectations for my child	80%
8	My child does well at school	93%
9	The school lets me know how my child is doing	83%
10	There is a good range of subjects available to my child at the school	90%
11	My child can take part on clubs and activities at the school	94%
12	The school supports my child's wider personal development	88%
13	I would recommend this school to another parent	92%

Primary Performance Tables

The DfE published their performance tables last week. I share this, just to reassure any of you who maybe questioning our expectations because they remain high and the school's performance improves annually. Following this link you will see that we are now in the top 20% schools in this high performing borough. <https://www.compare-school-performance.service.gov.uk/schools-by-type?step=default&table=schools®ion=211&geographic=la&for=primary>

Christmas Jumper Day

Thank you to everyone that took part in our Christmas Jumper as part of the Save The Children Charity last week, we managed to raise £320.60 for this deserving charity.

Musical Mayhem: I wanted to confirm that Musical mayhem will be running a club for children from Reception to Year 2, on Fridays, starting from Friday 10th January. More details will follow in the first week back in January.

Singing club: Wanting to join singing club? Singing club is for years 3/4/5&6 on a Tuesday lunch time. Years 3/4/5 at 1-1:30pm year 6 at 1:30-2. If your child is interested in joining please head to reception and sign up in the new year. It costs £1 per week so the first half term will be £5. We look forward to some new member. PS. if you have already joined and want to continue please make sure your confirm your place, if you don't your slot may be given away.

Hope you all have a lovely Christmas and New Year.

See you all in 2020, when all staff and children return for a normal day on Monday 6th January.

Best wishes, Rebecca Abrahams

Class catch-up

<u>Nursery</u>	<u>Reception</u>	<u>Year 1</u>	<u>Year 2</u>
<p>We have had a very festive end to our topic with lots of fun and treats. We would like to thank all of you for your kind words and gifts that you have sent in, we are very appreciative. Next term we will be zooming off into space with our new topic.</p> <p>Enjoy your family time making wonderful memories</p> <p>We wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy new Year.</p> <p>Sue, Gina, Lisa, Harvey & Sam</p>	<p>What an exciting term this has been! The children have done so well this term and we are so proud of all their achievements. Next term we will be learning about Space. Due to the change in our timetable, our gates will be closing promptly at 9:05 am to ensure our first carpet session starts on time. The gates will continue to open at 8:45 and we would encourage you to please ensure that your child is in time so that they don't miss out on any of the learning time. Thank you for your continued support. We wish you a merry Christmas and prosperous new year! See you in 2020. Best wishes from the Reception Team.</p>	<p>What a term we have had in year one! We have finished off our learning on the weather and seasons this week and are looking forward to a rest over the Christmas break. Thank you for all of your support with the Nativity, we hope you enjoyed the performance. When we get back in January our big question will be 'What does it mean when things change?'. In history we will be learning how homes have changed over time, especially in London. In science our new topic is materials, and in RE we will be focusing on Islam. In PE we will be learning to put together a dance sequence. In maths we will finish off our unit on place value and recap shape, and in English our first story will be 'The House that Once Was' by Julie Fogliano & Lane Smith. We hope you have a lovely restful holiday.</p>	<p>We would like to say a huge well done to all of the children in Year 2 for their hard work so far this year. We know that our expectations are high and they've shown great enthusiasm and resilience, demonstrating our school values brilliantly. The courage shown during the Nativity production is a fantastic example of our values and I'm sure you'll agree they did a wonderful job. Next term, our topic will be The Great Fire of London and we will be writing some non-fiction pieces in our literacy lessons. In maths, we will be moving on to division. Our new RE topic will be exploring Islam and in science, we will be learning about materials. Lots to look forward to! Have a wonderful rest over the Christmas period - with a daily dose of reading!</p>
<u>Year 3</u>	<u>Year 4</u>	<u>Year 5</u>	<u>Year 6</u>
<p>Well done Year 3 for making it to the end of the Christmas term and thank you for wowing us with your beautiful singing voices, poetry and artwork this week! Over the Christmas holidays, please continue reading as much as you can and using the online websites to practice your maths knowledge for adding and subtracting (using the column method to carrying over / borrow), as well as multiplication and division facts for your times tables. In January we will introduce 'pen licenses' for those with fantastic joined handwriting - so keep up your practice during the holidays. We wish you a wonderful Christmas break with your family and friends! See you in 2020!</p>	<p>We have had a lovely last week of term in year 4. We got to finish off the term, by writing our very own play scripts. When we return after the Christmas break, we will be focusing on Ancient Egypt. We will be learning all about the female Pharaohs of ancient Egypt in Topic, and in English we will be looking at Legends such as Osiris. Thank you all for your hard work this term, we have all had an amazing term teaching and learning. Have a restful break, and we all look forward to seeing you all in the new year. Merry Christmas and a happy new year to all the Year 4 families!</p>	<p>The last week of term has been super busy! In English the children have written play scripts embellished with dramatic expressions. Some children performed their play scripts in front of their peers, in highly convincing roles. In Maths, the children have been learning about perimeter. In preparation for Christmas, why not get your child to measure the perimeter of your dining table, to see if there is enough space to fit everyone for Christmas dinner! In the Spring term, we will be looking at area in maths. Our overall theme in year 5 will be exploring the Victorians. The year 5 team, warmly wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!</p>	<p>WOW! What a fantastic term it has been. Well done to all the children for their hard work. When we return in January, our new class book will be The Wedding Ghost. Our new and exciting topics will be shared with you in more detail in our class newsletter. For the meantime, we hope everyone has a restful and well deserved Christmas break. See you in the New Year! :)</p>

Community House News

All courses resume first week back

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.

