



St Luke's Church of England School Newsletter

Educating through faith, hope and love.

Message from Ms Iwanicki

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year! I hope you all had an enjoyable Christmas break. It was lovely to see everyone back in school this week and ready for the new term. Ensuring everyone comes back to school on time is incredibly important as it is those first few days when we re-establish our expectations and remind everyone of school routines.

Thank you to those Year 5 & 6 parents who were able to join Mr Leng and I for our RSE Zoom meeting. Lessons will begin next week and if you have any questions please don't hesitate to get in touch with us via the school office.

Today, Winter Class took part in an African drumming workshop in partnership with St Margaret's School. Thank you to Mrs Keenlyside and St Margaret's for organising this exciting opportunity.



This week we welcomed Ms Francis and Ms Weldon to the staff team. I'm sure you will join me in welcoming them to our St Luke's family.

Finally, I'd like to forward a link sent through to us from the Ham & High with the top ten best scoring primary schools in Camden. <https://www.hamhigh.co.uk/news/24039853.camden-primary-schools-ranked-department-education/>

Wishing you all a restful weekend,

Ms J Iwanicki
Headteacher

John 14:17 "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid."

Spring Class



It has been a great start to the new term in Spring Class. The children have enjoyed being back together and have remembered all the important learning behaviours including listening, taking turns and problem solving. We have started off our Animals topic by reading 'Mog and the Baby' by Judith Kerr. The children have practised describing illustrations and inferring the feelings of the characters by looking at them closely. In Maths, we have been revisiting number formation and counting beyond 10, as well as learning the meaning of some mathematical symbols.



Summer Class



This week in Summer class, we have been busy getting back into our school routines and talking about our holiday. In English, we are learning about the classic stories of Beatrix Potter and comparing and measuring weight in Maths. In RE, we are learning about Judaism and exploring what is it like to live as a Jewish person.



Autumn Class



This week in Autumn class, the children have been exploring alternative fairy tales in English. We have begun to create our own versions of traditional fairy tales. Additionally, we have been honing our camera skills as we prepare footage for the movies we will be creating and editing in computing this term. It's heartening to witness how seamlessly the children have settled back into the rhythm of the new term. Their enthusiasm for learning and creativity is truly inspiring, and I am looking forward to witnessing their continued growth and achievements throughout the term.



Winter Class



In Winter Class this week, we have begun our Science unit on Illustrating Life Cycles by producing some botanical illustrations through the dissection of flowers. In RE, we have been learning about how Guru Nanak became Sikhism's first Guru. In Maths, we have been using protractors to measure angles and construct shapes. While in English, we have begun work on our fiction unit, studying the fantasy book, 'Howl's Moving Castle' by Diana Wynne Jones. This has involved the dramatization of passages from the book through the miming of actions and the appropriate intonation of dialogue.



Golden Book

Spring Class

Naomi for making friends and settling in to school routines so quickly.

Klea for trying hard and never giving up when forming letters.

Summer Class

Raphaelle for working collaboratively with her partner.

Isaac for his progress in Reading.

Autumn Class

Asia for her contributions in class this week.

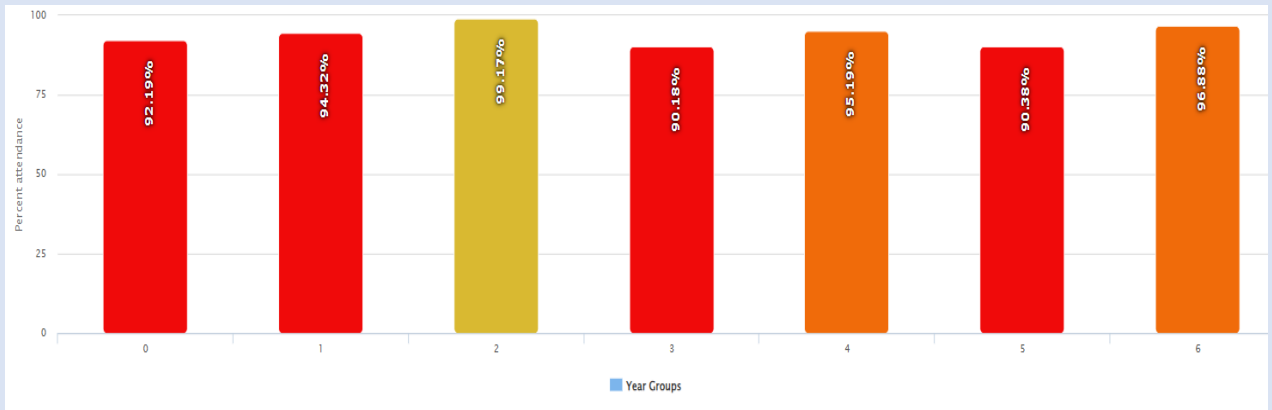
Freddie for being a good learning partner and for having great ideas in lesson.

Winter Class

Carter for his excellent contributions to our RE unit.

Keye for her thoughtful work as we were creating our class prayer.

Weekly Attendance



Best year group this week
Year 2
with
99.17%

Happy Birthday



Myla in Summer Class

Emily in Autumn Class

Kei in Winter Class

Dates for Diary 2023

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

8th January	INSET DAY
9 th January	Start of Spring Term
10th January	RSE Parents meeting on Zoom
12 th January	African Drumming Workshop
w/c 15 th January	RSE Lessons for Year 5 & 6
16 th January	Year 3 & 4 out at Apollo Music Concert
17 th January	2:30pm Spring Start of Term Service
29 th January	History Week
31 st January	Y5/6 Sports Match
1 st February	Fluoride Treatment
6 th February	Winter Class Assembly
6 th February	E-Safety Day
9 th February	PFA Pancake Breakfast (TBC)
12 th – 16 th February	Half-Term
21 st February	Y5/6 Sports Match
27 th February	Autumn Class Assembly

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