

## St. Luke's Newsletter No. 31, Friday 19<sup>th</sup> May 2017

### Message from Dr Catterson

I apologise that some parents have been upset by attendance letters they received this week. I had hoped that last week's newsletter 'heads' up' would have alleviated some worries. Even where absence is authorised, illness is absolutely genuine or for medical appointments, if attendance is below 93% the letter had to be sent to you. I fully appreciate that this may feel unreasonable in these circumstances; however, the government defines attendance below 90% as persistent absence and the local authority and Ofsted are very interested in any children who fit this category. Once again, if you have concerns, please contact me and I can put you in touch with our education welfare officer.

A number of parents have contacted us about the attendance letters, but it transpires that they had not read the newsletter. To ensure that everyone gets to see the newsletter and read important messages like this attendance information, we have decided to start issuing paper copies again.

Since the latest craze of fidget spinners took off, we have been inundated with spinners. Unfortunately, after four thefts and the ensuing problems that this caused, we have decided to request that no fidget toys of any kind are brought into school. We will provide spinners to all classes for teachers to allocate to pupils to use in class where it has been identified that they will be helpful. Please ensure that spinners are not 'slipped' into bags and pockets as we do not wish to have further incidents of theft.

Recently a number of children have been missing PE lessons and it is really important that they join in as PE is a part of the National Curriculum and not an optional extra! Children need to have their kit in school all the time. If your child is not well enough to participate in PE, we do need to have a note from you to confirm this, or speak to the teacher directly, or leave us a message.

We are all very excited about the interviews for new staff next week. We do hope to be able to announce an appointment very soon.

Well done to year 2 for surviving SATS and doing so in such a relaxed manner. Thank you to the team who have worked so hard to prepare the children and support them through the tests. Congratulations also to the year 6 pupils who went to represent the school at a maths competition yesterday – you did us proud!

The popularity of gold book assemblies and the amount of great things we have to share with you means that we often run late. In order to ensure we can share everything and get out of time, gold book assemblies will be starting from 2.30pm.

Don't forget it is movie night for parents this evening.

### Attendance

Attendance has risen slightly this week and stands at 94.83% (our target for the academic year is 96%).

### Summer Term dates (changes/new dates marked in blue)

- **Wednesday morning 24<sup>th</sup> May, year 6 visit to Pizza Express**
- Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> May, Choir to Ely Cathedral (God and Science Project)
- Friday morning 26<sup>th</sup> May, year 5 to St Clement's Church for Pentecost workshop
- Friday 26<sup>th</sup> May, 9:15 Willow Class assembly
- Monday 29<sup>th</sup> May to Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> June, school closed for the half-term holiday
- Week beginning 5<sup>th</sup> June, Environment Week
- Monday 5<sup>th</sup> June, Big Write Day with Prize-giving assembly at 2:45 (parents welcome)
- Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> June, 9:15 Information meeting for parents about year 5/6 residential trip
- Friday 9<sup>th</sup> June, 9:15 Holly Class assembly
- Friday 9<sup>th</sup> June, PTA Bag2School Collection
- Friday morning 9<sup>th</sup> June, year 5 to Michael Rosen poetry workshop

- Friday 16<sup>th</sup> June, 9:15 Oak Class assembly
- Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> June, Father's Day Lunch, Cost £3.20
- Monday 19<sup>th</sup> June, 6:00 Meeting for new Reception parents
- Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> to Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> June, year 5/6 trip to Ilam, Derbyshire
- Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> June, 2:45 Gold Book/Class Sharing Assembly (year 3 or 4 showcase)
- Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> June, 2:30 PTA Tidy-up session
- Monday afternoon 26<sup>th</sup> June, dental check project (for some Reception/year 1 pupils)
- Tuesday morning 27<sup>th</sup> June, Move-up Morning 1/2
- Tuesday morning 27<sup>th</sup> June, 9:30-10:30 Visit for new Reception pupils 1/2
- Friday 30<sup>th</sup> June, 2:45 Gold Book/Class Sharing Assembly (years 5/6) + Eid and International Day of Friendship
- Friday 30<sup>th</sup> June, PTA Summer Celebration
- Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> July, Craft Day
- Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> July, KS2 Girls' Football/Tennis/French Clubs finish
- Tuesday morning 4<sup>th</sup> July, National Measurement Programme – years R and 6 (rearranged from 16<sup>th</sup> May)
- Tuesday morning 4<sup>th</sup> July, Move-up Morning 2/2
- Tuesday morning 4<sup>th</sup> July, 9:30-10:30 Visit for new Reception pupils 2/2
- Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> July, Year 6 Induction Day at Chesterton Community College
- Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> July, Sports Day (back-up day tbc)
- Friday 7<sup>th</sup> July, 9:15 Music Assembly
- Monday 10<sup>th</sup> July, school closed for staff training
- Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> July, KS2 Boys' Football/KS1 Multi Sports Clubs finish
- Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> July, KS1 trip to Wandlebury
- Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> July, 2:00 Year 5/6 Production Dress Rehearsal – parents welcome if unable to attend Performance
- Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> July, KS1 Football/KS2 Badminton and Hockey Clubs finish
- Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> July, FUNdamentals, Code, Homework, KS2 Kwik Cricket Clubs finish
- Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> July, 6:30 Year 5/6 Production Performance
- Friday 14<sup>th</sup> July, 2:45 Gold Book/Class Sharing Assembly (years 1/2) – parents welcome
- Friday 14<sup>th</sup> July, Reports out to parents
- Monday 17<sup>th</sup> July, Athletics Club finishes
- Friday 21<sup>st</sup> July, Leavers' Lunch
- Friday 21<sup>st</sup> July, 1:45 Leavers' Service at St Luke's Church – parents welcome
- Friday 21<sup>st</sup> July, 3:15 term ends
- Friday 21<sup>st</sup> July, 3:15 PTA Tea Party