



St Lukian Newsletter

Learning, Laughing, Loving at Family St Luke's

Issue 12 January 2018

I hope 2018 has started well for you and your family. It has certainly been a busy start to the year for school with much interest in our Deputy Head post and many prospective candidates visiting the school to find out more about us, which is great. Shortlisted candidates will be called to an assessment day and interview in February and I will let you know the outcome, just as soon as I am able to.

Safeguarding Update

In line with all schools, we are required to have and make available to staff, parents and any visitors, our Child Protection and Safeguarding Policies. These are updated annually and can be accessed via the school website along with valuable information for parents on how to keep your child safe by following this link

<http://www.hanleystlukes.com/information/policies.html>.

If you wish to see a paper copy, please enquire at the office.

You may also find the information available on the Staffordshire and Stoke On Trent Safeguarding Board websites:

<http://www.safeguardingchildren.stoke.gov.uk/ccm/portal/>

Whilst schools have very clear procedures on these matters and staff at all levels have a professional duty to report concerns, anyone with a genuine concern can make a referral directly to the Safeguarding Referral Team on 01782 235100. Or if a child is at risk of immediate harm then you would telephone 999.

Of course, if you wish to speak to a member of our staff about any concerns you may have then Mrs Clough, our Safeguarding Officer is here to help.



Year 6 SATS Information meeting



We will be holding an information meeting for Y6 parents on Monday 12th February at 6:00 p.m.

This is a great chance to ask questions about the statutory tests and hear ways to help your child do their best they possibly can.

Famous Scientists

Did you know?

Isaac Newton discovered gravity by an apple falling on his head and even made the three laws of motion.

Charles Darwin had a theory of evolution which gave him an idea of how animals evolved over time. A fun fact, his granddad (Josiah Wedgwood) was from Stoke-on-Trent!

By Louis and Archie (Year 6)



Y3 Class Worship

Our Year 3 children taught us all about light when they led our worship time together on 17th January. They had clearly learned lots about light sources, how light travels and that not all materials allow light to pass through them. They also shared facts about different religious festivals which celebrate light and of course, they sang one of our favourite songs, 'My Lighthouse'!. We were reminded that God's light is over all the world and no matter what our faith or belief, we can try to follow Jesus' example and let our love for others shine through in our lives. Thank you Year 3 and thank you to all the parents and friends who came to support the children.

Attention Year 5 & 6 budding artist and poets!

First World War Art and Poetry Competition



Never Such Innocence is inviting the UK's young people to submit poems or artwork inspired by the events of the First World War. Children in Year 5 & Y6 are eligible and are asked to choose a topic that interests them and produce a piece of art or write a poem expressing their thoughts and feelings.



Also to mark the formation of the Royal Air Force in 1918, entries inspired by the 'war in the skies' will be eligible for special bonus prizes, in partnership with RAF 100. **The deadline for entries is: Friday 16th March 2018.**

For all information on your entry please go to: <http://neversuchinnocence.com/library/images/NSI%20Comp%20Rules%202017-18.pdf>

Attendance On the Up!

Overall as a school, our attendance figures have improved on this time last year, although we still have some way to go with 10.53% of our children classed as Persistent Absent because their attendance is below 90%. At this level attendance by law needs to be monitored by the Educational Welfare Officer to effect improvement. Well done if you have been able to improve your child's attendance and have accessed the support available via our Safeguarding Officer or our Education Welfare Officer - thank you.

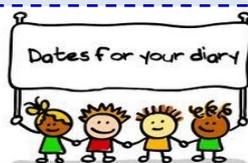
Sadly, the **punctuality** figures for the school have not improved which is very frustrating for everybody. If the entrance doors are shut and your child has to come through the main Reception, your child is late. This causes so much administration for the office, who have to record this so we can be sure we have recorded everybody on the register correctly but just as importantly, your child will have missed essential learning time and will have had the embarrassment of walking into class after everybody else.

You may have seen in the news that Staffordshire LA are toughening up their stance on lateness by introducing fines for pupils that are late more than 10 times (rather than the existing 20). Whilst this is not the policy within Stoke, it could well be adopted in the future so better to get into good habits now than fall foul of hefty fines later.

Please, please, a New Years' Resolution folks- walk through the main gates no later than 8:50 a.m. so you have 5 minutes to spare before the doors shut. Thank you!

Netball Competition Report - by roving reporters Ruby, Abby and Aminah in 6L

On the 9th of January, groups of year fives and sixes from lots of different schools around North Stoke attended a Hi5 netball competition at Fenton, Stoke. Hanley St Luke's had two teams made up of 14 people (7-a-side). Every team/school that went were split into groups. Our school was in Group A and Group B. Both groups were built with 7 teams. "Even though some of the other competitors weren't playing fairly, in the end I was happy because we came second place", quoted Marah. We, Team A, won 1 match, drew 2 and lost 1. Unfortunately, we did not go through to the semi-finals, but we did have a great time!



Tuesday 30th January — FS & Yr1 'Take a Hint' Theatre visit
Monday 12th February — 6pm—7pm Yr 6 SAT info session
Thursday 15th February — Yr 2 visit to Blists Hill
Friday 16th February — 3.15pm School closes for half term
Treat Disco in the afternoon
Monday 26th February — 8.50am School re-opens

STOP PRESS

Watch out for separate information coming shortly about our plans for this year's Lent Appeal involving a day without pens, pencils or uniform to raise awareness, and funds for those in need.



Visit to the Mosque

On 22nd January our Year 2 children walked to the mosque as part of their R.E topic. They learned lots of interesting facts about how Muslims worship and were able to ask lots of interesting questions such as 'Why do prayer mats face a certain way?', 'How do you learn Arabic?' and 'Why do men and women pray in different rooms?' Our grateful thanks to the Imam for allowing us to visit and showing us great hospitality, enabling all our children to better understand the different faiths and beliefs in a wonderfully diverse community.

Congratulations Mrs Furey!

I am delighted to share with you that Mrs Furey, who currently teaches our Reception L class, is expecting her second baby at the end of the summer! She is blooming nicely and I'm sure she'll start to get lots of interesting questions from the children about her growing bump! We will of course let you know nearer the time the arrangements for her maternity leave, which will be towards the end of the summer term. Congratulations Mr and Mrs Furey!



For further information please contact Hanley St.Luke's C of E Aided Primary School

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