



St Lukian Newsletter

Learning, Laughing, Loving

at Family St Luke's

Issue 4 - 7th April 2017

What a busy term we've had here at Hanley St Luke's and I can't believe that I've been here for a whole term. It doesn't seem a minute since snow almost stopped play, and now we're being treated to some Spring sunshine and the Easter holidays are upon us! Time really does fly!

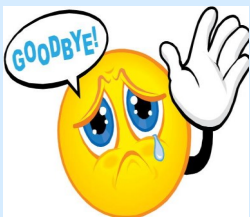
I have so enjoyed getting to know staff, parents and children, and whilst I cannot claim to have learned all the children's names, I certainly know quite a few now, and the children frequently try to test me! I'll keep trying children; I promise!!

There certainly is a special family feel here at school, made all the more special by the diverse mix of cultures, ethnicities and languages. Our children really do model the British Values of mutual respect for and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs and look for what we all have in common rather than focusing on difference- that's a lesson they could teach many in the wider world, I'm sure! In the main our children are exceptionally well behaved and respectful and are eager to learn which is just fantastic. Of course, no school is perfect, and each has its own challenges to overcome, but what has impressed me greatly, is that despite the challenges (an old Victorian building, being one of them), there is a real pride in the school and a determination to be the best it can be and offer the children the very best of starts. This really is uplifting and certainly motivates me to ensure that, although we may lack the shiny new buildings of some schools, our pupils certainly sparkle just as brightly with talent and deserve the very best that we can offer.

So, at the end of my first term with you, with signs of spring shooting up all around us, and the hope and joy of the Easter festivities on the horizon, I would like to thank you all for your welcome and support and wish you all every blessing of the season.

Say Good bye

We sadly say good bye to Mrs Ray on Friday as she leaves to take up her promotion at another primary across the city. All at Hanley St Luke's would like to express our sincere thanks for all the dedication and expertise she has shared with the school and wish her every success for the future.



We also sadly say good bye to Mr Mincher, who has been covering maternity leave in Year 4. I would like to thank Mr Mincher for his dedication to the children and for being a valuable member of our team and wish him

every success in the future.

After 22 years dedicated service at the school, Mrs Brearley our Cook, is also leaving us and we thank her for all her hard work and wish her every blessing for the future.

Say Hello

This week we also welcomed back Miss James as she returned from maternity leave and will be back to her role as fulltime Reception class teacher in RL after Easter. It's good to have you back on the team, Miss James!



After Easter we welcome back Mrs Clewes, our Deputy Head, as she returns from her maternity leave. For the remainder of the academic year she will be supporting the children mainly in Y2 as an additional teacher across KS1 and also running our nurture facility, as well as her many leadership responsibilities. I am very much looking forward to working with Mrs Clewes, as part of our Senior Leadership Team.

Attendance

We have been working hard to improve this since January and I can report that at the end of last term our whole school attendance figure was 94.61%

At the end of this term we have improved that together to a whole school attendance of 95.71%. We still have much to do but this is a very pleasing start, so thank you for supporting our attendance drive!



Spring Music Concert

This was a lovely event held on Thursday last week where our choir and instrumentalists entertained us with solos, duets, ensembles and much more. We were privileged to hear some real talent on the stage and all the children can be so proud of their achievements – it's no easy thing to stand and play an instrument in front of a large audience and I am extremely proud of all of them. My thanks to the staff who worked exceptionally hard to pull this together and to the PTFA who raised £124.75 from the raffle and refreshments. A special thanks to Mrs Jennings, her dad and daughter for supporting our brass ensemble and treating us and the children to some expert brass playing- what a joy!



Jazz Dance Festival—By roving reporters Maddy-Mae Buxton, Ebony Rush, Turell Brown and Eleithya Sinclair-English

On Monday 13th March a group of girls went to the Victoria Hall to perform in the morning. They were doing the decade 1950 and they performed a jazz dance to the song "Jail House Rock" by Elvis Presley. They had been practising in the after school Jazz dance class taught by Miss Caroline.

Molly said "It was fun and really exiting plus it was a good experience to see other schools dance!" Olivia said "she liked it, and that it was a good experience to see what other schools had choreographed".

Easter Bonnets We had a lovely time at both our Easter bonnet events with some fabulous creations, so thank you for joining with us in this celebration. We also had some wonderful art work for our competition and some very worthy winners. Well done children and thank you to Frank Mcgregor from the Hanley Team Ministry for the unenviable task of judging all the entries!



Recorder Festival

Well done to all the children who took part in the Recorder Festival at the Victoria Hall on 29th March. Over the two days of the festival nearly 800 children from 36 schools took part which really is a great achievement and a wonderful opportunity for the children to be inspired by playing in such a large group and also listening to soloists and ensembles. Thank you to all who took part.



We raised a total of £407.48 for **Red Nose Day**. Thank you for your support.



Easter Prayer

Heavenly Father,

This Easter we pray that the love of God is resurrected, reborn and renewed inside our hearts. Help us to share your love this Easter.

Amen

Class Worship

Since the last newsletter we have been treated to both Year 1 and Y3 class assemblies. Y1 went 'all pirate' on us with a nautical theme and some great 'oo arrrrs' and pirate jokes. Their model boats were really impressive too!

Y3 took us back to Roman times and had some very strange facts for us about the Romans' toilet habits and their appetite for dormice! As ever both class assemblies were lots of fun and a great opportunity to celebrate learning. Well done children!



St Luke's Church & Community Centre News

Morning worship at St Luke's every Sunday at 11.00am



Tuesday 25th April—Yr 5 Stanley Head and Yr 6 Liverpool Museum trips

Wednesday 3rd May 2pm—PTFA meeting

Holiday dates

School closes 3.15pm Fri 7th Apr 17

School opens 8.45am Mon 24th Apr 17

School closed—May Day 1st May 17

School closes 3.15pm Wed 24th May 17

School opens 8.45am Mon 5th June 17

Easter Services

7.30pm Wednesday 12th April - Service of Creative Worship

11.00am Easter Sunday (16th April) Holy Communion

11.00am Sunday 23rd April—Bouncy Church



Parent & Toddler group, will be starting on Tuesday 25th April from 9.15-11.00am!

Please phone Jennie on 07736765612 for more information.