



# St Luke's Newsletter



Monday 14<sup>th</sup> January 2019



Dear Parents,

**Happy New Year!** We hope you were able to enjoy some quality time with your family.

Much like the world of work, school tends to explode into life as soon as it begins again and we have had an incredibly busy week topped off by a visit from staff from the Diocese of Chelmsford. We have also found out this week that we have been picked (along with 10 other schools) for a pilot team teaching initiative from Newham Music - and remember, their Saturday sessions begin again next Saturday (9am-1pm) and your children get free entry!

## **Mr. Paul Durrant**

As you know, Mr Durrant left us on the last day of the Autumn term after 17 years remarkable service to the school. Paul is a unique, and in many ways, irreplaceable member of the staff and both staff and pupils wish him well but will miss him dearly. He brought that 'something different' to our school that most schools lost many years ago due to the pressures of educational reforms: whether he was helping to recreate life on an eighteenth century sailing ship or regaling the children with historical tales around a real campfire, his passion was evident. Both he and his wife Mary feel that they have done their time in London and have moved to the fresh country air of Worcestershire a little earlier than first envisaged and have set up home (temporarily) on a farm! Expect lots of photos of chickens and ducks!

## **School Council**

Today we launched our new school council and introduced them to the school. They will be a key group in formulating effective ways forward for the school and the first task will be around our outdoor reflective area the 'Monet Garden.' They will canvass ideas from their classes and present them for discussion in the next few weeks.



### **More Sports success!**

Our Y5/6 athletics team took part in a borough semi-final on Wednesday and finished 2nd out of 20 schools, qualifying for the final on the 31st January! They won 5 of the 6 races and many of them by some distance -fingers crossed for the final.



### **Golden Assembly**

We enjoyed a great start to the New Year at our Golden Worship this morning. We not only congratulated our sports men & women but also our new councillors, the first recipients of our new Head Teacher award and spoke about the report we have received from two inspectors from the Diocese of Chelmsford who came to meet with staff and children yesterday morning. Once again our children 'wowed' visitors to our school and spoke passionately about safety, our Christian values and being challenged during learning times. The inspectors also highly praised the staff they spoke to for their care, determination and drive to do the best for the school.



Golden Assembly 11th January, 2019

### **Fitness!**

I announced a couple of weeks ago that we had won a £10,000 grant from the National Lottery to develop our community links. Parents are invited to attend fitness sessions for free.

Monday - Aerobics  
Tuesday - Boxercise  
Wednesday - Yoga

**All sessions one hour, 4.30-5.30pm**

On Tuesday two members of the **London Knights basketball team** visited the school to promote an offer for free tickets for our families to see some games. This was particularly appropriate as only a few weeks ago our year 5 and 6 boys became Borough champions. Thanks to Daisy-Mae's parents for drawing our attention to the offer.



### **Uniform expectations**

Parents, we are working hard to keep up uniform standards although we realise times are difficult for some of our families. The uniform code states black shoes without advertising logos and trousers rather than tracksuits - please can we keep to this - if you have any issues with this please speak to Mr. Hipperson or the office.

Guidelines and uniform suppliers can be found on our website at;

[www.st-lukes.newham.sch.uk/page/?title=Uniforms&pid=17](http://www.st-lukes.newham.sch.uk/page/?title=Uniforms&pid=17)

### **Attendance & Punctuality**

Parents, it is vital for our children to attend school every day and punctuality is very important. Lateness disrupts the learning for all concerned. We understand that on occasion problems might occur but where we notice trends of lateness or absence we will investigate.

Have a Happy New Year and a great week

Matt Hipperson