



St Luke's Church of England School Newsletter

Educating through faith, hope and love.

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been our first full week of the academic year and this week we welcomed our Reception children into school. Starting school for the first time can feel a bit daunting, but the children have settled remarkably well and I'm sure our new children have a fantastic year ahead of them.

Thank you to those parents that were able to join us for our start of term service on Wednesday. It is always lovely to have parents join us for these services and the children did a lovely job reading their class prayers which you can read further on in this week's newsletter. Thank you also to Rev. Alistair for leading our service.

Today, the children in Summer Class visited the British Library to meet the author Julia Donaldson (The Gruffalo & Stickman) and the illustrator Axel Scheffler. Thank you to the parent helpers who were able to come along and to Mrs Wickham for organising this exciting opportunity.

Next week, we will be sending out our Class Curriculum Newsletters. These outline the topics the children will be learning this term and which days are PE and homework happens.

On **Wednesday 16th at 10:00am** we will be hosting an online Parent Meeting on reading with your child. A Zoom link will be sent out next week and we hope you will be able to join us.

Finally, I would like to congratulate this year's school councillors: Lily and Veniamin in Spring Class, Manta and Camilla in Summer Class, Anna and Mikayl in Autumn Class, Henry and Roman in Winter Class.

Wishing you all a restful weekend,

Ms J Iwanicki
Headteacher

Romans 15:13 "May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit."

Spring Class



This week in Spring Class, it has been a wonderful first week for our newest children at St Luke's. It has been lovely to see them settling in, becoming familiar with their new surroundings and beginning to build friendships with one another. We began learning about our Golden Rules and daily prayers. We also discussed why it is important to follow our Golden Rules and how they help us to be kind, safe and respectful. During self-guided activities, the children enjoyed drawing, painting, pretending to be shopkeepers and exploring the books in our reading corner. It has been wonderful to see their imaginations come to life as they played and explored together.



Summer Class



This week we have been preparing for our Julia Donaldson trip! We've had fun reading Julia Donaldson books across the week particularly The Gruffalo. We took inspiration from the Gruffalo and made our own creatures. It has been lovely to see Summer class's creativity and to hear all their brilliant ideas. In preparation for our trip we have also been learning about road safety. The children explored how to stay safe when crossing the road and how to be safe when we are out in public. Summer class have settled wonderfully into the new academic year with a ready to learn attitude.



Autumn Class



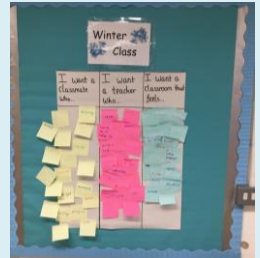
This week in Autumn Class, the children have been discussing what they would like their new learning environment to be like. They have explored the qualities they value in classmates, teachers and the learning environment. As a class we have been reading 'The BFG' by Roald Dahl. The children have been considering what we have learnt so far about Sophie and the Big Friendly Giant, and have been writing about their observations and using adjectives to describe them. In Geography, we reviewed knowledge of the points of a compass and locational knowledge of the British Isles. Addition has been our main focus in Maths this week. We have revised our knowledge of number facts and explored different ways to show and write addition calculations.



Winter Class



This week in Winter Class, we have been busy setting our classroom expectations. The children worked together to share and record their ideas about how they would like their learning environment to feel. They came up with some wonderfully thoughtful ideas, showing how important it is to create a classroom where everyone feels happy, safe and ready to learn. We have also held our School Council elections. The children prepared by writing speeches to share with their classmates, explaining why they would make a great representative. After listening carefully to each other's speeches, the children cast their votes.



Golden Book

Spring Class

Bianca for great focus during whole class and independent activities.

Aaila for great listening and wonderful tidying.

Summer Class

Kylo for always trying his best in all classroom activities.

Kai for being a positive role model in summer class and always looking out for others.

Autumn Class

Noah for increasing focus in learning activities.

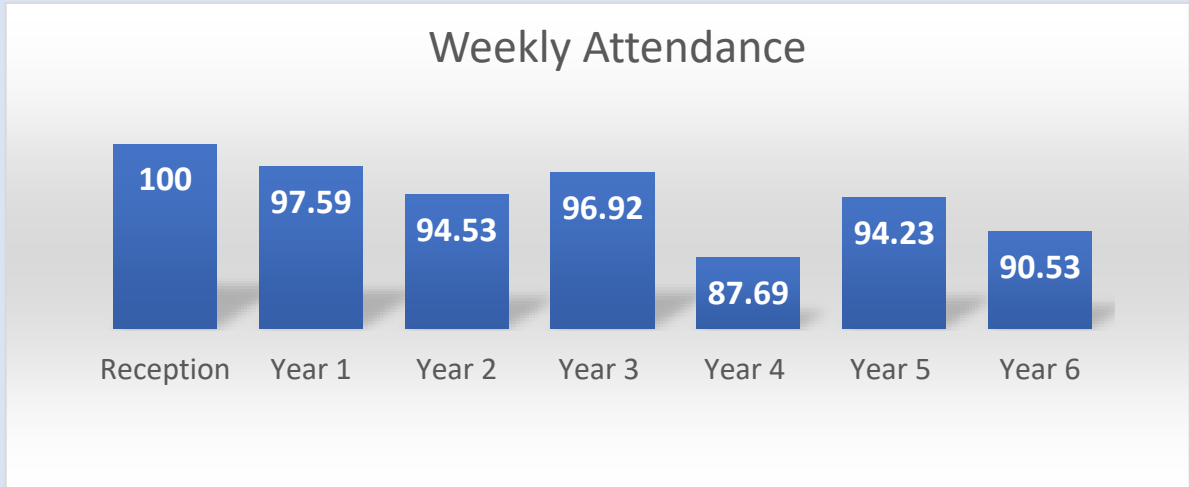
Naomi for great enthusiasm in her English learning this week.

Winter Class

Zara for setting a fantastic example at the start of Year 6.

Ava for demonstrating skills and confidence in public speaking.

Weekly Attendance



Reception
With 100 %
Achieved the highest attendance



Happy Birthday



Spring Class – Mario
Spring Class – Ayla
Autumn Class – Anna
Summer Class – Domenico

Dates for Diary 2026

Term dates are on the school website. Additions are in [blue](#); Changes are in [red](#).

9 th September	Start of Term Service 2:30pm
11 th September	Summer Class Trip –British Museum
14 th September	After School Clubs begin
16 th September	Parent Meeting Online –Early Reading
18 th September	Curriculum newsletters sent out
22 nd September	School photos
7 th October	Harvest Festival
9 th October	NHS Flu Vaccinations
26 th – 30 th October	Half Term

Summer Class

Dear God,

Thank you for friends that play with us, thank you for friends that are kind, thank you for friends that give us courage.

Thank you God,
Amen.

Winter Class

Dear God,

Thank you for bringing us together here at St Luke's, and for all the friends you have given us.
As we begin this new school year, please help us to have faith in ourselves and faith in one another.

Help us to be kind, brave and caring, and to believe that we can do our best even when things feel difficult.

Please look after all those who find it hard to make friends or who feel lonely.

We especially pray for the Reception children who have joined our school. Help them to feel happy, safe and welcome, and to make new friends.

We also think of people around the world who feel lonely or friendless. May they find friendship, kindness and people who care for them.

Amen.

Autumn Class

Dear God,

Thank you for helping us when we are in trouble. Thank you for giving us friends who have faith in us, even when we don't have it ourselves.

Sorry that sometimes we lose faith in our friends, and that we don't always have faith in you.

Help us to have faith in each other even in hard times, and to be a good friend to others.

Amen

Class Prayers For the Start of Term

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 2024**, 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

Dear Neighbours,

I hope you are well. I am pleased to let you know that the next Neighbours Food Collection will take place on **Tuesday 22nd September 2026**.

As children return to school this autumn, families living in poverty meet intense financial strain, often forced to navigate the steep costs of new school uniforms and supplies alongside daily food costs, up around 39% since 2020, together with increasing energy costs as the weather gets colder.

Camden Foodbank is currently facing a severe shortage of several essential food and toiletry items needed to fill emergency food parcels, as summer donations are much slower due to people being away. The growing queues of local people outside Camden Foodbank is a heart-breaking reminder of how acute the hunger crisis remains in our local community.

In 2025 Camden Foodbank provided 6,260 emergency parcels containing nutritious long-life food and essential toiletries with the aim to support each person for 3 days. That is 18,780 days of provision given out to local people in food crisis in just one year.

Please can you donate as generously as you can to help Camden Foodbank fill crisis food parcels for local people urgently needing food support.

Items Needed Now by Camden Foodbank

Food Items:

- Baked beans
- Vegetable soup
- Meat soup
- Squash and Juice
- Oil
- Chickpeas / Lentils / kidney beans
- Coffee (small jars)
- Sugar (small packs 500g)
- Jams / Peanut butter / Honey
- Biscuits
- Tinned fruit
- Tinned vegetables

Toiletries & Household:

- Washing up liquid
- Shampoo
- Toothpaste
- Small washing powder

Collection, Sorting, and Distribution

On **Tuesday 22nd September 2026**, all donated food and toiletries will be sorted, date-checked, weighed, and collected by Camden Foodbank at the end of the day. Donated items will be used to fill crisis food parcels and will be ready to give out to people in poverty on the next day Camden Foodbank is open.

How to Donate

If you would like to donate food or toiletries for the collection on Tuesday 22nd September 2026, please choose one of the following options:

1. **Collection from your property:** Email me with the subject **COLLECT** and leave your donated items outside your property for collection between 9:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. on **Tuesday 22nd September 2026**.
2. **Internet shopping delivery:** Email me with the subject **INTERNET** and arrange for your chosen items to be delivered directly to my home between 9:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. on **Tuesday 22nd September 2026**. Please use your own name for the delivery order so I can verify and check it in. My home address where you can send the food is Ground Floor Flat, 12 ~~Brognal~~ **Brognal** Lane, London NW3 7DU. (Please note that the address may sometimes appear as Flat 2).

A Big Thank You

Thank you again for your incredible, ongoing support. Your generosity makes an immediate and material difference to neighbours experiencing severe food hardship right here in our local community.

Warmest wishes,

Jackie Pepper - Neighbours Food Collection - jsp.foodcollection@gmail.com - 07764 614151

INCREDIBLE YEARS SCHOOL AGE PROGRAMME



AN EVIDENCED BASED GROUP INTERVENTION TO SUPPORT PARENTS AND CARERS

The Incredible Years programme offers parents evidenced based strategies to improve children's behaviour, social skills, and academic achievement. It aims to build stronger relationships between parents and children, manage difficult behaviours, and promote positive outcomes. The programme helps parents develop skills to increase their child's self-esteem, manage emotions, and improve social skills.

For further information please speak to a member of school staff or contact Alice Hargreaves (Parenting Practitioner) via email [Email: mhst@tavi-port.nhs.uk](mailto:email: mhst@tavi-port.nhs.uk)

**Start Date: Tuesday 15th
September 10am - 12pm**

**12 week programme (excluding
school holiday)**



NHS
North London
NHS Foundation Trust

**Venue: Harmond
Children's Centre, 1
Forge Pl, Ferdinand
St, NW1 8DQ**