



St Luke's News

A Christian school that serves a diverse community and works in partnership with parents to develop the whole child.



11th September 2020

Dear Parents & Carers

Welcome back everybody! It has been so good to see so many of you again and to have all the children back in school. The job now for us is to keep them here where they need to be and help them have as 'normal' a school year as possible.

We have been open and working throughout most of the summer holiday cleaning, re-organising, de-cluttering and creating an environment that is easier to keep clean and will keep everyone as safe as possible. An example of this is one of our cleaners steam-cleaning the rugs (see photo) in EYFS every day. Mr Bonner and our cleaners, Ms Goff and Ms Potter, were in for five of the six weeks during holidays and I cannot praise them enough for their efforts.



This work has also been supported by the children keeping to their hand washing and sanitising routines and working with staff to help each other socially distance safely as seen below when lining up after lunchtime.



But back to school business...

As I said earlier, a massive thanks needs to go out to all the staff and children this week but also to yourselves, the parents. You have all been magnificent and even when things may have taken a little time you have all showed total understanding of why we are doing what we are doing. Let's face it, none of us wants to go back to lockdown. But please remember, at the moment we only want a water bottle brought in – **no book bags**. This is so we minimise home/school cross contamination.

Social Distancing in the School's vicinity

Please remember to keep at least 1m distance from each other when chatting to each other at pick-up and drop-off times and please avoid gatherings in the area by the gates (congestion points) – we have a lot of people in our community who are vulnerable to this virus and also we are blessed with a lot of hospital staff amongst the parent body who need our protection – if I remind you to do this please do not get upset with me!

Contacting the office

During current situation - just like trying to visit the GP - if you need to talk to the office please ring the office first to see if they can answer your query without you having to come into school. Hopefully this won't have to last long.

Y6 Secondary School Transfer meeting next week

Next Monday the Y6s will take home the secondary transfer magazine from Newham. On **Wednesday from 5pm** we will attempt to run a session for parents to help you through the process – we will use the Y6 Google Classroom that we used with your children during lockdown – details to follow.

Clubs

Covid circumstances allowing, we are trying to open after-school clubs from the week of the 28th September. However, they will look different to last year. **Breakfast club has a limit of 20 children** (which has been allocated) and after-school clubs will each have to be in 3 different phase groups - all with staff - which is a big change for us, especially with the small number of staff we already have, so I hope you understand the problem. We will sort it eventually but it is obviously going to take more time. Thanks for your understanding.



Social Media Launch

Next week St. Luke's will launch their own Twitter & Instagram pages which will allow us to get information out to you quicker. Ms Yeter is leading on this as improving my use of technology is one of my learning targets this year!



Meet the teacher

There will be a chance to '*meet your child's teacher*' via a remote presentation which will be loaded onto the year group page on the website on Thursday 24th September – any questions that you have will be able to be asked and answered via email.

Parking

We have had a complaint from a neighbour about people parking across their driveway and also people parking in our car-park – Please, I know that drop-off and pick-up is different at the moment but please can you make sure you treat all of our community with the respect that we all like to receive.

Uniforms

We are currently allowing all children to wear trainers (plain dark ones!) to school every day so they can take part in early morning exercises aimed at getting them ready to learn. On certain days of the week your child can wear their PE kit to school so they can do their PE without having to change so reducing the risk of home/school contamination. **All uniform needs to be clearly labelled with your child's name, any unlabelled uniform may be disposed of at the end of each week due to our precautions against coronavirus.**

Swimming

The borough have cancelled all swimming lessons for the foreseeable future – apologies to Y4.

One again, thank you for all your co-operation. I'll leave you with a few words that I hope will help us in these complicated times.

In the meantime, have a lovely weekend.

Matt Hipperson

Head Teacher



A brighter future is ours to write. Let's begin this new chapter together – and let's start the work right now.

— Barack Obama —