



St Luke's Park Newsletter (02) 19/09/2025

Liberty Way, Runwell, Essex, SS11 7LH

Tel: 01268 436 050

Headteacher: Ms J. Kendall-Hobbs BA (Hons) PGCE MA (Ed)

Message from the Headteacher

Dear SLP Families,

Arbor App



Please download the Arbor App if you can as we will be keeping the calendar updated with events added throughout the year. We will continue to inform you of what's coming up, but the App should begin to prove useful for checking back with ease. We can also send in-app messages using Arbor which is a quick and effective way to reach you. Let us know if you have any issues, and we will do our best to resolve these.

Clubs

Teacher clubs will start next week. Joining a club is fun and by joining a club you are making a commitment to attend each week. Teachers will expect children on their list to attend each session and for you to contact them if your child will miss a session. Sporadic attendance will lead to your child's place being given to another child on the waiting list.

Attendance

Please send children to school unless they have sickness / diarrhoea or a high temperature. You can let us know if they are feeling a little under the weather and we will pass the message to their teachers to keep an extra eye on them.

How does attendance affect outcomes for pupils?

Being in school is important to your child's achievement, wellbeing, and wider development. [Evidence](#) shows that the students with the highest attendance throughout their time in school gain the best GCSE and A Level results.

Research found that pupils who performed better both at the end of primary and [secondary school](#) missed fewer days than those who didn't perform as well.

The data also shows that in 2019, [primary school](#) children in Key Stage 2 who didn't achieve the expected standard in reading, writing and maths missed on average four more days per school year than those whose performance exceeded the expected standard.

Similarly, in the same year, secondary school pupils who didn't achieve grade 9 to 4 in English and maths missed on 10 more days on average over the key stage than those who achieved grade 9 to 5 in both English and maths.

What are the risks of missing a day of school?

Data from 2019 shows that 84% of Key Stage 2 pupils who had 100% attendance achieved the expected standard, compared to 40% of pupils who were persistently absent across the key stage.

Unfortunately, our whole school level of attendance is disappointing due to the high number of holidays being taken in term time. Please remember that there are increasing penalties and risks of prosecution for these unauthorised holidays. It is also simply not fair on other children in the class if their teacher is needing to spend time 'catching up' a pupil who has returned from a term time holiday.

Brockfield House

Brockfield House is a secure NHS hospital on the estate. Each year we invite staff to come and speak with parents in order to reassure our community and answer any questions you may have. This will be on **Wednesday 8th October at 5pm** in the school hall.

Wishing you a lovely weekend, Ms Kendall-Hobbs

Stars of the Week



This Week's Winners:

Squirrels – Harriet for collaboration and Lara for compassion

Hedgehogs – Roman for individuality and Holland for compassion

Badgers – Ettie for compassion and Oli for resilience

Foxes – Reggie for respect and Ethan for resilience

Woodpeckers – Macy for creativity and Freya for resilience

Well done for setting such a good example with your kind and positive choices 😊

Certificates are awarded in line with our school values for:

Individuality

I am unique and special: nobody is exactly like me

Respect

I accept that people's thoughts, feelings and rights are important

Resilience

I recover quickly from difficulties because I believe in myself

Responsibility

I know I must make good choices and do my job

Courage

I am brave enough to do the right thing

Compassion

I care about those who are suffering

Collaboration

I work as part of a team to achieve the best results

Creativity

I use my imagination and have original ideas

Reminder:

All absences need to be reported each day before 9am by phoning the main school number or emailing admin@stlukespark.essex.sch.uk

If you have arranged for somebody else to collect your child, please ensure that you tell your class teacher or inform the main office who will pass the message on.

Good attendance and punctuality are key to ensuring children access the best education they deserve. **Please be aware that as a school we are obliged to follow rules on monitoring and reporting on attendance from government.**

We use a letter format from Essex County Council in order to meet our obligations in this area.

Please get in touch if we can do anything to support you in improving your child's attendance. If we invite you in for a meeting, please see this as an opportunity to access help and support from us if you need it.

Autumn Term -

Dates for your diary

Monday 22nd Sept	Teacher-led clubs begin Flu vaccinations 5.30-6pm Phonics and early reading meeting for parents of yrR/1/2 children (in hall) 6-6.15pm Multiplication Check meeting for parents of yr3/4 children (in yr 4 classroom)
Weds 24th Sept	PTFA AGM in school hall at 2.30pm - Please come along just before pick up and get involved with our amazing fundraising team who do so much to support fun activities in the school.
Mon 29th Sept	Online safety themed week in school
Weds 30th Sept	'Live' Phonics lesson - year one parents are invited to watch Mrs Botwright teach a phonics session from 9-9.20am in the classroom with the children. Please avoid bringing buggies or hot drinks with you.
2nd and 3rd Oct	INSET session - school closed to pupils.
Weds 8 th October	Brockfield House Information Meeting – 5pm Hall Come and find out about the work of NHS Brockfield House and ask any questions you may have.
Thurs 9 th Oct	Individual and family photos from 8am
Weds 22 nd Oct	Local Area Walk – Parents invited. 2pm start.
Friday 24 th Oct	EYFS/KS1 Harvest Festival to Parents 9am in hall.
WB 27 th Oct	HALF TERM
Mon 3 rd Nov	Bring in your carved Halloween pumpkins – leave on the outside benches for display. Certificates for super effort.
Mon 10 th Nov	'Around the World Week'
Fri 14 th Nov	Children in Need - £1 online donation and optional 'crazy hair' for the day.
Nov 27 th	EYFS 2026 intake tour 9.30am
Mon 1 st Dec	Parents' Evening and first report page 3.30-6.30
Thurs 4 th Dec	EYFS 2026 intake tour 9.30am Parents' Evening and first report page 3.30-6.30

Mon 8 th Dec	9am KS1 Nativity to Parents 2.30pm EYFS Christmas show to parents
Tuesday 9 th Dec	9am KS1 Nativity to Parents 2.30pm EYFS Christmas show to parents
Weds 10 th Dec	Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas Dinner Day
Thursday 11 th Dec	10am Visiting Pantomime in Hall for Children
Friday 12 th Dec	PTFA Disco 3.15-4.15 KS1 and 4.30-5.30 for KS2
WB 15 th Dec	No Teacher-led clubs
Weds 17 th Dec	KS2 Carol concert to parents 4-5pm (KS2 children remain after school for this event)
Fri 19 th Dec	Last day of term


PE DAYS

Please can children come into school wearing their PE kit on the below days:

EYFS	Friday	
YEAR 1	Tuesday	Thursday
YEAR 2	Tuesday	Thursday
YEAR 3	Monday	Thursday
YEAR 4	Wednesday	Thursday
YEAR 5	Monday	Thursday

Mid Essex Start Well Roadshows – (Autumn 2025)

Parents and carers of under 5s – come along to the Start Well Roadshows this October across Mid Essex! These free, drop-in events offer expert advice, peer support, and fun activities for little ones. Whether you're preparing for preschool or just need a bit of support, there's something for everyone.

 Locations include Chelmsford, Braintree, Maldon, Dengie and Witham.

 [Click here for dates and details](#)

Dinners – We are on Week 1

Week commencing Monday 22nd September

	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
Main	Margherita Pizza (V)	*NEW* Homemade Crispy Chicken Kiev(GF)	All Day Breakfast (Bacon and Pork Chipolata)	Mild Korma Chicken Curry	*NEW* Bird's Eye Omega 3 Fish Fingers
Vegetarian	BBQ Pizza (v)	*NEW* Quorn Crispy Fillet Kiev(GF V)	*NEW* Breakfast Burrito (ve) (wrap filled tomato, beans & cheese)	Creamy Macaroni Cheese (v)	Fishless Fingers (v)
On the Side	Pasta (ve) Salad Bar (v)	New Potatoes (ve) Green Beans (ve) Salad Bar (v)	Hash Brown (ve) Scrambled Egg (v) Baked Beans (ve)	Crusty Bread (v) Broccoli (ve) Salad Bar (v)	Oven Baked Chips(v) Peas (ve) Sweetcorn (ve)
Dessert	Cranberry & Coconut Cookie (v)	Jelly (v)	Fruit Platter (ve)	Flapjack (v)	Fruit Platter (v)

Available daily – Salad Cart, Mixed Yoghurt, Fresh Fruit, and Water

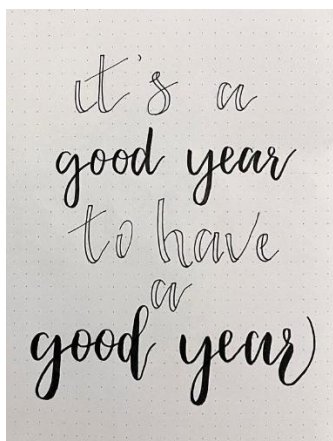
(v) Vegetarian

(ve) Vegan

(GF) Gluten Free

Week 1 Menu Dates: 3rd Sept, 22nd Sept, 13th Oct

Doodle Journal Club



For those children attending **Doodle Journal Club** in **Years 2,3,4 & 5** it is recommended to **bring your own fine line black pen** to the club. Felt pens will be available for Reception and Year 1



Please note this club has a waiting list so if your child no longer wishes to attend, please let the office know asap. Thank you.



Changing childhoods.
Changing lives.

Essex Child and Family
Wellbeing Service



The BIG Shout

How your voice can help others



Complete this survey for a chance to win a £20 voucher of your choice!

We're looking to better understand how we can improve engagement and outcomes for children and families in your neighbourhood. Your feedback within this survey will help us learn how local services can better support you and your community.



*We cannot guarantee any changes will be made following this survey, but we are consulting to see what people would like to see in an ideal world so we can advocate for this in the future.

Services commissioned by:





**Families
InFocus** Essex

Understanding special needs



PARENT SUPPORT GROUP

Connect, Share and Support

Are you looking for support, advice or just a place to connect with other SEND Parent/Carers? Join our friendly support group where we share experiences, offer guidance and find encouragement from others who understand.

Whether you're facing specific challenges or just looking for a supportive SEND community, we'd love you to join us!

When

Last Monday of
the month
10.30am to 12.30pm



Where

Christ Church
164 New London Road
Chelmsford
CM2 0AW

PTFA News

Message from your PTFA Committee.

AGM: Want to win a family ticket for The Pumpkin Field at Green Barn Farm?

Attend the **PTFA AGM on Weds 24th September 14:30-15:00 in the school hall** for your chance to win a family ticket! All eligible attendees over 18 will go into a prize draw to win. Winner will be drawn at random and advised at the end of the meeting. If we don't meet the minimum number of required attendees, we won't be able to elect a PTFA committee for the 25/26 school year - which would mean no Xmas Disco! Please spare 30 mins of your time to come along so we can continue adding more fun for the kids of St Luke's Park Primary.

Cauliflower Cards:

By now you all children would have been sent home with info on Cauliflower Cards. This is an initiative that turns your children's super designs into Christmas cards, wrapping paper (and more) and at the same time boosts our PTFA fundraising pot (last year we raised almost £200). There's some helpful hints and tips of ideas for the artwork available at - <https://www.cauliflowercards.co.uk/christmas-gallery> and <https://www.cauliflowercards.co.uk/online-resources> All artwork and forms must be handed into the school office no later than **Friday 26th September 2025**.

If you've any questions or suggestions for the PTFA team, get in touch at stlukesparkptfa@gmail.com.

We're also on Facebook - St Luke's Park PTFA and Instagram [st_lukes_park_ptfa](#)

Thanks, Laura, Nicola, Liz, Claudia, Ashlee, Kayleigh and Kirsty