



St Lukian Newsletter

Learning, Laughing, Loving at Family St Luke's Issue 15 May 2018



Flying the Flag, a Right Royal Do and the Power of Love!

It was great to see the children all dressed up in red, white and blue or as royalty last Friday and the school looking great with Union Jacks flapping everywhere and a lovely sense of joy and celebration was in the air. Of course, not everybody thought the Royal Wedding was a big deal (I loved it but not everyone in my household agreed!) but it was a good excuse for a dress-up and party nonetheless! However, it occurred to me as I was planning my assembly for the following Monday (the final one in a series on British Values) that whatever your views on royalty, this particular Royal Wedding was really different and could be linked to our learning on British Values. So on Monday I asked the children how this Royal Wedding was different to those that had gone before and I was so proud and amazed by the children's understanding:

Meghan is mixed race but Harry is white
Meghan is an American but Harry is English
Meghan has been married before but Harry has not
Meghan is an actress and but Harry is royalty

We discussed how the British Values of Individual Liberty (the right to choose who you marry in this case), Mutual Respect (the Queen respecting Harry's choice of bride and Meghan's wedding ideas) and tolerance of people of different faiths and beliefs (a black American preacher giving the sermon in a different style to an English Archbishop) but most of all, we looked at the preacher's words:

'There's power in love to help and heal when nothing else can. There's power in love to lift up and liberate when nothing else will. There's power in love to show us the way to live... I'm talking about some power, real power, power to change the world'

We looked at how the message of Jesus to 'Love your neighbour as yourself' has this great power and underpins not only the British Values but also our school rules:

Show respect to each other and property
Tell the truth
Listen carefully when someone is talking
Use good manners
Keep trying and persevere
Encourage one another
Smile

All of them are 'loving your neighbour' in action apart from 'Keep trying and persevering' which is about loving yourself and believing you have value and can achieve even if the going gets tough.

Some powerful and unexpected learning from a 'right royal do!'

Sun Safety

Just a reminder that now the weather has turned warmer, we encourage children to come to school having had sun cream applied but a small refill bottle (named) can be brought into school for a top-up during the day. Children are expected to apply the cream themselves but of course staff will be on hand to support our younger children with this. Sun hats and water bottles are also essential for the summer months. It is really important we work together to teach our children how to enjoy the sun safely as good habits now will guard against the damage that early exposure to too much sun can have as children grow into adults. Keep safe folks!





There are loads of great sports and social activities for children to get involved with over half term.

These are a great way for children to learn new skills, grow their confidence and make new

friends.

However, not all activity leaders may have undergone training and it's important that you are sure your children are safe.

Be aware and don't forget to check:

Are you **confident** they are qualified to lead the activity?

Do they have a **history** of leading activities?

Do they have **experience** of working with children and teens?

Have they undergone any necessary police **checks**?

Do they have **knowledge** of your safeguarding responsibilities

Similarly, if you lead activities with children and young people, it's important that you know how to deal with any safeguarding concerns.

For more information, visit www.safeguardingchildren.stoke.gov.uk (Stoke-on-Trent) or www.staffsscb.org.uk (Staffordshire)

Safety Outside School

I have contacted the council to see how we go about getting '20 is plenty' signs installed along Wellington Road. Too often cars come speeding along the road which puts our children and parents at risk. Of course, you are all aware that parking on the double yellows and zig zags is forbidden but sadly each day a small section of parents ignore this rule. Parking permits for St Anne's Car Park are still available from the office if this would help and I once again urge parents to abide by the parking restrictions for the safety of all. Thank you.



By now you will have received a consent form covering photos and event related communications from school in line with the new Data Protection law (GDPR) which comes into force on 25th May. This has to be a very detailed form to comply with the new law so your cooperation in filling it in to help us stay compliant in school is greatly appreciated. You will also have received a DOJO link to the updated Privacy Notices and Data Protection Policy which set out quite clearly how school uses your data, the legal basis we have to ask for and process your/ your child's data and those areas for which we need your consent. All this information is readily available on our website. We have been working very hard in school to get ready for the new law and thank you for your understanding in the additional paperwork it has initially created – for all of us!

Well done to our Year 6 and Year 2 pupils who have completed their SATS tests over the last couple of weeks. We're very proud of each and every one of the children for doing their best and that is all we can ever ask of anyone. We think we've got the balance about right in school in the amount of preparation we give to these statutory tests and have resisted after school and holiday booster classes because we believe the children work hard enough in school and on their weekly homework. We thank parents for their ongoing support and wish the children every success with their ongoing education whatever the outcome of the tests they took.



Just a reminder that our Sports Days after half term are as follows:

Nursery (in school) 21st June 2:30 p.m.

Reception and Key Stage 1 (Northwood Stadium) 21st June 9:30 a.m.

KS2 (Northwood Stadium) 27th June 9:30 a.m.

We do hope you can join us and that the weather is kind to us for our outdoor events.

Uniform Change

Last year we consulted on uniform and made a minor change by asking our Nursery and Foundation new starters to wear polo shirts and not shirt and tie as many parents and staff felt this was easier and more practical for the younger children. As we were a little late in making these changes, some parents had already purchased the shirt and tie and others were using uniform from an older siblings which was fine . This year though we'd really like to phase out the shirt and tie from KS1 altogether and keep it just for KS2. We feel this marks a step up from KS1 to KS2 for the children and at this age they are more likely to wear the tie appropriately so it looks super smart. Summer uniform of polo shirts for KS2 will remain unchanged. **So if you have a child who will be in KS1 in September and you need to buy new uniform, please can you buy either the pale blue polo or the royal blue with logo (we are trying to get a pale blue logo version but it may not be in time for September).** If you want to get the wear out of existing shirt and tie before buying new uniform- that's fine too- we appreciate uniform changes take a while to filter through to the whole school if we are to avoid unnecessary costs for parents. Thank you for your cooperation.



Memorial for Tafaoul

We were honoured to hold a special ceremony on Friday 18th May to dedicate and bless the bench that we purchased in memory of Tafaoul after very kind donations made by our school community and the Fire and Rescue Service. Tafaoul's father and family members attended, along with Councillors Jean and Sabrina Bowers, members of the Fire and Rescue Service, representatives from Social Care and our school vicar Rev Darren. Children from 2S joined the event also along with their teachers and other staff members from school. It was obviously a very sad event and very moving as we remembered a beautiful little girl but there was also hope and joy as we watched the children blow bubbles as an act of remembrance and hope for the future which all present really seemed to find comfort in. The bench will forever be a special place for all of us at school and we will treasure it as a physical symbol of our beloved pupil, Tafaoul Fadul.



Prize Evening



For several years the school has held a Prize Awards evening at the Victoria Hall, however at over £1500 to hire the hall and the major logistics of transferring all equipment there and spending a morning rehearsing with all the children involved, we really had to find an alternative. As such this year, our KS2 Prize Evening will be held in school on Wednesday 18th July. Obviously, not every child wins a prize but all our Year 6 children attend and their time with us is celebrated in a number of ways so that all feel special. However, we felt we shouldn't wait until Y6 for all our children to have a special event, so we are introducing a new Reception and KS1 event on the afternoon of Friday July 13th, where we will be celebrating the achievements of all our Y2 children along with prize winners from Reception and Year 1. We hope this way we celebrate the achievements of children more effectively and can tailor the events to the different age groups.

Further details will follow nearer to the time if your child will be involved, but we thought you'd appreciate a little advanced notice.

Dates for your Diary

School closes	Fri 25th May
School re-opens	Tues 5th June
Travelling Book Fayre in school hall	Fri 8th June - Tues 12th June
Reception Assembly 9.10am	Wed 20th June
Reception & KS1 Sports Day 9.30am at Northwood Stadium	Thurs 21st June
Nursery Sports in the Hall 2.30pm	Thurs 21st June
Strawberry Fair 3.30pm	Fri 22nd June
KS2 Sports Day 9.30am at Northwood Stadium	Wed 27th June
Lion King performances	Wed 4th July & Thurs 5th July
Year 6 Prom starting at 7.00pm (arriving no earlier than 6.30pm)	Fri 16th July
Year 6 Leavers assembly 9.00am	Wed 18th July
School closes for Summer holiday	Fri 20th July

Hockey Report

On Wednesday 23rd May Year 5 & Year 6 took part in a Hockey Tournament at Ormiston Horizon Academy. We played 3 other schools, Hillside, Milton and St Joseph's. We were split into 3 groups, A,B and C. Team A lost 3 and won 1, whilst team B won 2 and lost 2. Team C drew 1 and won 3!

"Doesn't matter who wins, you tried your best" says Harry.

"It was a good tournament, we gave it all we got" says Younes and Lilieta.



Strawberry Fair

If you're having a spring clean over the week off, please keep in mind our Strawberry fair!

Any good quality toys, games, bottles, books, bric-a-brac, DVDs and CDs can be brought into school when we come back. Thank you.