



Hanley St Luke's C of E Aided Primary School

Learning, Laughing, Loving at Family St Luke's

Half Term Update - February 2018

Since our last St Lukian newsletter, there have been quite a few things to bring to your attention, which I'm sure you'd appreciate an update on before half term:

New Deputy Head Appointment:

I am delighted to announce that after a very successful assessment and interview, we have appointed Mr Killeen as our new Deputy Head. Mr Killeen is currently an Assistant Head in a Staffordshire school and excited to be joining our team here at Hanley St Luke's. Mr Killeen will not have a class base in the summer term but will be supporting a variety of classes as he gets to know the school and the children whilst working with our existing leadership team to continue our drive for continual school improvement. He will be joining us for a transition day before the end of the term ready to start after Easter, where we will ensure he is able to meet as many of you as possible and I hope you will offer him the very warm welcome that I received just over a year ago!

Parent Consultations

Having reviewed how these operated last year and taken feedback from parents and staff, we are making some changes going forward to Y1-Y6 consultations (EYFS staying the same) to minimise the loss of teaching time that holding these sessions during day necessitates, and also extending the appointment slots for those who find it challenging to have a daytime appointment. A letter will follow shortly asking you to select a 10 minute appointment slot from 1:00p.m. through to 6:30 p.m. (with the possibility of a pre-school early morning appointment if convenient for the class teacher concerned).

All advertised dates remain the same apart from Y2 whose day will now be Thursday 15th March and NOT Friday 9th March as previously advertised on the Year Planner.

Thank you



World Book Day

We are holding this on Friday 2nd March (a day after the national event) so that our children going swimming aren't limited in their costume choices! There are two themes this year: dress as a favourite character from a book and bring the book along if you can or dress in your PJs or onesie and bring along the book that you'd most like as a bedtime story or to snuggle up under the duvet with! Either way, we want to celebrate the joy of reading. As usual the children will receive a voucher to exchange for a book at participating stores or use towards a book of their choice. Follow the link for full details <http://www.worldbookday.com/books/>



Lent Appeal

This year the children in year 4 have chosen the YMCA as the charity we are supporting during lent. The YMCA is a Christian organisation that supports men, women, children and families in need in a variety of ways in the community (check out their website: <https://ymcans.org.uk/>)

We are asking for donations of towels and toiletries to be handed in throughout the Lent period (14th Feb until we break for Easter) which they hand out to people who don't have these basics in life. In addition to this we will be holding a one off event on Friday 16th March where we will be asking for a £1 donation on our 'NO Pens' day, where the children will be learning in a variety of different ways using different methods of communicating and recording without a pen or a pencil. By forfeiting just these two simple resources, we will highlight just how much we do have, but some people have so very little and during lent we are doing our bit to show God's love and give to those in need.

Easter Bonnets

You may well have spotted on the Year Planner that this year, only our younger children will have an Easter Bonnet Parade (Nursery to Y2) on the afternoon of Tuesday 27th March so we can have more room and enjoy spending time together (some of our older children tell us they grow tired of the event as they move into KS2).

As last year, all the children who have made a bonnet will be entered into a raffle for a prize and a runner up in each class, which we feel is fairer than trying to judge all the beautiful creations. We will be inviting parents into school nearer the time to enjoy making bonnets with the children. Watch out for a Dojo message from your child's class teacher. KS2 will have a 3D Egg art competition where they can be as creative as they like with all things eggy as long as it's 3D - it can be Easter themed or any theme as long as the key component is a 3D egg!

All entries will be judged by a guest judge and not school staff with a winner and a runner up in each class. All entries will need to be in school by Friday 23rd March. We have limited supplies of polystyrene eggs left over from previous years available from the office at 50p each. All winning entries will be on display during the final Easter Eucharist Service.



I've had a few concerns raised by parents that it is difficult to get past the pavement by the top gate on Wellington Road at the end of day, especially if you have a pram or pushchair, because of parents waiting to collect Y4 children. This is a tricky one for all and we've yet to come up with a better alternative to our dismissal arrangements, which are designed to ensure all children can be handed over safely, but the layout of our building brings its own challenges here (we did help Y4 parents out at the beginning of the year by offering a 'consent only' alternative which has helped, I'm sure).

So, if I can just ask that waiting parents ensure they don't block the pavement and allow folks with pushchairs to pass and we will continue to monitor our end of day procedures and welcome any constructive feedback you may have to help us.

Thank you.



Just a reminder that dinner money must be paid on a Monday morning in advance for the whole week. Any arrears must also be paid before half term.

If you have any queries regarding dinner money please speak to Mrs Jennings in the school office.

Thank you.

