



St Luke's News

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



22nd May 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

I find the biggest problem at the moment is working out which bit of information to trust. We have received so much contradictory and quite frankly poorly thought out advice from the government that we are having to spend hours and days sorting out a path forward for St. Luke's.

Our latest plan is as follows:

Week beginning 1st June: school remains open for children of keyworkers and vulnerable children only.

Week beginning 8th June: children in Y6 & YR will be invited back.

Week beginning 15th June: Y1 children will be invited back and YN - **if** we have enough space for them under social distancing guidelines.

I will send out more information in next week's newsletter so please keep reading.

Remembering Lost Loved Ones



I was talking with one of our parents this week and asked her how things were and she told me that she has just lost her mother and two of her uncles to Covid-19 in the last few weeks. I have a member of staff who has also lost two close members of her family. In response to this shocking news and realising there are probably many more of you who have suffered loss, we would like to set up a book of memories and love for our lost friends and family. I know this may seem difficult but if you can send me a photo of the person(s) in your family who have passed away with their name - and the name of the child in school who has been affected - we will put it in a book of remembrance. You can add any story or writing you would like added and email it all to me at: ht@st-lukes.newham.sch.uk

It is so important for us adults and the children to honour and remember those we have lost.

Eid Mubarak

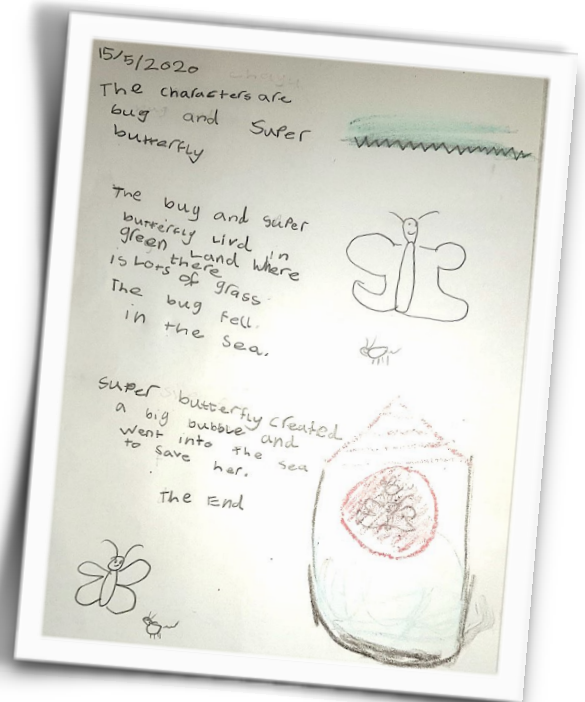
Happy Eid-Al-Fitr to all our Muslim families at this very special time – like Easter it won't be quite the same because of the restrictions on gatherings however we wish you a holy and happy celebration.



Working from home

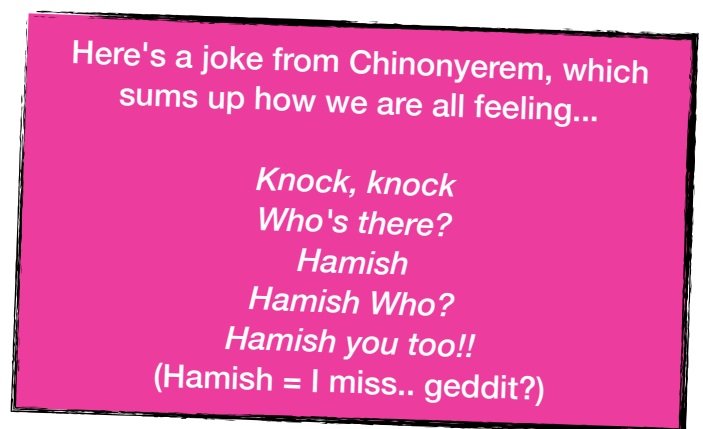
We just wanted to showcase some of the work that is going on at home. Chaya's story shows that great story ideas can be held by the youngest of children. Who knows Chaya, maybe one day you will be an author and people from around the world will read and love your stories like we do!

And Chioma's poster about Australia not only impressed her teachers but certainly cheered up Miss Feeney who is over from Queensland, Australia, working with us. So well done children – who will be in next week's newsletter?



Oh Wow! What talent!

Well, St Luke's children certainly showed us they have bundles of talent this week! Huge congratulations to the pupils in KS2 who all performed (via a weblink) with skill, poise and lots of energy! We saw magical card tricks, flexible gymnasts, comedy geniuses and musical ensembles with singing and instruments galore. Thank you so much to the parents at home who helped out with the technical difficulties and thank you to those who had the confidence and courage to take part. You were all fab-U-lous!! It was great to see your faces and see your smiles. We miss you all so much.



And Chardonnay composed and sang her own song with poignant lyrics for these difficult times. It reminds us to look ahead to brighter times;

"Let's have a party, until the sun goes down, make it like a dream..."

Photography club

A great big thanks to Miss Feeney and Miss Sankar who are running an afternoon photography club with some of our children teaching them about all the different parts of the image such as perspective and shadow that have to be considered when taking their photographs. The results (some of which are below) are stunning.



How the World has Changed

As the school gets ready to bring more children back to the classroom, it is important to remember just how the world has adapted to the current crisis. We took delivery of some face shields (to be used by staff in certain situations such as administering first aid) made by the Design and Technology students at The Ursuline Academy, Ilford, who have been making face shields to protect NHS workers. One of our governors, Antoinette works there and has secured some for us – many thanks!

I also would like to share with you some photos of Mrs Aulakh's husband Baljit, who works for the Ford Motor Company at their Dagenham works – they have converted their assembly line to make ventilators for hospitals. This is another example of how all of us are having to adapt our way of working to help others.



Online Safety & Guidance

With so many of our children spending what probably amounts to a lot of time on 'Social Media', *The Key* website has created an online safety hub for parents to access interactive guidance on setting up parental controls on their child's devices, as well as guidance on apps such as *TikTok*, *YouTube*, *Instagram* and more.

<https://parenthub.thekeysupport.com?uuid=309e723e-d467-4faa-bda1-e712de09ef8d>

I came across this quote the other day that I think speaks so much truth about how we feel about you and your children, especially in these difficult times:

There's something I know about you that you may or may not know about yourself. You have within you more resources of energy than have ever been tapped, more talent than has ever been exploited, more strength than has ever been tested, more to give than you have ever given.'

- John Gardner (1933-1982)

And Finally...

A really important message to those parents of Reception Children who will return to us soon:

Throughout this Covid-19 emergency it has always been stressed that you should be washing your hands. Well, this applies to your children now more than ever. For the little ones, where it may have been more convenient for you to wash their hands - you **MUST** (and I cannot stress how important this is) teach them how to wash their hands **by themselves**. Adults in the school will be supervising pupils for regular hand washing after activities but we need the little ones to be competent enough to do it themselves.

For guidance and tips, see the links below on our school website

[Covid-19 Social Stories for Children](#)

especially the fun Youtube instruction from the NHS:

['Little Hands' video on Youtube](#)



The school is closed next week to pupils as we get ready for more children to come back in June but the collection of food parcels will take place on Thursday 28th May from 12 mid-day to 1.30pm

No work will be set next week as it is half-term – **work will resume on the 1st June.**

Please have a safe week and continue being careful.

Matt Hipperson

Head Teacher