



# St Luke's Church of England School Newsletter

Educating through faith, hope and love.

15<sup>th</sup> December 2023

Message from Ms Iwanicki



Dear Parents and Carers,

This week, the whole school enjoyed a visiting pantomime who retold the story of Aladdin. There was singing and dancing and even a guest appearance from Mr Leng. Thank you to our wonderful PFA for helping to support these exciting events. Photos can be found further on in this week's newsletter.

Today, we celebrated Christingle in school. Each child made a Christingle in class and we then lit the candles to symbolise the light of Christ, bringing hope to people living in darkness. As we have already held a fundraising project this term, we are not asking for donations as we have in the past for the Children's Society. However, if you would like to make an individual donation please follow the link below.

<https://www.childrenssociety.org.uk/how-you-can-help/donate>

On Monday, we will be holding our Carol Service in church. Thank you to our KS2 parents for returning the permissions slips, it helps us get a sense of how many children will be attending. Children will need to be dropped off at school at **5:45pm** and then we will meet parents up in the church at **6pm**. KS1 children are also welcome to attend and can sit on the mats at the front of the church. At the end of the service we will ask the children to stay with their teachers until an adult comes to sign them out, to ensure we don't lose anyone in the crowd.



On Wednesday next week, we will be having our Christmas lunch in school and the children can come into school that day wearing their Christmas jumpers.

Finally, please don't forget that school finishes at **1:30pm** on **Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> December**.

Wishing you all a restful weekend,

Ms J Iwanicki  
Headteacher

*Romans 14:19 "So then let us pursue what makes for peace and for mutual upbuilding."*

## Spring Class



We have had an exciting time in Spring Class this week. We set up Santa's Workshop in the home corner and have been wrapping presents and writing gift tags. We have also written our own Letters to Santa. We have read 'Dear Santa' by Rod Campbell and created sentences to describe presents in the story. In Maths, we focused on teens numbers as well as solving missing number problems, and the pantomime on Tuesday afternoon was a real treat.



## Summer Class



This week in Summer class we explored what each of the Christingle elements represent and made a Christingle. In Maths, we are learning to read time on digital and analogue clocks. We have also read a new poem entitled 'The Dong with the Luminous Nose' and wrote noun phrases about characters and settings in English.



## Autumn Class



This week in Autumn class, we delved into the intricacies of parliamentary roles. The children actively participated in role-playing exercises, fostering a deeper understanding of the significance of questioning. The enthusiasm from the children was great, and their creative ideas flourished during this engaging activity. As we embrace the festive season, the students have been diligently preparing for the upcoming carol service, infusing the classroom with holiday cheer. Adding to the joy, on Tuesday afternoon, the children were treated to the delightful pantomime, 'Aladdin,' they really had the best time!



## Winter Class



In Winter Class, we have now finished our 'Make Do and Mend' DT project and are preparing to evaluate our work. We also have been continuing our topic on World War II by studying the Kindertransport. In Maths, we have been working on operations involving fractions, while in English, we have been planning performance poetry, by studying various poetic techniques, and writing our poems in a style based on popular fairytales. We have also been busy on Christmas activities, rehearsing for the Carol Service and making Christingles.



# Golden Book

### Spring Class

**Iuliia** for being kind and helpful to her friends.

**Louie** great work on missing number problems.

### Summer Class

**Allegra** for her hard work when reading time on digital and analogue clocks.

**Zach** for his great effort in writing.

### Autumn Class

**Irene** for eagerly contributing to class discussions.

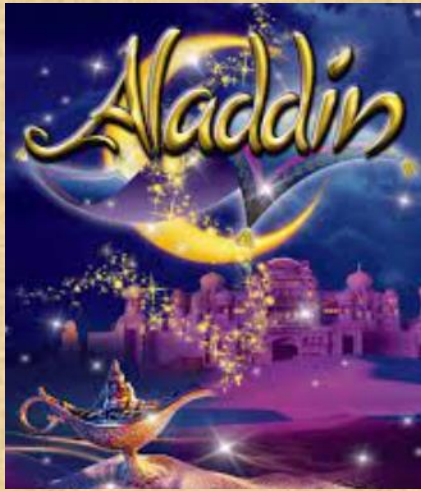
**Sophia** for challenging herself in maths this week involving 4- digit numbers.

### Winter Class

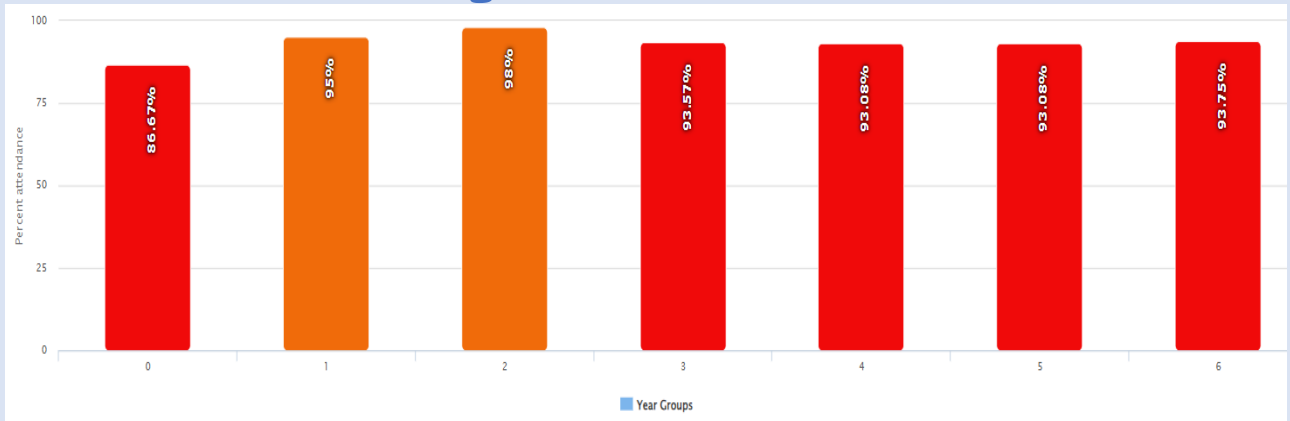
**Caylawit** for consistently working well throughout the term.

**Sophie** for her cheerful and positive attitude to all activities.

# SLS Pantomime



# Weekly Attendance



Best year group this week  
**Year 2**  
with  
**98%**

# Happy Birthday



**Emiliana in Autumn Class**



## Dates for Diary 2023

Term dates are on the school website. Additions are in blue; Changes are in red.

<del>W/C 30<sup>th</sup> October</del>	<del>Year 4 &amp; 5 Swimming</del>
<del>7<sup>th</sup> November</del>	<del>Individual School Photographs</del>
<del>7<sup>th</sup> November</del>	<del>Summer Class Assembly</del>
<del>8<sup>th</sup> November</del>	<del>PFA Meeting 9:00am</del>
<del>10<sup>th</sup> November</del>	<del>Winter Class – War Memorial Service</del>
<del>17<sup>th</sup> November</del>	<del>Children in Need – Pyjama Day</del>
<del>21<sup>st</sup> November</del>	<del>Year 6 Residential Zoom Meeting 10:30am</del>
<del>21<sup>st</sup> November</del>	<del>Autumn Class Assembly 3:00pm</del>
<del>22<sup>nd</sup> November</del>	<del>Reception Local Visit</del>
<del>24<sup>th</sup> November</del>	<del>Odd Socks Day</del>
<del>2<sup>nd</sup> December</del>	<del>Christmas Fair 12:00pm-3:00pm</del>
<del>w/c 4<sup>th</sup> December</del>	<del>Parent Consultation Evenings</del>
<del>6<sup>th</sup> December</del>	<del>Infant Nativity in Church 2:00pm</del>
<del>12<sup>th</sup> December</del>	<del>Whole School Pantomime</del>
<del>13<sup>th</sup> December</del>	<del>Nasal Flu Vaccinations</del>
<del>15<sup>th</sup> December</del>	<del>Christingle Service in School</del>
18 <sup>th</sup> December	Whole School Carol Service 6:00pm
20 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Jumper Day & Christmas Lunch
21 <sup>st</sup> December	End of Term 1:30pm
8 <sup>th</sup> January	INSET DAY
9 <sup>th</sup> January	Start of Spring Term
10 <sup>th</sup> January	RSE Parents meeting on Zoom
12 <sup>th</sup> January	African Drumming Workshop
w/c 15 <sup>th</sup> January	RSE Lessons for Year 5 & 6
16 <sup>th</sup> January	Year 3 & 4 out at Apollo Music Concert
17 <sup>th</sup> January	2:30pm Spring Start of Term Service

# Give your child the best start in life – every school day counts.



At St Luke's we believe that all children deserve an education of the highest quality in order to flourish and enjoy a life filled with meaning and purpose. To support us with this, we ask parents to ensure their children are in school and on time every day. The school gates are open at 8:50am and children should be in their classrooms to be registered at 9:00am. The latest statutory guidance for schools, **Keeping Children Safe in Education 2023**, has a specific paragraph addressing children who are absent from school.

## ***Children who are absent from education***

*175. Children being absent from education for prolonged periods and/or on repeat occasions can act as a vital warning sign to a range of safeguarding issues including neglect, child ... exploitation - particularly county lines. It is important the school or college's response to persistently absent pupils and children missing education supports identifying such abuse, and in the case of absent pupils, helps prevent the risk of them becoming a child missing education in the future. This includes when problems are first emerging but also where children are already known to local authority children's social care and need a social worker (such as a child who is a child in need or who has a child protection plan, or is a looked after child), where being absent from education may increase known safeguarding risks within the family or in the community.*

Our **whole school attendance target is 96%** which allows for 8 days of illness over the year.

100% Attendance	0 Days Missed
95% Attendance	9 Days of Absence 1 Week and 4 Days of Learning Missed
90% Attendance	19 Days of Absence 3 Weeks and 4 Days of Learning Missed
85% Attendance	28 Days of Absence 5 Weeks and 3 Days of Learning Missed
80% Attendance	38 Days of Absence 7 Weeks and 3 Days of Learning Missed
75% Attendance	46 Days of Absence 9 weeks and 1 Day of Learning Missed



## SLS Voluntary Donations



Dear Parents and Carers,

Firstly, I would like to take the opportunity to welcome our new families that have joined St Luke's this year, as well as thanking our existing families for their continued support throughout the year.

There is always lots to do as we continue to improve our school, but with support from our staff, governors and our dedicated parent body we will ensure that St Luke's is the best school it can be for our children. It is in this spirit of support that I am writing to ask for your assistance.

We would be incredibly grateful if you could agree to make an annual voluntary contribution of £40 for each child in the school. This would greatly assist in ensuring we continue to sustain and even enhance the high standards of provision at the school.

As a free school, St Luke's gets its funding directly from the Education and Skills Funding Agency and this enables us to choose our own providers for many services and get the best possible value for our school. However, funding is based on pupil numbers and as a small, half-form entry school we receive one of the smallest budgets in London to provide the same educational experiences that all children deserve. The school has processes in place to deliver value for money when procuring goods or services and the Governing Board review all contracts each year. We are well used to making our money go a long way!

I want to stress that this request is completely voluntary and you are under no obligation to pay anything. On the other hand, we understand that some parents may wish to contribute more than this suggested amount, which we would happily accept and will be a great help in maintaining our lovely school and creating an incredible learning environment for all our children.

Donations can be made under the 'Annual Donation' tab on Parent Pay.

<https://app.parentpay.com/public/client/security/v2/#/login>

We thank you again and greatly appreciate all your valuable contributions to the school in terms of time, effort, and support.

Kind regards,

Ms J Iwanicki

Headteacher