



St Luke's C E First School

17th
October
2025

Dates for your Diary

October

Tuesday 21st – flu
Vaccinations /
Parents Evening

Wednesday 22nd –
Individual School
Photographs /
Parents Evening

Thursday 23rd –
Tigers class to
Bishops Wood

Friday 24th – Break
up for Half Term

November

Monday 3rd – Back
to School

Wednesday 5th –
Rage 2 Riches
collection / Tigers
Class Invasion
Games event

Friday 7th – Lions
Class to Gorcott
Hill

Monday 10th –
Anti-bullying Week
/ Odd Sock Day



School Vision - In our St Luke's family, we recognise we are all God's children and through our caring and nurturing environment, we follow His word. We trust and rely on God's teaching so that we can encourage each other, develop our relationship with one another and the world, and flourish in all that we do.

'God's word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.' (Psalm 119: 105)

Autumn Term Parents' Evenings

As we are coming to the end of this first half term, it is lovely to look back on all the positives from the last 7 weeks – we are so proud of the children and all of their hard work and for their positive attitudes to learning!

Next week, we look forward to meeting with parents and carers to discuss how well your child has settled into their new class and to share information about their learning and progress. Please double check your appointment date and time so that you don't miss it. If you are unsure when your appointment is, please speak to your class teacher or Mrs Bird who can check this for you.

Don't forget, we have school photos on Wednesday so all children need to be looking smart in full school uniform!

Also, a reminder that disco tickets are on sale from Mrs Bird in the school office. The PTAS will be holding the disco on Friday 7th November.

Attendance:

Our whole school attendance for the year to date is **97.67%**

Bears	Giraffes	Elephants	Tigers	Lions	Whole School
95.71%	97.0%	96.9%	100%	100%	97.86%



Cycle to School Week

We've loved seeing some of the children cycle to school this week!

One less car = one more adventure.

All children that rode to school got to use their bikes during OPAL play today and had an extra ride time on Monday too!



Open Day for September 2026 Applications

We are holding our open day events for September 2026 intake on Tuesday 11th November. If you have a younger sibling due to start school next year, and you would like to join us on a tour of the school, please speak to Mrs Bird in the school office to book a place at either 9.30am or 5.00pm. If you know anyone whose child is due to start school in September 2026, please spread the word of our school and encourage them to come and see us for themselves!

Think of the Month

This month's think is *Is it ever ok to tell a lie?*

Here are some more of our responses so far –



"No because it's not nice – unless it is a secret about a birthday coming up." Anonymous

"No because it can hurt someone's feelings." Zorain Lions

"I think it is not ok." Kristos Tigers

"I would tell a lie to protect someone, so it would come from a place of love, not hurt." Mrs Elmes

Remembrance



Our Lions children will be selling poppies in school from Monday 3rd November. Please bring in your donations – we are asking for 50p per poppy to try and raise as much money as possible to support the British Royal Legion

Internet Safety

We are currently reviewing our curriculum plans in computing and revising our approach to teaching the children about staying safe online. Mrs Martin, our Computing lead, has put together a series of E-Safety activities for each class and after half term, every computing lesson will start with an E-Safety teaching point in order to ensure our children develop their understanding of how the internet can be used as such a valuable tool, while at the same time remaining vigilant about the potential issues and dangers that may arise. We will continue to share regular 'Wake up Wednesday' E-Safety advice with parents/carers through our newsletter.



Elephants Mosque Visit

I was lucky enough to join Elephants class on their visit to the mosque this week. The children were fabulous on this walk to the mosque and they were really engaged - they learned lots of new information about the Islam religion and we embedded knowledge we had already learned.

We were lucky to get to watch a worship in action with people from the local community and then children who volunteered, had a go at practising the prayer postures later on.



St Luke's Day Celebrations

Today, we have celebrated St Luke in our third St Luke's Day celebration! Each class have been working on a story from the Gospel for St Luke this morning, and have learnt the following –

Luke's gospel was most likely written between 60 and 80 AD. Luke was a well-educated man being a historian and a physician. The gospel is written as a letter to Theophilus, a friend of Luke's; although who Theophilus is, is not clear. Luke suggests that he has researched what he is writing carefully, speaking to people who were eyewitnesses of what Jesus did, as well as looking at other sources. It is understood that Luke uses Mark's gospel as a basis and source for his writing. Luke writes in a typical Roman style and is writing to a Roman audience. His focus is on looking at Jesus as the 'Son of Man' and the healing power of the Holy Spirit, which may tie in with his profession as a physician.

These are the stories each class has been learning about, so please ask your child about them –

Bears – The Good Samaritan

Giraffes - 18:15-17 – The Little Children and Jesus

Elephants 14:12-24 – Feast

Tigers 5:1-11 – Jesus' Friends

Lions - 19:1-10 – Zacchaeus

During the afternoon, every class has been developing their understanding of spirituality. Please see Class Dojo for more details.

School Nurse

This week, I have held a meeting with our School Nurse, who has shared feedback from the recent health screener questionnaire our Reception parents have recently completed. She has asked me to share a few points with parents/carers:

- A reminder to take your child for vision and hearing tests – even if you don't think there is a problem, it is advised to have sight and hearing checked.
- If your child is feeling anxious or worried about anything, please come and speak to us. We will be able to offer support – whether this be through adults here in school or by signposting you to external agencies who can offer advice.
- Don't forget your '5 a day' fruit and vegetables!

Lions Class Athletics Event

On Wednesday morning, Lions had an exciting visit to Trinity High School to take part in a range of athletics activities. They enjoyed participating in all the tasks, from javelin to speed bounce and target throwing. Well done Lions!



Work with Me Lions

A big thank you to all the parents and carers who joined our Lions class this week for a Science experiment in school. We hope you enjoyed working alongside your child!

Our final work with me session will be for Bears class on Wednesday 5th November at 2.15pm. Please see Class Dojo for more details from Mrs Hirons-Reed.



SAVE THE DATES - Christmas is coming...

It may still be only October, but we know it will come around quickly!

Monday 15th December – KS2 Performances in school. Our Tigers and Lions will be performing at 9:15am and 2:30pm in the school hall.

Tuesday 16th December – Our Bears children will be performing to parents and carers at 9:15am and 2:30pm in the school hall.

Wednesday 17th December – KS1 Performances in school. Our Giraffes and Elephants will be performing at 9:15am and 2:30pm in the school hall.

Friday 12th December – PTA Santa Breakfast, Christmas Grotto and Christmas Fair after school.

Tuesday 9th December - All the children at St Luke's have been invited over to the Bridge church in December for a Christmas Experience. This will involve an interactive walk around the church to hear and act out the Christmas story.



Nut Free School

Please continue to remember that due to allergies, we are a nut free school! This means no nuts or products which contain nuts are to be brought into school. Thank you for your support with this.

School Council

This week, I have met with our School Council reps and we have reviewed the children's suggestions for how we can make our school an even better place.

School Council would like to share that we had some responses focused along the lines of 'we can be kind to each other / we can look after each other', and School Council were very quick to point out that we already do this!



Here are the other ideas our children have made via the School Council drop box, along with School Council's responses –

Cupcakes for pudding with school meals - *this has been passed on to Cupcakes Catering as a suggestion.*

A field club - *the child has mentioned we have had a forest school club so can we have a field club – we are looking into this for autumn 2, so watch this space!*

Having pom poms in the OPAL craft area – *Mrs Burling is sourcing pom poms for this purpose so this will soon be a new addition to our OPAL provision.*

Having ECO council and Reading Ambassador badges for the children to wear – *these have been ordered and should be with us next week!*

Buy new books for the school library – *Mrs Broughton will be meeting with the Reading ambassadors and School Council very soon to do put together a list of books to order.*

Another suggestion from a pupil was to have a 'ride your scooter to school day', which of course we have already been doing this week!

I am very grateful to the children for putting forward their ideas for how we can improve our school event further and I hope you can see from the responses above that where we can, we will always aim to put the children's ideas into practice.

Autumn 2 Clubs

Our Autumn 2 clubs letter will be sent home next week, so please keep an eye out for that. Clubs will run for 6 weeks from week beginning Monday 3rd November to week beginning Monday 8th December.

Collective Worship

This week we have continued our new half termly theme, with our focus words being 'Follow Me'. This week's letter was 'M is for Miracles. We have shared the story of Jesus feeding the 5000 and thought about how this links to our school vision:

- *In our St Luke's family, we recognise we are all God's children...* – Jesus saw everyone as precious and deserving of care.
- *Through our caring and nurturing environment, we follow His word...* – Jesus taught us to share what we have, even when it seems small.
- *We trust and rely on God's teaching...* – Just as the disciples trusted Jesus to provide, we can trust that God will help us to do good things when we work together.
- *So that we can encourage each other, develop our relationship with one another and the world, and flourish in all that we do.* – When we share, we help others flourish — and we flourish too.

Our reflections this week have included:

How can we, as part of our St Luke's family, share what we have — our time, our kindness, our friendship — so that everyone feels cared for and welcomed?

In our Celebration Worship we have said "congratulations" to children impressing their teachers by living out our school vision. I was delighted to hand out vision certificates to Kristian (Bears), Yahya (Giraffes), Ishanvi (Elephants), Zayan (Tigers) and Ramon (Lions).

Lunchtime Award Winners: Aydin (Giraffes), Jacob (Lions)

Golden Welly: Anaya (Bears)

Well done to ALL CLASSES for receiving an attendance certificate of the week for attendance over 95% and huge congratulations to both Tigers and Lions classes for 100% attendance this week – wow, we've never had 2 classes in the same week before achieving 100% before!



St Luke's Stars of the Week

Each week in our celebration assembly, the teachers will be choosing a pupil to recognise for their excellent work and attitude to learning. Please see Class Dojo for pictures of our 'St Luke's Stars of the Week'. We are very proud of everyone for their hard work and achievements.



Bears: Bella for excellent improvement with handwriting – she has been using the skills she had developed in the hall during squiggle and kinetic letter time.

Giraffes: Arthur for brilliant recall of knowledge in Science.

Elephants: Alex for choosing effective vocabulary when writing about Goldilocks's actions in the story. He used adverbs, interesting verbs and adjectives as well. Keep it up!

Tigers: Amara for being eager to improve and attentive to feedback, enabling her to flourish (especially in writing).

Lions: Maisie for her innovation of Ghanian Goldilocks in English.

Please continue to send in certificates and awards from outside of school achievements so we can share them with the whole school community during our celebration assembly.



UK Health
Security
Agency



Should I keep my child off school?



Yes

Until...

Chickenpox	at least 5 days from the onset of the rash and until all blisters have crusted over
Diarrhoea and Vomiting	48 hours after their last episode
Cold and Flu-like illness (including COVID-19)	they no longer have a high temperature and feel well enough to attend. Follow the national guidance if they've tested positive for COVID-19.
Impetigo	their sores have crusted and healed, or 48 hours after they started antibiotics
Measles	4 days after the rash first appeared
Mumps	5 days after the swelling started
Scabies	they've had their first treatment
Scarlet Fever	24 hours after they started taking antibiotics
Whooping Cough	48 hours after they started taking antibiotics

No

but make sure you let their school or nursery know about...

Hand, foot and mouth	Glandular fever
Head lice	Tonsillitis
Threadworms	Slapped cheek



SCAN ME

Advice and guidance

To find out more, search for health protection in schools or scan the QR code or visit <https://qrco.de/minfec>.