



St Luke's News

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



9th February 2024

Dear Parents & Carers

Happy new Year – Again!

On Friday we celebrated Chinese New Year – 10th-25th February. We found out about the 12 animal rotation and the race that the Jade Emperor started. Also the role of starting the year well and bringing good luck through food, colours and gifts. We watched a video of fire crackers being used to scare away bad spirits and lanterns symbolising people letting go of the past year and welcoming the new with good fortune. The celebrations also included 30 parents coming in to eat a Chinese meal with their children at lunchtime.



新年好

A big thank you goes out to Ms Aulakh for all her work sorting out the lunch for us.

恭喜发财





Which sign are the children?

Y6s - Snakes	Y5s - Horses
Y4s - Goats	Y3s - Monkeys
Y2s - Roosters	Y1s - Dogs
YR - Pigs	YN - Rats

Half-Term homework competition

Half term challenge

We are architects!

Make a model or design of 'The school of the future'

What would be a good design for a future school? What key features would you include? What would you like in a futuristic school? Stables for horse rides? Swimming pools on site? Astro-turf? Flying saucer lessons? Solar powered rockets? Use your imagination! Think what the future holds! Draw it! Design it! And get ready to share it.



Your work could take any form

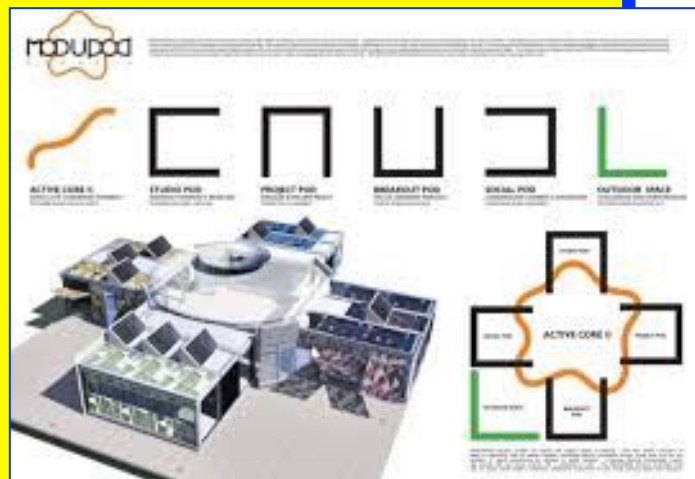
- Artwork
- A 3D model
- An architectural blueprint drawing
- Painting

All entries to Mrs Aulakh by the 19th February!

And remember - Your work will be displayed!

HAVE FUN!

Mrs Tarbuck & Ms Aulakh



The Week in School

Y3s visited a Synagogue and Y4s visited a Hindu Temple whilst the Y5s were visiting a Mosque this week as the children found out about other faiths.



Y5s working on their mapping skills



Mental Health Week/s

This week just passed has been Children's Mental Health Week and we have had a series of events to not only mark the importance of this occasion but to also share strategies with the children to make them feel even more safe and resilient. We actually started our work on this two weeks ago using a Youtube link provided by the *Anna Freud Centre* that champions the mental health of all children. There is a copy of the link below which takes you to a short 6-minute Youtube video and is introduced by the Princess of Wales. I highly recommend you look at it with your child. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oz1S66_pYTw

Escape if you can!

Continuing our focus on children's mental health, we set a challenge to groups of our pupils and 'locked' them in an Escape Room on Wednesday and Thursday. The room focused on safe internet usage and the children worked in small teams to overcome a set of digital challenges that reinforced the principles of safe usage that lead to a



healthy mind. It was extremely popular with the children - and no-one was stuck in there at the day's end! A massive thanks goes to Miss Koenig who resourced and set up the room in her own time and also to the children who engaged with the activity with such eagerness.



Times Table Rock Stars



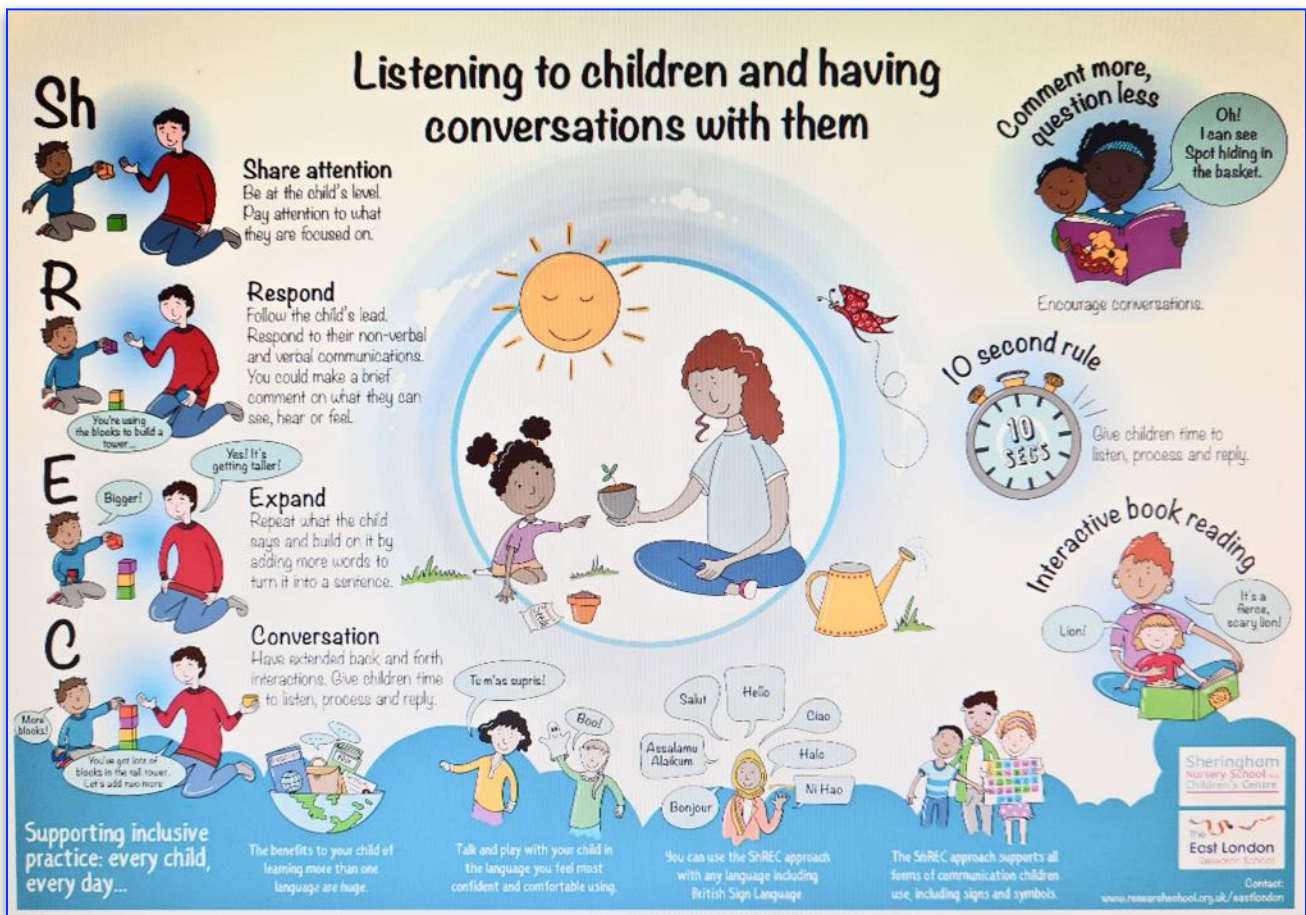
Our three winners from last week's *Times Table Rock Stars (TTRS)* competition to raise money for the NSPCC – thanks for all your donations – we raised £236

The Y6s are 'Evolving'

Last week the Y6s visited the Natural History Museum to build on their work looking at Charles Darwin's Theory of Evolution – they had a great time comparing animal fossils and skeletons and even human skulls!



Chatting with our children



Above is a nice poster that shows some of the strategies for extending your child's speaking and listening skills. Everything in school and in children's development in general is built upon these skills – it may be worth giving some of these strategies a go!

Y3 Botanists

The Y3s have been studying the features of different plants and comparing them.



Sporting Success



Badminton Champions

Congratulations to our Year 3&4 Badminton team for coming 1st in the Newham SSP Badminton Festival. The competition took place on Friday 2nd February at Lister school. Not only did they beat 7 other schools but they have also qualified for the 2024 London Borough Youth Games where they will be representing Newham. Well done, St Luke's is very proud of you.

Church News

Join St Luke's Church on Wednesday 14th February for Valentine's Day Free Family Cinema - a romantic family movie with free popcorn and drinks 2pm-4pm. Children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult.



More ideas for Half-Term
Fun with books!

Library of the
**CUSTOM HOUSE &
CANNING TOWN**
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT



Canning Town Library

February Half Term Activities

Monday 12th February – Saturday 17th February 2024

Date	Time	Activity
Monday 12 th February	4 - 5pm	Chinese New Year Dragon Lego (Ages 5+)
Tuesday 13 th February	10:30 - 11am	'Mr Wolf's Pancakes' Story Time (Under 5's)
Wednesday 14 th February	2 – 3pm	Valentine's Day Card Making Craft (Ages 5+)
	4 - 5pm	Giant Games (Ages 5+)
Thursday 15 th February	3 - 4pm	Pancake Decorating (Ages 5+) 
Friday 16 th February	2 – 3pm	Makey Makey (booking required) (Ages 7+)
	4 - 5pm	Heart Shaped Rhyme Time (Under 5's)
Saturday 17 th February 	2 – 3.30pm	Winter Reading Challenge Finishers Fun Day (All ages welcome) 

Keeping Parents Informed

At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one of many apps which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit nationalonlinecollege.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about MONKEY

Also known as Monkey Cool, this platform aims to fill the gap left by Omegle (which has now shut down) by placing users in random video chats with strangers. Participants use their mobile number and Snapchat username to connect to the service, where they can make matches, message other people and join group chats. The mobile version has been removed from the App Store due to safety concerns, but iPhone owners can still access the site via their web browser. The app remains available on Google Play, where its listing claims that Monkey has more than 30 million users worldwide.

AGE RESTRICTION 17+
(although the lack of age verification means that someone younger could easily log in with a fake date of birth)

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

The app claims to use AI to detect sexual content or activity that violates its policies, along with having a 24/7 moderation team. However, reports in the media continue to indicate that explicit content remains commonplace on Monkey (including sexually graphic or violent material) and is therefore accessible to anybody who uses the app – including those aged under 18.

CONTACT WITH STRANGERS

The obvious risk in accepting random video chat partners is that users cannot know what or who they will see on their next connection. Talking to strangers is, of course, potentially dangerous – especially for children who might be persuaded to meet up with these people offline. The app lets users find each other by location, increasing the chances of a child being matched with a stranger from their local area.

IN-APP SPENDING

While Monkey is free to download, it nevertheless offers in-app purchases promising to unlock access to premium features. For example, users who wish to make use of Knock Knock chat (Monkey's text-based messaging option), rather than the app's Chatroulette-style random video calling feature, will need to pay to be able to do so.

INTRUSIONS ON PRIVACY

According to Monkey's privacy policy, personal information (such as name, profile picture and date of birth), user-contributed content (any photos, texts, videos and screenshots shared) and each user's browser and IP address are collected. That is a considerable amount of data for Monkey to gather on its users – and all of this information is shared with third parties.

Advice for Parents & Carers

DISCUSS THE DANGERS

Even if you're comfortable with your child using Monkey, it's still important to talk about the potential dangers. It's crucial, for instance, that young people recognise the risks that stem from video chatting with strangers; that they understand not to share identifying information (like their street or school name); and that they know what to do if they are exposed to inappropriate content.

RESTRICT IN-APP PURCHASING

If your child is accessing Monkey via an Android device, you can prevent them from making in-app purchases through the device's settings. If you do allow your child to use the site, we'd recommend that you enable this feature: young people have been known to spend significant amounts of money in their desire to unlock more features in apps such as this.

REPORT INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Monkey states in the safety section of its site that "people are given the power" and that, to a large extent, Monkey is "self-governing." If a user is exposed to sexually explicit or inappropriate content on the platform, they can select the "police" emoji in the top right corner of their screen to submit a report for Monkey's moderation team to review.

SPOT THE SIGNS

If you're concerned that your child is spending too much time on Monkey – or that they may have been exposed to inappropriate or distressing content – it's important to watch for potential indications that they've been affected emotionally. They could be unusually irritable or unable to concentrate, for example, or failing to complete their homework or even to eat regular meals.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and setting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.

The National College **NOS National Online Safety** #WakeUpWednesday

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Last week (Feb 8th) we sent you this excellent advice flyer via *Schoolpiping* on internet safety. This is also available to download on our website in the [Online Safety page](#) on our [Parents Page](#) and [here](#).

The link below takes you to some videos that will help all children work out what is true online – it is entitled for children with SEND but like so much advice it works well for all.

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/send>

HAPPY
Birthday!



Don't forget to check out our events calendar below

and we hope you have a relaxing weekend



Matt Hipperson
Head Teacher

Spring Term dates

12th-16th February school is closed for the Half-term holiday

Feb. continued

20th YR & Y6 Height and Weight monitoring from the Government
26th Y6 SATs & Stubbers online meet for parents
27th Institute of the Imagination (loi) workshops for Y1,2,3,4&6
27th Y5 visit Art Gallery
28th YR Vision & Hearing check
28th Y4 Romans workshop visit

March

5th Y5 girls visit Eastleigh Secondary for Female Empowerment workshops
7th World Book Day – dress up as character + Book Fair
8th AM Maths Learning Walk by external advisor
8th PM Tree pruning workshop from Trees in Cities
11-15th Science Week
11th AM How we teach reading morning parents invited
13th Y5 visit to Science Museum for Flight topic
18th-22nd Parent teacher meetings all week
20th Y5 visit to Cody Dock – River of Hope
22nd Clubs end for the Spring Term
26th 2pm Y3&4 Easter Show – parents invited

27th March school closes for Easter Holiday at 1pm and reopens as normal on Thursday 11th April for the Summer Term