



St Luke's C E First School

14th March
2025

Dates for your Diary

March

Tuesday 18th –
Lions class
Stepping Out
Pedestrian
Training Part 2

Tuesday 18th –
Tigers class
Hockey event @
Redditch Hockey
Club

Tuesday 18th –
Parents' Evening

Wednesday 19th –
Parents' Evening

Friday 21st – Lions
class Bikeability

Thursday 27th –
Tigers Class
Egyptian Day

Thursday 27th –
Mothering Sunday
Event Bears Class

Thursday 28th –
Mothering Sunday
Giraffes/Elephants
and Tigers/Lions

April

Tuesday 2nd -
Lions class
invasion games @
Trinity High School



HOPE



TRUST



JUSTICE



FORGIVENESS



HUMILITY



RESILIENCE

Our 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)

We have had a super week in school, with our Lions class being especially busy! There have been so many fantastic learning moments and opportunities for our children to flourish in all they do. We saw our school vision in action at the Year 4 cross country event, with the children supporting and encouraging each other to complete the course!

We look forward to seeing parents and carers in school next week for our spring term parents' evening meetings. Please double check the day and time you have booked for and if you are not sure, please contact Mrs Bird in the office to double check.

Attendance:

Our attendance to date is **95.41%**.

Can I again remind parents and carers that school starts at 8:50am. We are experiencing days with no children arriving late, and others when our number of late arrivals is much higher than we would like. We appreciate that everyone can experience exceptional circumstances which can lead to being late to school once in a while, but arriving late should not be the 'norm'. Thank you for your support with this.



| Bears | Giraffes | Elephants | Tigers | Lions | Whole School |
|--------|----------|-----------|--------|--------|--------------|
| 96.33% | 95.52% | 96.4% | 99.29% | 98.62% | 97.23% |

Science Week 2024 – Change and Adapt!

This week we have been celebrating Science Week! Each class has completed activities and investigations based around this year's theme of 'Change and Adapt'.



Bears children have been planting in forest school and describing the process of plant growth! They have learned to identify and name the different parts of a plant at each stage of its growth.

Giraffes have been 'smashing stereotypes' and learning about different role models in Science and STEM. They have learned about how glaciers can change the shape of the world and have answered the question "Should we flush it away?" by performing an investigation all about toilet paper and its impact on the environment!

Elephants have also been studying the environment around them. They have completed a 'live lesson' all about farming and looking after our world, saving electricity and how to keep our environment clean and healthy.

Tigers have been studying adaptations in animals. They have explored how and why animals have camouflage to help them blend into their environment and how birds' beaks are adapted to the types of food a bird eats - A short heavy beak is great for nuts, but a long thin beak allows a bird to drink nectar from inside a flower!

Lions have had a very busy week, but have also been able to explore how animals depend on their habitat. They studied how some animals have been able to successfully adapt to how humans are changing their environments and can live side by side with humans, but other animals have struggled to adapt and survive. The children then had a go at designing new, safe and protective habitats for animals.

Road Safety

We are continuing to receive positive feedback about our extended drop off times and the teachers are seeing a calmer start to the school day. Following on from our assembly last week with the PCSOs and the work we have been doing in school on road safety, can I please remind all adults who are walking through the staff car park to use the designated path. This week, we have seen several parents and children walking directly through the car park, and on one occasion the adult was walking ahead of the child, and would not have been aware if a car had reversed out of a car park space. We have talked to the children about this this week, so they are all aware that if they are walking through the car park, they should be on the pathway.

An update on road safety from our Chair of Governors:

I would like to give an update on behalf of the governors around parking. We have received feedback, from both parents and the wider public, that the extended drop-off time in the morning has led to a reduction in the dangerous parking outside the school and an improvement in the general flow of traffic at those times. We are grateful to Mrs Baker for both the idea and the implementation.

I had a meeting with our local MP, Chris Bloore, last Friday evening at a surgery he was holding in Harvington. We discussed the challenges with parking and the options available to us. He is going to contact the Highways department of Worcestershire County Council and see if the double-yellow lines coming up the hill of Plymouth Road can be amended to allow additional parking. This would then mean there is ample parking around the school and allow pedestrians to safely use the pavements. Chris is intending to visit the school one morning so that he can see first-hand the challenges we all face.

I will keep you updated with any developments.

Think of the Month

This month's think:

Is it ever ok to bully a bully?

Here are some of our responses so far -

'No because if you bully, you are a bully now.' Shannon Tigers

'Bullying is never ok, no matter how big or small.' Anonymous

'No, because it's wrong to be mean.' Ursula Tigers

'I think it is not ok to bully a bully because you are becoming a bully and encouraging poor choices at the same time.' Mrs Gafka

'It's not good to bully someone – just tell a teacher.' Lara Lions

'Bullying is never ok! Remember: Treat others the way you would like to be treated.' Mrs J

'No because if they are a bully, don't be a bully like them.' Afiyah Tigers

'No because it could hurt someone's feelings.' Aiza Elephants

'No, it's never ok to bully a bully. You should always show kindness and care to others and they will return the same qualities back.' Mrs Broughton.



Mothering Sunday

Our fabulous PTA will be hosting a special Mothering Sunday event at the end of March. We invite one female member of the family to join their child in school for tea and cake on the following days and times:

Bears Class – Thursday 27th March at 9:00am

Giraffes & Elephants Classes – Friday 28th March at 9:00am

Tigers & Lions Classes – Friday 28th March at 2:30pm



Each class are currently working on a special something to say thank you to all the wonderful mums, nans, aunties, sisters etc. We hope to see lots of you in school for these events.

It's been a very busy week for Lions Class...and lots of examples of how we flourish in all that we do here at St Luke's!

Mosque Visit

Our Lions children had a very informative and enjoyable visit to Redditch central Mosque this week! We were made to feel very welcome and the children enjoyed the opportunity to explore the mosque, ask questions and find out more about the daily prayers.



Pedestrian Training

Lions had a very informative morning learning all about safety when walking near and crossing the roads. Mrs Wood came to school to share important information on how to cross the road safely and the children have learnt how to be safe pedestrians. This is vital for them as they get older, move on the middle school and develop more independence. Next week, they will be putting everything they have learnt to the test in their unescorted walk.



Cross Country

I am so proud of all our Lions for giving the cross country race at Birchensale their absolute all this week! It wasn't easy for many children, but they all showed our value of resilience in completing the course and finishing the race – well done Lions, and as mentioned previously, the children were clearly living out our school vision of encouraging each other and flourishing in all they do! Everyone came back pleased with how well they had done, with our top 7 boys and top 7 girls now going through to the final race against more children on 9th April!



Bears Work with Me

Our Bears class had a very enjoyable forest school session this week...this time with some extra adults to share the fun with! Many thanks to all the parents/carers who came along to this session – we hope you enjoyed it, despite that cold!





St Luke's VIPs!

This week's VIPs are: Wali (Bears), Salomi (Giraffes) Eliza (Elephants), Payton (Tigers) and Macy (Lions).

Collective Worship

In collective worship this week, we have continued our half term theme of 'EASTER'. We have focused on 'S is for Shouts, and we have talked about the **Psalms and Prophets**. In the writings of the Prophets, **shouting** is speaking publicly for God. In the Psalms, we read the word 'shouts' a lot. When people shout in Psalms it means having very strong faith in God – they are declaring and proclaiming their faith. This week, Mrs Elmes has also shared the story of Palm Sunday with the children.

Picture News

Is it important to feel proud of where you come from?



Mutual Respect & Tolerance

When we practise mutual respect and tolerance, we learn about each other's backgrounds and treat everyone kindly. By doing this, we help more people feel proud of, and happy in, the places where they live.



In our Celebration Worship we have said "congratulations" to children impressing their teachers by showing our school values. I was delighted to hand out values certificates to Zaiba (Bears), Jayla (Giraffes), Haniya (Elephants), Ramon (Tigers) and Nancy (Lions).

Lunchtime Award Winners: Ethan (Elephants) and Nancy (Lions)

OPAL Golden Welly Winner: Alexia (Bears)

For the third week in a row, all 5 classes have received attendance certificate of the week for attendance over 95% - Brilliant!

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: Yahya for his enthusiasm in all areas of learning. He always demonstrates a keen willingness to participate in any directed learning.

Giraffes: Iley for always listening, always trying her best and always having a positive attitude to her learning.

Elephants: Arlo for his superb writing when retelling Jack and the Beanstalk. His handwriting has improved massively and he is now able to think of his own sentences that include many of our learnt writerly skills without prompting. WOW!

Tigers: JV for her discussion and ideas in PSHE about how to forgive others and make things right.

Lions: Toby for increasing independence and making sure he is referring to the working wall and working with his learning partner before seeking support from adults.

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 worshi

