



St Lukian Newsletter

Learning, Laughing, Loving at Family St Luke's

Issue 10 November 2017

As I write this half way through November, the shops are now full of Christmas goodies, lights are starting to twinkle around town and little by little we seem to have left autumn behind us and are racing into the Christmas Season! Of course, we have our own Christmas Fair on 1st December and a variety of events planned as usual before the end of term (see dates for your diary). However, the central part of the Christmas season is showing love and kindness to others and as the local drop off point, for the Samaritans' Purse Christmas Shoebox appeal, we have been delighted to send a total of 150 boxes! What a great way to show we care, so thank you to all who sent in a box. I am sure each one will bring more joy to children's lives than we can imagine.



School day Timings

You'll know that we open the doors at 8:45 a.m. and all children should be inside school by 8:55 a.m. when we close the doors. Arrive after this and your child is late, which is not acceptable and disrupts learning time. Thank you to the vast majority who are on time every single day.

The school day ends at 3:15 p.m., which is when lessons finish, and staff aim to dismiss their classes as soon after this as possible to ensure we are making good use of every minute of the day - the end is just as important as the beginning. However, to avoid congestion, we do usually stagger the dismissal a few minutes either side of this and appreciate your cooperation and patience in this.



We will Remember them....

We had a very moving and educational assembly on Wednesday 15th November as Year 4 led us through the history of Armistice Day and Remembrance Sunday. They sang songs, read poems and together taught us all about the real story behind the poppy emblem, how it is important to learn from the past, respect those who died fighting for our freedom, and resolve always to put love before hate. Thank you year 4 - it was a powerful message we all need to hear to make a positive difference in our world.

Super Science Slot

Science is a real strength in our school, with children being given lots of opportunities to explore and make sense of the amazing world around them. Our budding scientists are eager to share their knowledge with you so in this edition we kick off with some fascinating facts:

Younes Salbi 6L & Jindy Xiang 5s ask,
'Did you know?'

Venus is the hottest planet in our solar system with a surface temperature of 450 degrees C.

The strongest muscle in the human body is the **tongue**.

Turtles can live for more than 100 years.

When you are born you have 270 bones however when you become an adult you have 206 bones. This is because some of your bones fuse together. For example, your hip bone is made up of three fused bones.

Look out for more amazing facts next time!!!!

Cross Country Report by roving reporters

Daniel Sherratt and Cameron Knapper

Our race was at Hillside Primary School on Tuesday 7th November. The race was against other Hanley schools. We thought the race was good and enjoyed it, even though it was damp and cloudy!! It was muddy in some places so our shoes were coming off a bit. Cameron stated that "the race was great and it was fun". He also said, "I like doing the races and getting the medals". "I would agree with this as they are very good fun," said Daniel.



Year 6 Paralympics Competition by Harry Jennings Cavanagh

Some year 6 children went to a Paralympics competition at Wedgwood High School. We were in teams of four and took part in activities like Curling, Balloon Volleyball and Blindfolded Roll-A-Ball. Robert said, "It was painful on my knees but it was really fun!"

"It was very competitive but we didn't lose a match," Harry explained.



DATES FOR DECEMBER

Christmas Fayre - Friday 1st December at 3.30pm
Christmas jumper Day - Friday 1st December
FS & KS1 - "A King is born" - Monday 11th Dec @ 2.00pm
FS & KS1 - "A King is born" - Tuesday 12th Dec @ 9.30am
FS & KS1 Christmas Parties - Thurs 14th December
KS2 Christmas Carols - Friday 15th December @ 2.00pm
KS2 Christmas Parties - Monday 18th December
End of Term service - Tuesday 19th Dec 9.00 am
School closes for Christmas - Tues 19th Dec at 3.15pm
School re-opens - Thursday 4th January at 8.45am

NB. Parents are invited to the FS & KS1 and KS2 performances—tickets will be available from the office (limited to 2 per family initially) from Monday 4th December.

There will be no charge for tickets, but donations would be appreciated after the performances towards the cost of the Pantomime in January.



Grandparents Christmas Meal

Wednesday 13th December at 6.00 p.m.

Tickets are now available at the school office. We ask for a £1.00 deposit which will be refunded on the night!



Christmas Jumper Day! - Friday 1st December

Memorial for Tafaoul

This year we'd like all the money we raise from this to go to a fund towards a memorial for Tafaoul Fadul. In consultation with Mr Fadul, we'd very much like to raise enough money to buy a small covered seat for the Key Stage One playground, as a place for quiet reflection. We'd dedicate this to the memory of Tafaoul with a suitably engraved plaque. Any outdoor furniture we buy for school has to be of superior quality to those for private garden use, and as such we would need to raise at least £1000. The Christmas Jumper Day will be an easy way to kick start this appeal and we do hope you will feel able to take part.

Of course, if you would like to contribute separately to this fund, then please send donations in a marked envelope directly to the school office.

We'll hold additional fund raising events in the New Year.

Thank You.

Paperless is on its way!

The Christmas newsletter will be the last one that we send out in print format in our drive to save paper, energy and ultimately school funds! In addition to always publishing the newsletter on our website and on Dojo, you will also be able to have the newsletter directly to your email inbox in the New Year, providing we have an up-to-date email address, of course. We'd send a text to let you know you have a communication from school. To get this process started, we will be contacting those parents who we do not currently hold an email address for. Once we are up and running with this, then the vast majority of communication will be sent electronically. If this will cause anyone serious complications, then please contact the office to discuss alternative arrangements.

Christmas Lunches

To make the Christmas lunches really special this year so the children can have more room to pull their crackers and have fun and sit with the staff for their year group, we need to create some extra space. So, on 12th December when Nursery and KS1 will be enjoying their Christmas meals in the dining room, KS2 will be having fun in the hall with a festive picnic (or their own sandwiches from home), which we're sure they'll love. The day after on 13th, we will switch over so that Key Stage 2 will have their Christmas meal in the dining room and everyone else has a festive picnic! We'll need to know numbers beforehand so a separate letter will be sent home shortly. We're sure the children will have lots of fun!

