



ST. LUKE'S
CHURCH OF ENGLAND
PRIMARY SCHOOL

St. Luke's Newsletter No. 1, Friday 9th September 2016

Message from Mrs Catterson

Welcome back everyone and a very warm welcome to all of our newcomers, both pupils and teachers! It has been a super start to the new school year, with lots to share with you. Whilst school uniform is not compulsory, it is something that we strongly recommend; it has been wonderful to see so many children wearing uniform this week. On the subject of clothing... we have an enormous mountain of lost property left from last summer. We will be putting this out in the covered area after school on today. Please take this opportunity to check for lost items as after this point we will be donating the rest to charity. The sheer amount of lost property highlights the importance of ensuring your child's name is clearly marked on all items.

I am delighted to tell you about our new-look Gold Book assemblies. The assemblies will now take place at 2:45pm on Fridays, and from next week, we warmly welcome you to join us in our celebrations of attendance, house points, birthdays and other notable events. We will be featuring mini showcases for some classes each week around something they have been learning that week. The schedule of which classes are presenting will come out to you shortly. Another twist on house points is that children will be not only collecting house points for their house, but also for themselves. Once they have 30 points, they will be presented with a bronze star badge in recognition of their achievement. They will then move on to collect silver, gold and a headteacher's commendation badge. We hope that you will support you child in their achievements and try to come and see them receive their badges in Gold Book assemblies.

In the past, you will have received targets for your child for this term. Since the introduction of the termly reports that we send home, which include targets, this was felt to be repetitive. Therefore, please refer to the targets provided in the summer term report for the focus for your child this term.

With a brand new school year, comes brand new books, and the whole school is having a real push on developing the children's pride in their work through improving their presentation skills. Each class has age appropriate expectations for the children to follow when setting out their work; this includes how they treat their books. Where we know that children are capable of meeting these expectations, but are not putting 100% into their presentation, they will be required to re-do the work in their own time. Please note that we are sensitive to individual circumstances and adapt this policy accordingly. We hope that you support this initiative to boost children's pride and self-esteem in their school work.

This half term the school is focussing on responsibility as our value. We are encouraging the children to think about their responsibilities to themselves and others in terms of learning, behaviour and attitudes towards the world around them.

It is my great pleasure to introduce two new PE coaches, Mr Woolfe and Mr Rome, to the St Luke's team. Both coaches come from Cambridge United Football Club, but I can assure they know about far more than just football! Mr Woolfe will be taking PE across the school for three days each week. As well as this, he will be in the KS2 playground at playtime and KS1 at lunchtime. Mr Rome will be with us for lunchtime every day in KS2. In a bid to develop the repertoire and experience of PE at these times, both coaches will be focusing on a different activity everyday. One of these will be football, but the others could include, netball, hockey, tennis, athletics, fencing...just to name a few.

We are sending home two documents for you to sign - the home school agreement and acceptable user policy. Education is a three way process; it needs the school, the child and the family. When we work together we can achieve amazing things. We have set out what we think are the key elements of that process and we would like you to discuss this agreement as a family and sign up to make the magic happen. Signed forms need to come back to school to be filed with your child's school records. The second document is the acceptable user policy. This sounds awfully wordy, but it simply refers to the safe way to use technology in school. KS2 pupils should be able to discuss this with you and sign for themselves. Younger pupils will need a discussion and for you to sign on their behalf. All adults working within the school are also required to sign up too. This also needs to be returned and filed here at school.

I did say there was a lot to share... One final note, there should be no cycling on the playgrounds because we do not want to have any accidents.

Attendance 2015-16

Unfortunately, we did not achieve our attendance target of 96% in 2015-16 and this was due to the amount of unauthorised absence and holidays. I would urge you to consider the impact of absence on your child's education.

Dates for 2016-17

Autumn Term:

- Monday 12th September, year 5 trip to The Leys School (exhibition by Davis Cup tennis players and some tennis workshops for pupils)
- Friday 16th September, coffee/tea for new parents – tbc
- Tuesday 20th September, Literacy/Phonics Information Sessions for parents: 5:15 tea/coffee; 5:30 for years 3/4/5/6; 6:00 for years R/1/2
- Wednesday 28th September, MacMillian Coffee Morning/Afternoon Fundraiser – further details to follow
- Monday 3rd to Thursday 6th October, Bikeability for some years 5/6
- Friday morning 7th October, Individual/Family group photos
- Tuesday 11th October, year 5/6 trip to Ely Cathedral
- Tuesday 11th October, Parent Consultations
- Wednesday 12th, Parent Consultations
- Thursday morning 20th October, trip for last year's School Council to meet the Mayor
- Thursday 20th October, 1:45 Harvest Festival at St Luke's Church – parents welcome
- Friday 21st October, Stand Up to Cancer Fundraiser
- Monday 24th October to Friday 28th October, school closed for the half-term holiday
- Monday 31st October, Big Write Day with Prize-giving assembly at 2:45 (parents welcome)
- Wednesday 2nd to Friday 4th November, Life Education Centre here
- Thursday 3rd November, Flu Vaccinations for years 1-3
- Monday 7th November, Maths Information Sessions for parents: 5:15 tea/coffee; 5:30 for years R/1/2; 6:00 for years 3/4/5/6
- Tuesday afternoon 8th November, Outreach visit from Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology for year 1
- Wednesday 9th November, year 1 visit to Fitzwilliam Museum
- Wednesday 9th Wednesday, Open Morning – tours at 9:30 and 11:15 – please book at the school office
- Friday 11th November, Story-telling Day for KS1
- Friday morning 11th November – Year 5 visit to Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology
- Friday 25th November – Christmas Tree Festival at St Giles' Church – one class to visit – tbc
- Tuesday 6th December – Craft Day
- Week beginning 12th December – Christmas Parties week
- Wednesday 14th December – 1:45 Year 3/4 Nativity Dress Rehearsal – parents welcome to attend if unable to attend performance
- Wednesday 14th December – Reports to parents
- Thursday 15th December – 6:00 Year 3/4 Nativity Performance
- Friday 16th December – Christmas Lunch (pupils only!)
- Friday 16th December – Christmas activities afternoon
- Monday 19th December – 9:30 Carol Concert followed by tea/coffee/mince pies
- Monday afternoon 19th December – Christmas Quiz
- Tuesday 20th December – RE morning (Christmas as a festival)
- Tuesday 20th December – 1:45 Christmas Service at St Luke's Church – parents welcome
- Tuesday 20th December, 3:15 term ends

Spring Term:

- Thursday 5th January, 8:55 term begins
- Wednesday 11th January, Swimming for year 5, and year 6 non-swimmers at Parkside Pool – time tbc
- Thursday afternoon, 19th January, pantomime for whole school here (Dick Whittington)
- Week beginning 23rd January – Maths Week
- Friday 27th January – 2:45 Maths Assembly – parents welcome
- Week beginning 30th January – Interfaith & Harmony Week
- Tuesday 31st January – Parent Consultations

- Wednesday 1st February – Parent Consultations
- Monday 13th to Friday 17th February, school closed for the half-term holiday
- Monday 20th February, Big Write Day with Prize-giving assembly at 2:45 (parents welcome)
- Week beginning 27th February, Book Week
- Thursday 2nd March, World Book Day
- Friday 3rd March – 2:45 Book Week assembly + awards – parents welcome
- Week beginning 13th March, Science Week
- Tuesday 14th March, Science Day
- Friday 17th March, 2:15-2:45 Parent Drop-in
- Friday 17th March, 2:45 Science Assembly – parents welcome
- Tuesday 21st March, Mother’s Day Lunch
- Wednesday 22nd March, Reports to parents
- Friday 24th March – Red Nose Day
- Thursday 30th March, 9:15 Information meeting for parents about year 3/4 residential trip
- Friday 31st March, 1:45 Easter Service at St Luke’s Church – parents welcome
- Friday 31st March, 3:15 term ends

Summer Term:

- Wednesday 19th April, 8:55 term begins
- Wednesday 26th April, Swimming begins for year 3/4 at Parkside Pool
- Wednesday 26th to Friday 28th April, year 3/4 residential trip to the Kingswood Centre at West Runton, Norfolk
- Monday 1st May, school closed for the May Day Bank Holiday
- Monday 8th to Friday 12th May, year 6 SATs week – **please do not book any medical appointments/holidays for your children during this week!**
- Week beginning 8th May, no music lessons this week
- Monday 15th to Friday 19th May and Monday 22nd to Friday 26th May, year 2 SATs will be carried over these two weeks (not every day!) – **please do not book any medical appointments/holidays for your children during these weeks!**
- Monday 29th May to Friday 2nd June, school closed for the half-term holiday
- Week beginning 5th June, Environment Week
- Monday 5th June, Big Write Day with Prize-giving assembly at 2:45 (parents welcome)
- Thursday 8th June, 9:15 Information meeting for parents about year 5/6 residential trip
- Tuesday 13th June, Father’s Day Lunch
- Monday 19th June, 6:00 Meeting for new Reception parents
- Tuesday 20th to Friday 23rd June, year 5/6 trip to Ilam, Derbyshire
- Wednesday morning 28th June, Move-up Morning 1/2
- Wednesday morning 28th June, 9:30-10:30 Visit for new Reception pupils 1/2
- Monday 3rd July, Craft Day
- Wednesday morning 5th July, Move-up Morning 2/2
- Wednesday morning 5th July, 9:30-10:30 Visit for new Reception pupils 2/2
- Thursday 6th July, Sports Day (back-up day tbc)
- Friday 7th July, 9:15 Music Assembly
- Monday 10th July, school closed for staff training
- Wednesday 12th July, 2:00 Year 5/6 Production Dress Rehearsal – parents welcome if unable to attend Performance
- Thursday 13th July, 6:30 Year 5/6 Production Performance
- Friday 14th July, Reports out to parents
- Friday 21st July, Leavers’ Lunch
- Friday 21st July, 1:45 Leavers’ Service at St Luke’s Church
- Friday 21st July, 3:15 term ends
- Friday 21st July, 3:15 PTA Tea Party