A school which celebrates both Faith and talent - Ebele's daughter loves everything about St Luke's Primary School





Ebele and Frank Nzewi live in Newham with their daughter, Kamsi, who is 11.

#### **Focus on talent**

Moving Kamsi to St Luke's during her Reception year was a decision based on several factors, and one which Ebele and Frank have not regretted for a moment. Whilst they were keen for Kamsi to attend a Church of England school, they also wanted somewhere she would be encouraged and supported in every way and having studied the St Luke's prospectus they believed it was the right choice. "It has proved to be what we expected, a small, very friendly and effective school with an open-minded attitude," says Ebele. "Kamsi has had so many opportunities to develop her talents and has made the most of everything the school has to offer. We couldn't be more pleased."



## **Recognising potential**

Ebele believes that the way St Luke's has encouraged Kamsi to try a wide range of activities has significantly improved her confidence as well as her various skills. "Kamsi used to be quite shy and reserved but now she is much more outgoing and self-assured and I put this down largely to her participation in the choir and theatre groups. She has always loved to sing and having an outlet for doing so has made such a difference but there are also many other things to take part in and which she might not have had the chance to try. Whereas some schools might offer football and cricket for the boys and netball for the girls, at St Luke's every child is able to take part in all sports. Additionally, when Kamsi suggested she might like to take up the trumpet I was a bit hesitant as it seemed an unusual instrument for a girl; nevertheless, the school was behind her all the way to such an extent that Kamsi won a scholarship to pay for her lessons. It was wonderful that St Luke's had so much faith in her potential."

## Learning through play

A further example of the school's forward-thinking ethos is in the extra-curricular activities it offers including Scrabble and Monopoly Clubs, the Time Detectives history group and even Origami. "The clubs are designed to be fun but are educational at the same time," explains Ebele. "The children are learning almost without realising it and I like the way the school recognises this as a valuable add-on to their education."





## Home/school relationships count

Perhaps most importantly, Kamsi is very receptive to her studies because she enjoys school so much. "She absolutely loves it and everything about it - her work, the activities, her friends and her teachers. For myself, I like the fact that Christianity is actively celebrated, the approachability of the teachers, the strict emphasis on punctuality and the way the children are so well supported in every way. The pupil/teacher/parent relationship is excellent and we have always felt accepted as part of school life."

## **All-round support**

St Luke's has also been very helpful in explaining the process of transition to secondary school and Ebele and Frank have attended several Parents' Evenings where they have been talked through all the options. "Choosing a new school and applying can be quite daunting but we were given a lot of help and information so that when the time comes we'll know how to go about it. All in all, St Luke's has been a great choice."



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# Children say:

Kamsi says St. Luke's is important to her because "I learn new things everyday and I've made lots of friends over the years. I have fun all the time and we are all treated with respect. We are all one big family".