



St Luke's Church of England School Newsletter

Educating through faith, hope and love.

Message from Ms Iwanicki

19th January 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you are all surviving the cold snap we're currently having. With rising costs, keeping our homes warm and energy-efficient can be a challenge but Camden residents can find help and support on the council website at <https://www.camden.gov.uk/energy-saving-tips>

Thank you to everyone that was able to join us for our start of term service in church this week. It was lovely to be able to share our songs and prayers for the new year with everyone.

This week, our Year 5 and 6 pupils were taught the RSE portion of our PHSE curriculum. The children behaved incredibly sensibly and maturely, in what can be a difficult topic to discuss, and I hope that they feel better equipped to face the changes that come as part of growing up. Keeping ourselves safe and understanding our bodies belong just to ourselves, is an important conversation to have with our children and you can find support for those discussions on the NSPCC website at <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/support-for-parents/pants-underwear-rule/>

On Tuesday, Autumn Class went to the Regent Hall as part of the Apollo Music Project. The children had a fantastic time and I was so pleased to get such positive feedback from the teachers on how the children represented our school while off site.

From 29th January - 2nd February we will be celebrating History Week in school. On Friday 2nd February, the children are invited to come into school dressed in historical costumes. They can choose to dress up in clothes from an historical era, or as a particular person from history.

This week we met with our new Attendance Officer from Camden. We want all of our children to have the best life chances both at St Luke's and when they move on to secondary school, and the best way for this to happen is for them to attend school every day.

Finally, I would like to remind parents again of our duty to keep our children safe while crossing the road at the beginning and end of the school day. We ask that any parents who have to drive to school park further away from the school site and then walk their children into the building.

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



In Spring Class this week, we have been reading and retelling 'Dear Zoo' by Rod Campbell, using the story to expand our vocabulary for describing animals, especially domestic, wild and big cats. As well as learning the new sounds ai, ee, igh, and oa in phonics, we have been playing some games to consolidate our blending skills and develop our knowledge of tricky words. In Maths, we have been looking at number bonds and playing robot number games. The children have enjoyed making art inspired by animals and exploring the properties of ice.



Summer Class



This week in Summer class, we looked at why the Star of David and the Menorah are important to a Jewish person. In History, we looked at how Victorians spent their leisure time and explored the similarities and differences of modern holidays. In Maths, we are learning to measure and compare capacity. Meanwhile in Science, we looked at different objects around the classroom and sorted the objects according to their properties and their usefulness.



Autumn Class



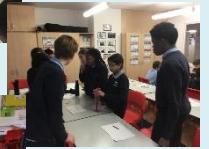
This week in Autumn Class, we have been delving deeper into alternative fairy tales, expanding their knowledge to craft their own imaginative stories. In Maths, we have been employing various strategies for addition and subtraction while starting to articulate our mathematical reasoning. On Tuesday, we were fortunate to visit Regents Hall and witness the Apollo Music Orchestra. The children were truly captivated by the enchanting sounds and the opportunity to discover new instruments. It was an absolute delight for everyone involved.



Winter Class



In Winter Class this week, we have been busy on our RSE unit. Children have worked very well on this challenging topic, responding intelligently to the work and showing collaboration and respect throughout. Well done to everyone! Outside of this, we have been continuing working on shape in Maths, classifying and investigating 3D shapes and plotting, translating and reflecting 2D shapes on all 4 quadrants on coordinate grids.



Golden Book

Spring Class

Marco for excellent team work and turn taking.

Charlotte for working hard to read and write this week's new sounds.

Summer Class

Nayel for his hard work in Writing this week.

Roman for his excellent effort and positive attitude towards his learning.

Autumn Class

Luciano for working hard on his English writing this week.

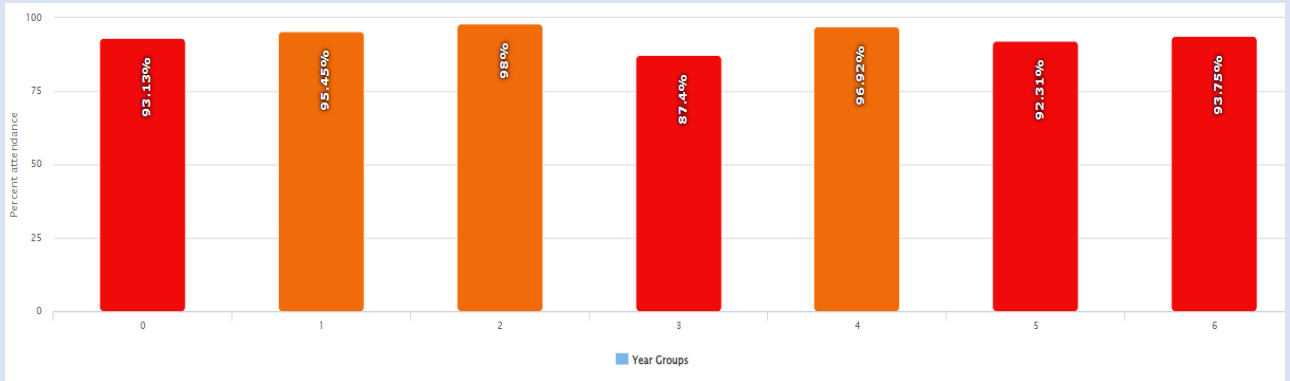
Henry for his knowledgeable, detailed and accurate contributions in topic lessons.

Winter Class

Lily for her thoughtful attitude to lessons this week and always.

Mylo for his continued intelligent responses to questions this week.

Weekly Attendance



Best year group this week
Year 2
with
98%

Happy Birthday



No Birthdays this week



Dates for Diary 2023

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

8 th January	INSET DAY
9 th January	Start of Spring Term
10 th 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