



Newsletter

29th November 2019
Volume 19, Issue 11

Attendance

Our target is 96%.

Despite the bugs going round, you are doing really well. Keep up the high attendance everyone!!!

	W/B	W/B
	18/11	25/11
Mango (Nur)	94%	92%
Peach (Rec B)	94%	93%
Apple (Rec N)	94%	93%
Beech (1L)	97%	97%
Maple (1S)	95%	95%
Birch (2B)	98%	97%
Ash (2C)	96%	96%
Oak (3B)	98%	98%
Lemon (3C)	96%	96%
Aspen (4G)	97%	97%
Spruce (4L)	97%	97%
Palm (5D)	94%	95%
Cherry (5S)	96%	96%
Willow (6G)	97%	97%
Cypress (6S)	96%	96%



On Monday 2nd December we will have a Mass in school to recognise the start of Advent. Parents are welcome to join us.

Dear Parents and Carers,

It continues to be a busy time at St. Luke's. Many classes have been out on trips this week including all of Year 2 on the Thames Clipper and Both Year 3 classes to see the 'Fantastic Beasts of London'. A big thank you to all parents who have given their time so generously to enable the classes to go on and enjoy these trips.

Reading

Last week, 4 headteachers from each of: Sir John Cass Primary, St. Paul's Whitechapel, Blue Gate Infants and Elizabeth Selby undertook a school wide review of our provision for reading. Their detailed report summarised with the following:

'A number of provisions have been put in place to positively impact the students views and attitudes to reading at St. Luke's. Reading attainment and progress have improved and data shows that the longer children stay in the school, the better they do at reading. This is clear when comparing attainment and progress of children with high mobility at the school.

The review team noted that staff share Rebecca's vision and have worked incredibly hard to put several interventions in that are cohesive, impactful and fully understood by everyone that works in the St. Luke's community. There is no doubt that children have a love for reading. All of the children interviewed were proud to share their enjoyment of the subject and children were happy to be in their classrooms learning and developing their skills in reading.'

Never complacent, we are pleased with the feedback received, but there are still things we continue to develop. We recognise that Accelerated Reader across KS2 needs careful monitoring to ensure children are reading the most appropriate texts to move them on in their learning. Also linked to home reading, we are getting ready to launch Bug Club for Early Years and KS1 which we hope will improve the home school reading experience.

As on all matters, your feedback is welcome, and helps shape the provision we offer.

Parent Survey

It is a while since we had a general survey and so please anticipate receiving an email in the next few days asking you some general questions about the school. We are aware of the varied responses to homework currently and we are continuing to listen to your feedback to make refinements going forward. Also, some of you have been in touch with me regarding the menu choices and portion sizes for lunches and in response to that I have arranged for you to meet the caterers first and then for a group of children to also meet the caterers, so views can be taken into account for the next menu.

Please make sure that you feedback to us on any further points that you would like us to consider as we seek to continually keep our school under review, to mean that it serves you and your children really well.

Parent Governor Election

We have received more than 1 nomination for the position on the school's Governing Board. As such I will liaise with the candidates over the next week or so and then we will arrange an election before the end of term.

Update from the PTA

The PTA is progressing its application to get formal Charity Status. In order to do this in the most efficient and quickest way, the PTA has joined Parent Kind, a membership association for parent teacher associations in England & Wales, and proposes to formally adopt the Parent Kind model constitution and policies. In order to formalise this, the PTA will be holding an Extraordinary General Meeting on Wednesday 8th January 2020 at 6pm in the Community House. There are copies of the proposed constitution and policies available in Reception should you wish to review. Alongside the change to the constitution, the PTA will also be changing its structure to remove the role of Secretary. The functions of the secretary will be absorbed and carried out by the Chair and Deputy Chair. Please email stlukesPTA@hotmail.com if you have any questions. We anticipate that the EGM will be a relatively brief meeting, but all parents and guardians of pupils in the school are welcome to attend. The full Annual General Meeting of the PTA is on 25th March 2020 where you can hear more about the work of the PTA and how you can support that work.

Additionally, please don't forget to send us your unwanted toys, books and games for the toy stall at the Christmas Fayre. These can be left with Reception. We're also requesting any donations for the tombola; such as packets of biscuits, chocolates, and bottles of any kind – wine, cordial, sauces etc. – the more imaginative the better! Thank you in advance for your support.

Update on Ofsted

Ofsted have been implementing a new Framework for Inspection since the start of September. Under this new Framework, schools previously graded good are due to be inspected 'approximately every 4 years'. For our next inspection we should have a Section 8 inspection over 2 days. That inspection will confirm whether the previous good judgement still holds. A Section 8 inspection cannot change a judgement. If the inspection team think that we may be better than good, Ofsted then have to come back and do a second Section 5 inspection within two further years.

I wanted to share this with you, to manage expectations around the next inspection. This is particularly relevant because under the new Framework, Ofsted want far fewer schools to be outstanding. In fact the implementation of the new framework in this borough, and others, has been very tough. In Tower Hamlets since September:

- 7 primary schools have been inspected.
- 2 were previously 'Outstanding'; Of those, one has been graded 'Requires Improvement' and the other 'Good' under the new Framework.
- 5 were previously 'Good'; Of those, two have been graded 'Requires Improvement' and the other three 'Good' under this new Framework.
- Of the schools graded 'Good' it does not appear that anyone has been given the upwards arrow towards a second grade changing inspection, although reports have been slow to come through and most have not yet been published.

A further school has been inspected this week, but I am not yet aware of the outcome. We are doing everything we can here, to prepare for our inspection and we will do everything we can to get the best possible judgement for our school. I will keep you all posted on any further feedback I hear in this regard. With very best wishes, Rebecca Abrahams

Class catch-up

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Nursery</u></p> <p>This week we have been busy decorating our environment for Christmas the children have designed their own decorations for our trees and found useful equipment from our maths area to hang up! We have also learnt about thanksgiving and made special cards for our families. next week we will be continuing with Christmas with more art and craft, stories and songs. In Maths we will be counting how many decorations we can see and in Writing we will be making marks using different tools and media.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Reception</u></p> <p>Next week in Literacy we will be writing Christmas cards and continuing to write simple words and sentences. Our book for the week will be: The jolly postman. In maths we will be counting and ordering numbers to 20 and we will be ordering objects according to size. In Phonics we will be focussing on blending sounds to make words eg, h-o-t... hot! We will also be learning our tricky words. We will of course be continuing to practise for nativity. Our nativity will be on Tuesday, 10th December at 2:30pm. Have a lovely weekend.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Year 1</u></p> <p>We've had another exciting week in Year 1! Next week we will be learning about 2D and 3D shapes in Maths. We will be learning to name and describe them. We will also sort shapes according to their properties and use them to create patterns. In English we will be looking at non-fiction texts. We will then be creating our own reports based on the UK weather (and there should be plenty to report!). In computing we shall continue coding our programmable toys and sending them on journeys around the class. Please remember, it will be cold so please ensure your child has appropriate outdoor clothes for playtime. Thanks!</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Year 2</u></p> <p>This week we had a wonderful trip on the Emirates Airline cable cars. The trip really brought the children's learning about the River Thames to life. We even spotted the Thames Barrier! Thank you to our parent volunteers who supported us on the day. Next week, in English we will be continuing to read Into the Forest by Anthony Browne, writing diary entries and comparing the story to The Tunnel. In science, we will be exploring these stories in PE through dance as well! In maths, we have moved on to multiplication and division. In science, we will learn about the rainforest as part of our environment topic. Lots to look forward to!</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Year 3</u></p> <p>Year 3 had a brilliant time at the Museum of London for the 'Fantastic Beasts' experience. Get your poet caps on... next week we will putting ourselves in the role of animals and using our skills of rhyming, verse, similes and metaphors to create a range of styles of poems. In RE we continue to find out about the prophecies that foretold Jesus' coming and the meaning of Epiphany. In Maths we will continue dividing using our knowledge of the times tables and related number facts.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Year 4</u></p> <p>We have had a great week in Year 4! It was a pleasure to have parents with us for reading, on Tuesday afternoon. Next week, we look forward to exploring our new play-scripts topic, in English. In Maths, we will continue our learning on multiplication and division. Why not practice multiplication and division number facts at home? In Geography, we will be learning about the Tropic of Cancer and Topic of Capricorn and will do a related extended writing piece based on this topic. We are really excited for our Fantastic Beasts of London workshop. Please remember to bring in your school trip reply slips, if you haven't already. Have a restful weekend!</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Year 5</u></p> <p>Year 5 have been working exceptionally well this week. In English we have been refining our 'show not tell' skills. Play a game with your child and ask them to 'show not tell' an emotion or describe an object and guess if you can figure it out! Next week, we will start to learn about play scripts and put on our own performances in class. In maths, we have been carefully looking at numbers and exploring factors, prime numbers and square numbers. Our keen mathematicians have even noticed patterns of square numbers just from looking at a 100 square grid- now that's square-tacular! In Science, we continue to investigate forces. Some children, even started to test out their own theories of water resistance in swimming. We explored this further today by testing streamline shapes. We hope you have a wonderful weekend.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Year 6</u></p> <p>Next week Year 6 will be writing their own rainforest adventure stories and developing their understanding of geometry. In science they will complete their experiments and evaluate their findings. They will begin to film their own videos on the true meaning of Christmas to Christians and also continue to look at celebrating differences as part of their PSHE. 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.

Update for the Winter Concert

5th December 2019

These following children will be performing during the winter concert as part of the Choir.

George M (3B), Quinten (3B), Cyrus (3)
Elina (3B) Aryan (3) Adhrit (3B) Arthur (3B)
Sophie (4G) Betsy (4G) Chelsea (4G)
Julia (4G) Eloise (4G) Lina (5S) Lisa (5S)

Aria from 3B will be performing a solo.

We hope to see you all there at 2.30pm.