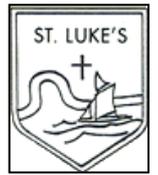




St Luke's Newsletter



Friday 14th December 2018



Dear Parents,

Our children continue to work on the wider meaning of Christmas as well as, quite understandably, getting excited for the holidays.

Although this is a very busy time in the school calendar, it's also very special as there is a lot of warmth shown by the children to one another. Their ability to understand how other people might feel when times are bad and how relieved they might feel when someone helps them is getting better. To that end, they have been writing poetry this week and I hope to 'publish' one of them next week in the newsletter.

Christmas Celebrations

Last Monday morning the *Bigfoot Theatre Company* visited us for that great British tradition - the Christmas pantomime. This year it was *Pinnocchio* which had the added highlight of Ms Sammon being changed into a princess and Mr Jennings into a cow (this is the season that just keeps on giving!!). We also had a wonderful - and very messy! - craft fayre for parents and children of Nursery and Reception (see below) where wonderful handmade gifts were made by all. Then today was our traditional Christmas dinner and jumper day and next week we have three events open to parents (see diary dates below). Please feel free to come along for some special entertainment as well as mince pies and mulled wine.

Homeless meal and gifts for the elderly

Last Tuesday, 37 pupils of our school choir went to raise money by singing carols at *Waitrose* supermarket, Canary Wharf, and raised a whopping £820 for our homeless event. This was a truly astonishing effort from our children and no sooner had they arrived back than I had an email from a Canary Wharf office worker eulogising their behaviour and singing. And the singing didn't stop there as yesterday morning our singers entertained the elderly residents at 55 Ruscoe Road who we have also invited to our Christmas Nativity shows next week. In last week's newsletter I mentioned that we would like to make up some shoe boxes with small gifts inside to give to them as a Christmas present - many of them do not have family to visit them or make them feel special at Christmas time. When we have done this in the past, a mix of toiletries (tube of toothpaste, scented soap) and some small bits to eat (chocolate bar, packet of humbug sweets) really makes the elderly folk feel appreciated. If everyone was able to donate one item then we could make up presents for them.

Early Years Christmas Craft Fair

I'd like to say a massive thank-you to the staff and parents in Early Years who took part in the craft fair on Wednesday. We had about 60% of our families represented and although it was very messy it was enormous fun - you cannot underestimate how beneficial it was to the children.

Sports Report

A big 'well-done' to our Y3&4 girls' football team who finished second in a Langdon competition at Cleveland School, Ilford, this week. Once again, penalties got the better of us. However, our girls played brilliantly and did the school proud.

Leave requests/Unauthorised holidays

Parents, when you are requesting leave during term time you must write to me before you go even if you are willing to pay any fines from the Borough. If you do not, I will automatically refuse your request - this is so I can follow borough and government guidance.

Saturday Music School

Reminder that Newham Music Service now run their Saturday orchestras out of our school, 9am-1pm, and that it is **free** for children from St. Luke's! We currently have 12 children attending regularly but there is room for more. The Saturday music school starts again on Sat. 19th January 2019.



Dates for your diary

Tues 18th Dec..... EYFS dress rehearsal (AM) KS1 show for parents (PM)
Wed 19th Dec..... EYFS show for parents (AM) Y5/6 Boys basketball tourno (PM)
Thurs. 20th Dec..... Christingle Assembly (AM) &
Christmas parties (KS1: 1.15-2pm, KS2: 2.15-3pm)
Fri. 21st Dec..... Attendance assembly and awards for Growth Mindset (AM)

School closes at 1pm – Christmas dinner for homeless 2-5pm

School opens again normal time 7th January

Clubs begin again on Mon. 14th January 2019



The choir at Canary Wharf and sheltered accommodation, 55 Ruscoe Rd (above) and Early Years craft fayre (right)

Have a lovely weekend

Matt Hipperson

