



St Lukian Newsletter

Learning, Laughing, Loving at Family St Luke's

Issue 25 May 2019

It's been a short half term but still lots going on in school. Of course, we celebrate most of our activities with you on Dojo and Facebook but the newsletter still has its place to share other news and repeat some news so that parents have lots of ways of keeping up to date!



Once again the school has been recognised for the importance we place on PE and Sport by gaining this top Sports award. The benefits of physical activity and participating in competitive and non-competitive physical activity are well-researched and we ensure we include as much as possible in our day-to-day curriculum, as well as offering a wealth of sports clubs at lunchtimes and after school. All this takes careful coordinating, so my grateful thanks go to Miss Hunt and Miss Hirst for working so hard to ensure our school met the exacting standards for Gold Award which means our children have access to high quality P.E and sport to support their own health and well-being.

Long Hair



Our school uniform policy asks that 'long hair is tied up'. This is primarily to reduce the risk of the spread of nits through school, which, of course, is the curse of all primary schools and tied back hair can help prevent the spread but is by no means fail-safe. We also ask that hair is tied back for P.E. for safety so that it doesn't swish into the faces of others when running etc. However, how long is long? How tied up is tied up? We want to apply common sense in school and won't be getting the ruler out but as a guide, if your child has hair that falls to the shoulders or below, we'd ask for that to be held back with a band or bobble. For P.E. it must all be secured with a bobble. Thank you for your cooperation.

New Teacher Appointment

We are pleased to announce that after a very successful interview process earlier this week, Mr Whitehouse will be joining our team in September to teach IT to KS2 and also to teach one day in Y5. Mr Whitehouse is very experienced and we are sure that he will be a great asset to our team.



Well done Mr Whitehouse.

Summer Holiday Club



Thank you to those parents who were able to take part in our survey about a summer holiday club. It is clear that many parents would welcome a longer provision depending on costs. I am in consultation with various partners to discuss what we can offer during the main summer holiday and hope to be able to let you know shortly after half term.

This half term we have been focussing in our worship and assembly time on Trust and Faith, and Caring for Others. We looked at the story of Abraham in the Old Testament which is common to Islam, Christianity and Judaism. We learned how Abraham had to put his trust in God that the wonderful promises God had made to him would come true. We learned that people of faith put their trust in God but also people of all faiths and none can learn from the story that trust takes faith and patience and sometimes we need to be patient for things to work themselves out in our lives. We also looked at famous historical figures who were motivated by their faith to care for others. Our focus was on Elizabeth Fry (previously on the back of the old five pound note), who made it her life's work to transform the way prisoners were treated and in particular women and children in them. Our worship and assembly times, always give children the opportunity to think and reflect and take away a message for the day that is relevant to all no matter what faith or belief.

Faith, Hope, Love

Ramadan and Special Invitation to share Breaking Fast

I and Mrs Emery, one of our school governors, were delighted to be able to accept an invitation to join our friends at the City Central Mosque on Monday evening, to share in their special meal of breaking fast. The Lord Major had also been invited, joined by local councillors and other representatives from the community. The ladies had prepared beautiful food for us to share with them whilst we listened to the proceedings, focussing on giving thanks and recognising the blessings that we all have as a motivation to help those less fortunate than ourselves. It was wonderful for people of different faiths to be able to come together in the spirit of love and friendship, which is such an important message for us here at Hanley St Luke's. Thank you to all at City Central Mosque for your kindness.

Nits

As referred to in the 'Long hair section', nits are a pain for parents and for schools and it takes everybody to be vigilant to help stop the little pests in their tracks. Here once again, is the advice for prevention and treatment offered by the NHS:



How to get rid of head lice and nits

Treatments to get rid of head lice are available to buy from pharmacies, supermarkets and online. You don't usually need to see your GP.

The main treatments are:

lotions or sprays that kill head lice – these can be very effective, but some aren't suitable for pregnant or breast-feeding women, or for children under 2

removing head lice with a specially designed comb – this is suitable for everyone and relatively inexpensive, but needs to be repeated several times and can take a long time to do thoroughly

A pharmacist can advise you about the treatments available if you're not sure which is best for you or your child. Make sure you carefully follow the instructions that come with the treatment you choose.

How you get head lice

Head lice are spread by direct head to head contact. They climb from one person's hair to another's.

Preventing head lice

It's very difficult to prevent head lice.

You may want to consider regular [detection combing](#) – for example, on a weekly basis – if you're concerned about your children or yourself.

Lotions and sprays don't prevent head lice and should only be used if a live louse has been found in your or your child's hair.

Staying off work or school and washing clothing and bedding on a hot wash is unnecessary, as it's unlikely to help prevent the spread of head lice.



Dates for your Diary

School closes	Fri 24 th May
School re-opens	Tues 4th June
Yr 4 Trip	Wed 12 th June
Yr 2 Trip	Mon 17 th June
Strawberry Fair	Fri 21 st June
KS2 Sports Day	Mon 24 th June
Yr 5 Trip	Tues 25 th June
Reception & KS1 Sports Day	Wed 26 th June

Whole-School Reading Scheme

We are excited to announce that the investment in our home-school reading scheme is almost complete. The shiny, new books have arrived and staff have received training for the online 'Bug Club' resource that we will be rolling out to children and parents in the final summer term.

The new approach in school will mean some differences in relation to expectations for home-reading but before we release the new texts and allocate online resources for the children we wish to invite you in to school to explain how the new system will work.

These events will take place in the summer term and will give you the opportunity to view some of the new books that we have purchased and have a look at the Bug Club online reading resource too. Dates and times will be confirmed at a later date. The sessions will also offer advice on how best to support your child at home with reading as we strive to ensure that the enthusiasm amongst our children is supported and hope that everyone gets the 'bug' to read more and more!

SATs

The whole team here at Hanley St Luke's would like to say a great big well done to all our Y6 pupils for dealing really well with SATs week. They did us proud with their attitude and perseverance, whatever the results!

Our Y2 pupils have also been beavering away on their special tests which have been spread out across several weeks with the final one this week.

Again, we're super proud of every single one of them. Great job, kids!

