



St Lukian Newsletter

Learning, Laughing, Loving at Family St Luke's

Issue 24 April 2019



Easter is almost upon us and who knows whether it will be sunshine or hailstorms with our very strange weather but the preparations at school have certainly brought some sunshine into school, that's for sure! Our Easter bonnet workshops proved really popular and our KS2 3D Egg Art competition once again produced some amazing entries (check out our Facebook page for the best pictures!). We've paraded and twirled at the Easter Bonnet parade; focused on 40 Acts of Kindness during Lent and have raised money for the Bishop's appeal but threaded through all of that, we have also been sharing the Easter story with the children and will pull all that together at our End of Term service and Eucharist on Friday. This is such an important event as it is Religious Education in action for children of all faiths and none as they are able to witness first-hand the central Christian ceremony of the taking of bread and wine which symbolises the Christian belief of Jesus' body and blood sacrificed for all mankind. All our children have the chance to offer prayers for blessing and to reflect on inclusive messages for living for the good of all. Easter at Hanley St Luke's, really is for everyone and is a time of hope and celebration in a world where division and difficulties can too often take centre stage. However you spend the Easter holidays and whatever the season means to you and your family, I wish you all every blessing.

Last Sunday 2 children from Y1 – Zac and Lucas- represented the school at a special Easter Family service at All Saints Church. We had been invited to make a banner showing what Easter means to the children and Y1 took on the challenge. All of the children and their families were invited to come along to see the banner on display, along with other community groups who had also contributed banners. Zac and Lucas were also joined by their older siblings, Paige and Amelia and their mums so a great big thank you to them all for changing their week-end plans to support both the school and the event. We had a fun time as Rev Geoff jumped around wearing his bunny ears and fluffy tail telling us that, just as community groups and schools don't do their work for thanks, God loves us unconditionally and is in no need of thanks either but nevertheless it's good to say 'Thank you' and the reply we said a great deal on Sunday was 'You're welcome!'. The Lord Mayor, the Bishop of Lichfield and Local MP Gareth Snell were also at the event to commemorate the fact that All Saints church is now able to offer community facilities as well as its regular worship activities, as part of its wonderful renovation work which is quite spectacular. We certainly enjoyed some of their community hospitality on Sunday with lovely afternoon tea and cake that the children and guests tucked into. Thank you children and thank you to All Saints community for all their hard work and for our lovely invitation.



Crossing Patrol

A few parents have raised concerns about the new traffic patrol arrangements on Bucknall New Road and in particular how this now means they now have to cross Wellington Road when previously they didn't. Of course, crossing Wellington Road should be safe and simple if all road users were considerate drivers but sadly this appears not to be the case. We have instances of drivers bumping up onto pavements in front of pedestrians and parking on double yellows and zig zags, obscuring the view of pedestrians which just defies belief but is true!

I have passed on my concerns to the traffic patrol department and we are seeking solutions which I'll let you know about as soon as I can. However, all the best laid plans will be useless if school generated traffic is part of the problem. Please, please park further away from school and walk if you can. If you must drive down Wellington Road then please use extreme caution. Permits for St Anne's car park are still available, if you ask at the office (less than a 5 minute walk from school). Please see the Sentinel article.

<https://www.stokesentinel.co.uk/council-bans-lollipop-man-crossing-2731006>

Easter & Summer Holiday Clubs

We have had a lot of interest in our totally free Easter holiday club and were easily able to fill the 30 spaces available. When we return after the Easter holidays, we will send a survey to parents to see what provision would be most useful for the summer holidays (we would aim to have some provision in the middle 4 weeks, as during the first and last week of the holidays, school would not be accessible for this purpose). Look out for the survey please and send us your views.

Dates for your Diary

School closes for Easter	Fri 12th April
School re-opens	Mon 29th April
May Bank Holiday (School closed)	Mon 6th May
School closes for May 1/2 term	Fri 24th May
School re-opens	Tues 4th June
School closes	Fri 19th July

KS2 Spring Music Concert

We had a lovely evening at the KS2 music concert with our very talented and enthusiastic musicians and choristers. It is such a joy to see the children performing and making progress on their individual instruments and of course, the joy also of seeing children loving singing together as a choir. Mrs Clarke did a super job of pulling it together ably supported by Mrs Emery and staff so thanks to all involved. Special thanks also go to our PTFA for providing the refreshments on the evening and to Mrs Jennings for swapping her Officer Manager hat for talented pianist one. Well done everyone!



EASTER EGG ART

What brilliant entries we had for this competition.

Here are the winners (see class Dojo / Facebook for pictures!)

- 3S Hannah & Joel
- 3L Keagan & Romani
- 4S Taylor & Aliyah
- 4L Holly & Bethany
- 5S Ella & Sophie
- 5L Theo & Willow
- Yr 6 Toby, Brayden & Svetlana



Goodbye Mr Woods

After nearly 5 years at our school, Mr Woods is about to embark on an exciting new venture having successfully passed the rigorous graduate police entry requirements and will be leaving us on 9th May to start his new career. I am sure you would wish to join me in wishing Mr Woods every success and to thank him for the dedication to the school including his enthusiastic support of our cross-country and hockey clubs. Between now and the end of the academic year, KS2 children's weekly IT lessons will be covered internally and through agency staff where required. Of course our staffing arrangements for next academic year are not yet finalised but we'll let you know when they are.



Awesome Attendance!

As you know we're aiming for all classes to be 96% or above to ensure our attendance is in line with or even above national attendance figures. In the January newsletter two classes had achieved that but here's the position now:

Lent Appeal

Thank you for your contributions to our lent appeal on our No Pens Day which raised £255.90. Thank you to all who donated.



Year Group	Overall Attendance to date (%)
RS	93.55
RL	92.01
1S	96.02
1L	96.25
2S	94.91
2L	97.61
3S	96.61
3L	95.09
4S	94.96
4L	94.70
5S	92.66
5L	95.79
6S	95.60
6L	95.43