

St. Luke's Newsletter No. 24, Friday 17th March 2017

Message from Dr Catterson

Another super busy week has flown by and this week it has been all about science. All of the classes have been learning about forces, from magnets to gravity. I was particularly impressed with Redwood class's fishing challenge where they had find a way to get the paperclips out of a carton of water without getting wet.

We have a number of other exciting events on the horizon. Easter is fast approaching and the Easter Bunny recently attended a staff meeting ...strange place for a Bunny to be, I hear you say.... anyway... he suggested St Luke's should host an Easter Egg competition, so we have decided to oblige him. To take part, anyone interested should decorate a hard boiled egg and bring it to school. A winner and runner up will be selected from each class. All interested parties should return their winning entry to school by Thursday 23rd March. Winners will be announced in the final Gold Book Assembly of the term, 2:45pm on Thursday 30th March, along with winners of the recycling competition.

St Luke's is taking part in The Big Pedal 2017, the UK's largest inter-school cycling and scooting challenge that inspires pupils, staff and parents to choose two wheels for their journey to school. The **challenge runs from 20 to 31 March** and we would love everyone to be involved. Here's what you need to know:

- **The details.** On each day of the challenge over 1450 primary and secondary schools will compete to see who can record the greatest number of pupils, staff and parents cycling or scooting to school. Our best days will determine our final position in the challenge. We'll be competing against other schools right across the UK, and if we clock up the most bike and scooter journeys, we'll win!
- **Why we're taking part.** It's a great way to get more of our pupils travelling to school on their bikes and scooters. We will be competing to become one of the UK's top schools for two-wheeled journeys and will be in with a chance to win prizes, including bike and scooter stunt shows and fantastic cycle and scooter storage.
- **What's next?** All you need to do is encourage your child(ren) to cycle or scoot to school every day during the event, and join them on their way – parent and sibling journeys count too! You have a few days to make sure your bikes are road-worthy and remember to STAY SAFE with a helmet.

Red Nose Day, Friday 24th March. To raise money for Red Nose Day we are asking that children wear something red next Friday and bring in £1. Children are also going to be encouraged to record the funniest joke they have heard (appropriate of course!) or create their own, and the funniest will be chosen from each class prior to Friday's assembly and shared that afternoon in front of the school to help everyone get into the spirit of things.

Reminder. PTA Bingo Night – Following the success of last year's Bingo night, this will be held again on Saturday 25th March from 5-7pm. Ticket prices are as follows: Adult £5, Child £3, Family £15. The ticket includes a Chinese buffet meal for each person. Bingo games are 50p each. Forms for booking your tickets will be sent home soon and need to be returned to the PTA box (near the school office) or to a member of the PTA by Monday 20th March. We hope that you will all join us for an evening of family fun with lots of prizes to be won!

Attendance. Attendance has dipped again this week and stands at 94.71% (our target for the academic year is 96%).

Spring Term dates (new dates marked in blue)

- **Monday 20th to Friday 27th March – Cambridge Learning Bus here**
- Monday morning 20th March – years 5/6 to CU's Department of Chemistry for 'Burning Issues – Fire and Flame' lecture
- **Tuesday morning 21st March, year 3 trip to the Museum of Cambridge**
- Tuesday 21st March, Mother's Day Lunch
- Wednesday morning 22nd March, Recycling workshop for year 4
- Wednesday 22nd March, Reports to parents
- Friday 24th March, Red Nose Day
- Friday 24th March, Gold Book/Class Sharing Assembly (years R/1/2) – parents welcome
- Saturday 25th March, PTA Bingo Night
- 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