



St Luke's C E First School

13th
September
2024

Dates for your Diary

September

Wk beginning
16th – Re-cycle
Week

Thursday 26th –
Lions Class
Adopt a Chef

Friday 27th –
Languages Day

October

Thursday 3rd –
Harvest Festival
@ The Bridge
Church – 9.15am

Friday 18th – St
Luke's Day

Tuesday 22nd –
Flu Vaccinations

Wednesday 23rd
– School
Photographer

Friday 25th –
Break up for Half
Term



This Week

We have had a busy first full week back in school! Our children have had the opportunity to start new clubs, experience the beginning of our OPAL play journey, start swimming lessons (Tigers class) and begin their new learning for this academic year.

After School Clubs

Our after school clubs have started brilliantly this week! This half term we are enjoying, lego, photography, times tables rockstars, 'work out Wednesdays' mindful colouring and painting, and a group of Year 2 children are developing their cycling skills! Please remember that if your child has signed up to a club, we expect them to attend each week. If they don't attend, we will look to give their place to someone else who may be on a waiting list.

Work with Me Dates

I am pleased to share our autumn term work with me dates. We invite parents/carers into the classroom from 2.15pm – 3.15pm on the dates below to work alongside your children. Bears class, we will be in touch soon about what 'work with me' will look like in our Reception class.

Giraffes – Wednesday 2nd October

Elephants – Wednesday 9th October

Tigers – Tuesday 8th October

Lions – Tuesday 1st October

Attendance:

We have had a really strong start with our attendance this academic year! We are celebrating class attendance over 95% in each celebration worship and we are looking to increase our attendance rewards throughout the year by holding raffles each half term where all children with attendance over 95% could be in with a chance of winning a prize...watch this space!



Bears	Giraffes	Elephants	Tigers	Lions	Whole School
	93.67%	99.6%	98.24%	98.57%	97.92%

Late Collections

While our attendance figures are really positive, we are noticing an increase in late collections from school. Can I please remind all parents/carers that school ends at 3:20pm. We know there can be occasions where you are stuck in traffic, struggling to park or something unexpected may have happened which means you are a few minutes late to school. Likewise, there are occasions in school where we may be a few minutes late dismissing the children. We are keeping a log of late collections, especially those which are over 10 minutes after school has ended and we will be in touch with families to find out the reasons for this and to discuss how we can support moving forward. Please be mindful that it can be very unsettling for children to be sat waiting to be collected after school when all of their friends have gone home.



Nut Free School

Please continue to remember that due to severe 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.

Safeguarding

At St Luke's we are committed to safeguarding all our pupils. We take safeguarding and child protection very seriously. Our designated safeguarding leads are Mrs Baker, Mrs Broughton and Mrs Cockram. Justine Fitzer is our Family Support Worker and she can be contacted on 07809330825.

OPAL Playtimes

It has been wonderful to see the children embracing the new approach to lunch time play at St Luke's this week! The small world area has been very well received and we have also enjoyed some arts and crafts on the playground. My highlight though has been the dressing up area and watching the children role play in costumes – our Lions children especially are thoroughly enjoying this opportunity!

I would like to thank Mrs Burling for her boundless energy and enthusiasm to set up all things OPAL at St Luke's. I am sure your children are coming home and telling you all about their new playtimes, and none of this would be possible without Mrs Burling and all her hard work and ideas.

Mrs Burling has recently posted a parental feedback form to Class Dojo, so we would appreciate it if you could take the time to complete this for us – thank you.

Pupil Leadership Opportunities

We will soon be setting up a 'Play team' to work alongside Mrs Burling to develop OPAL even further. In addition to this, all classes have received a letter this week about joining the School Council. Each class will be holding a democratic vote to select our new School Councillors for this academic year. Mrs Griffiths and I are also in the process of setting up an ECO committee within our school, which will bring more opportunities for our children to take ownership and responsibility.

Think of the Month

We have recently introduced a 'think of the month' in school. Thunks are simple looking questions about every day things that make you think! When answering the thunk, consider these questions...

- *What do you think?
- *Why do you think it?
- *Can you give an example?

This month's thunk:

Can you be happy and sad at the same time?



Tigers Swimming

Our Tigers children have started their swimming lessons this week – and what a great time they had! Here are some of their quotes:

JV

“I loved it because the instructors supported and I am ready for swimming again next week!”

Grace D

“I wonder if it will be even better next week?”

Adam

“I loved it because we played games and I get putting my face under water.”

Hayden

“I liked when we I put my whole body under water and it felt like I was in the ocean!”

Ursula

“I can’t wait to learn how to swim!”

Zayn

“I can’t wait to go back next week!”

Our New School Teams

You may remember that towards the end of last term, we asked for ideas for new team names so we could replace the old ‘bananas, strawberries, plums and pears. We had many ideas from children, staff and wider families and at the end of the summer term, School Council worked with me to choose our top 4 options. Across the past week, pupils and staff have been voting on these and I am pleased to announce that our new team names will be:

Earth, Water, Fire and Air.

This was suggested by both Mrs Kelly on our staff team and Ursula in our Tigers class!

We are now beginning the process of allocating each child to a new team, keeping siblings together and we will be creating a new team point display in the school hall. We are also looking for Team Captains from our Lions class.

Wrap Around Consultation

Earlier this week, I posted a wrap around consultation letter to Class Dojo. If your family are interested in before and/or after school provision for your child, please see Mrs Cox to collect a form we are asking parents to fill out. This will give us an idea of the potential demand for this service. Please return your forms by 9am on Friday 20th September.

Parking

As we start the new school year, please remember to drive and park carefully and considerately around the school grounds. This week I have been made aware of inconsiderate and dangerous parking along Plymouth Road and people parking on the car park where there are not identified spaces. Drop off and collection times at all schools are very busy and we are fortunate to have the use of the church car park. However, if this is not used in an appropriate way by our families, the church will request that we don’t use this anymore – which would make parking around our school even more difficult. Please take extra care in order to ensure all of our school community are safe -thank you.

Collective Worship

This week, we have started to think about the theme of *Harvest* and the children will soon be preparing for their Harvest Festival service which is being held on Thursday 3rd October at the Bridge church. All classes will be



attending and we hope to see as many parents and carers there as possible – all classes will be performing a Harvest song.

We have also had a visit from Paul at Southcrest Church.

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 Aiza (Giraffes), Arlo (Elephants), Jacob (Tigers) and Nadine (Lions).

Our Bears children will be joining our celebration worship for the first time next week.

Lunchtime award winners:

Elephants, Tigers and Lions received attendance certificates for attendance over 95% this week – well done!

We also celebrated this week’s St Luke’s Stars of the Week:

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.



Giraffes: Ishanvi for a beautiful drawing of God's creations in RE

Elephants: Aiza for working hard in every lesson - especially her English. She is listening carefully to instructions which has led to her meeting all of her learning objectives.

Tigers: Habib for his amazing effort in Maths, recognising place value in 3-digit numbers and even calculating how many tens were in different hundreds.

Lions: Ibrahim for settling back into school well and completing work independently using the scaffolding and directions provided by Mrs Barratt

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.

