



St Luke's Park Newsletter (14) 09.01.2026

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,

Teacher-led Clubs

Will begin next week. You will have received your returned reply slip so that you know which clubs your child has been allocated.

Attendance

Children received their 100% attendance certificates for December on Monday this week and on Friday they were awarded gold, silver or bronze certificates for their overall attendance across the autumn term (% rounded up).

Gold = 99 to 100 %

Silver= 97 to 98 %

Bronze = 95 to 96 %

We will continue to monitor attendance closely with certificates to recognise great attendance each month and every term.

Unfortunately, last term we had a rather high number of early pick ups which impacts negatively on the children, disrupts their class and puts unnecessary pressure on office staff who are needing to collect children from classes. Please wait until the end of the school day.

If you have a medical appointment which was not possible to schedule outside of school time then please ensure you have evidence of this with you when you come to collect.

Lost Property - Reminder

For safeguarding and security reasons, please **do not attempt to enter the school building at the end of the day**. Staff are ensuring that pupils are dismissed safely and it is important that we know who is on site at all times. When children have gone home, teachers are marking or prepping for their lessons the next day – or running a club for the children. **Please do not send children back in or ask staff to assist with finding drinks bottles etc which are fine to leave until the next day and can be refilled at school.**

If you are looking for lost property, this is in the waiting room area by the front office. Unnamed items will be disposed of at the end of the term. Please check if you are missing anything.

Essex County Council SEND Survey

As I shared via email earlier this week, Essex County Council are undergoing an Ofsted inspection with a focus on provision for SEND in the county. Here is a link for parents of SEND pupils to share their views: [Parent/Carer Survey](#)

Lockdown Practice

Just as we regularly practise fire drills, so everyone knows what to do in the unlikely event of a fire, we also practise what to do if we ever needed to stay safely inside the building for any reason. These drills are a normal part of our safety procedures and are **not** connected to any specific concern or threat. Before undertaking drills of this nature they are explained to children in a child-friendly way – for example what we might do if there was a dog lose on the playground. We have done several practises in the past and will do another within this half term.

Wishing you a lovely weekend, Ms Kendall-Hobbs **Headteacher**

Stars of the Week



This Week's Winners:

Little Owls – Thomas for compassion and Ezre for resilience

Squirrels – Lara for creativity and Lola and Chase for collaboration

Hedgehogs – Teddy for resilience and Matilda and Florence for respect

Badgers – Elliott for courage and Pippa for creativity

Foxes – Dawson and Blakeley for resilience

Woodpeckers – Macy and Mia for resilience, Amelia, Penelope and Rosie for courage

Well done for setting such a good example with

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 and Spring Term - Dates for your diary

| | |
|--|---|
| | |
| Monday 12 th January 2026 | Teacher-led clubs start (one week later than advertised) |
| Thursday 15 th January 2026 | DEADLINE for applying for a school Reception place at St Luke's Park Primary School for September 2026. You MUST apply on time – please remember to do this if your child has a sibling due to start reception in Sept 2026. Late applications are unlikely to get a place. www.essex.gov.uk/admissions . |
| Wb 19 th Jan | DT week – Mrs Tyler is coordinating this in-school event 20 th Jan special assembly linked to DT week (children only) |
| 10 th February | Year 3 to Colchester Castle – Romans Topic |
| 2 nd March | World Book Day Dress up – Please come in dressed as a character from a book |
| Wb 2 nd March | 'Readathon Week' Classes compete to see which class can get the most reading stars for the number of times they have read in a week. PTFA supported event. |
| 10 th March | 'Wonder woman' Mothers' Day sale for children. Bring in £ to purchase small gifts for the important woman in your life. PTFA event |
| 18 th March | Poetry recital to parents, year 3 and 5 only . Two shows, 9am and 2.30pm in the hall. Ticketed event. |
| 20 th March | KS1 and EYFS poetry recital to parents. Two shows, 9am and 2.30pm in the hall. Ticketed event. |
| Wb 23rd March | No teacher-led clubs due to parents' evening |
| 23 rd March | Year 4 show to parents 9am in hall |
| 23 rd March | Parents' evening 3.30-6.30 |
| 26 th March | Year 4 show to parents 9am in hall |
| 26 th March | Parents' Evening 3.30-6.30 |
| 27 th March | PTFA Easter egg hunt |

Reception admissions for academic year starting in September 2026

DEADLINE – 15 January 2026

The statutory national closing date for applications for parents of children to apply for a Reception school place for the academic year starting in September 2026 is **15 January 2026**.

PLEASE APPLY BY THIS DATE EVEN IF YOU ALREADY HAVE A CHILD AT THE SCHOOL

Applications can be made online via www.essex.gov.uk/admissions.

All of the application information is available on the website above.

The website www.essex.gov.uk/admissions also has a copy of the Primary Education in Essex 2026-27 booklet and the Schools Admissions Policies Directories contain details of all admission policies.

Message from Chef Julie

Happy New Year to everyone. My Chinese Chicken is very popular with the children and so simple to make so I thought I would publish it to all our St Luke's Park families so you can all enjoy what the Children enjoy. This is a great meal to get the children involved measuring out ingredients and making the dish for all the family.

Sticky Chicken or Sticky Sausages (Based on 4 portions)

- 1tube Tomato Puree
- 200ml Vegetable Oil
- 500ml Light Soy Sauce
- 250g Honey
- 2tsp Chinese 5 Spice
- X4 chicken breasts or sausages
- Sliced onion
- Sliced peppers

Mix the tomato puree, oil, soy sauce, honey and Chinese 5 spice all together.

Add onions and peppers to oven proof dish.

Lay chicken or sausages on top.

Pour the above mixture over chicken or sausages.

Bake 180degrees or until chicken or sausages cooked thoroughly (75deg core temperature).

Serve with choice of noodles or rice.

Have a great weekend.

Julie Willis

Chef Julie

Reminder message – this message is being included again as a reminder as it was in the last newsletter in December.

A message from Chef Julie.

I have made a few adjustments to the menu starting January 2026 as follows:

Week One

Monday – Main now tomato pasta

Tuesday – Vegetarian now Quorn pieces in a tomato based sauce with Chinese five spice

Friday – Main now Omega 3 Bird's Eye Fish Fingers

Week Two

No change

Week Three

Friday – Vegetarian now vegetable burger

On the side – McCain Chips

Please can I remind you all should your child be out of school at an appointment at morning registration and misses the dinner register can you please call in or email and advise their dinner option should they be choosing school dinners.

If after 10:00am, this will be too late to add to that day's meal numbers and you will need to send your child in with a packed lunch.

Chef Julie Willis

Julie Willis

Dinners – Week commencing 12th January 2026

| | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|--------------------|--|--|--|--|---------------------------------|
| Main | Margherita Pizza (v) | Homemade Chicken Fajita (Chicken in mild tomato sauce with onion and peppers served in a wrap) | Local Butcher's Roast Gammon | Pasta Beef Bolognese | Bird's Eye Omega 3 Fish Fingers |
| Vegetarian | BBQ Pizza (v) | Quorn Fajita (Quorn pieces in mild tomato sauce with onion and peppers served in a wrap) (v) | Herby Quorn Fillet (ve) | Cheese & Leek Pasta (v) | Crispy Quorn Dippers (v) |
| On the Side | Pasta (ve) Sweetcorn (ve) | Basmati rice (v) Broccoli (ve) | Roast Potatoes (ve) Yorkshire Pudding (v) Peas & Carrots (ve) Gravy (GF) (optional) | Pasta (v) Sweetcorn & Peppers (ve) Garlic bread (ve) | Chips (v) Baked Beans (ve) |
| Dessert | Homemade Apple Crumble and Custard (v) | Shortbread (v) | Fresh Fruit (ve) | Homemade Sponge (v) | Fruit Platter (ve) |

Available daily – Salad Cart, Mixed Yoghurt, Fresh Fruit and Water
(v) Vegetarian (ve) Vegan, (GF) Gluten Free

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Chef Julie Willis

Julie Willis



ST TUITION



THURSDAY AFTERSCHOOL

Get ahead for SATs and build confidence and enjoyment with ST Tuition. Small group sessions with personalised learning.

SESSIONS AVAILABLE

- English - Years 3 and 4
3:15pm - 4:15pm
- English - Year 5
4:20pm - 5:20pm
- Maths - Year 5
5:25pm - 6:25pm

**STARTING
8TH JANUARY**

**£20 PER CHILD
PER SESSION**

*Sibling and multiple
booking discount
available.*

Taught by a qualified teacher.

Contact Simon on:

07969 346597



PTFA News

Update from your PTFA Committee

It's been a cold start to the new term but we hope all of the children have enjoyed being back in class!

We need you!

Ashlee has made the difficult decision of stepping down from her role as Volunteer Coordinator, we would like to take this opportunity to thank Ashlee for all of her support.

We would love for another parent or friend of SLP to take on this role.

What does the role of Volunteer Coordinator entail? Supporting the PTFA in the smooth running of events to identify what volunteer support is needed and engage with the school community to secure volunteers. Manage communication with and briefing of volunteers.

Key skills: Friendly and approachable. Team player. Strong organisational skills.

For more information please email: stlukespartptfa@gmail.com

Festive highlights 🎄 🍪

We were delighted to announce Rudy in Squirrels as the winner of our giant elf with the name Rolo

As well as Leigha, who has a child in Hedgehogs as our hamper winner

We will be sharing this terms calendar of PTFA events soon.

Don't forget to follow us on Instagram

https://www.instagram.com/st_lukes_park_primary_ptfa?igsh=bHBlEhZubDJ1ejYw

and Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/share/1DuiEYkUY8/?mibextid=wwXifr>

Your 25/26 Committee - Liz, Kirsty, Nicola, Claudia, Samantha, Elizabeth, Ashlee and Kayleigh



Thank you for your support

Your support has made a real difference to those in the
Armed Forces community.

To find out more about how your donation helps,
please visit rbl.org.uk/about-us



To ST. LUKE'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

Thank you for supporting the Royal British Legion

Together we raised £217.86



ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

Crafty Katie

St Lukes Primary School

CRAFT CLUB

Fun weekly themed crafts and activities often to include Sand art, wooden crafts, foam crafts, sequins, modelling, brick build, and more
Club runs straight from class and finishes at 4.15pm. Collection is from the main school entrance

Tuesdays for all year groups

Tuesday 6th January to Tuesday 10th February
6 week half term

Cost is £36 for the half term

You can join mid term if spaces are available.

To book: Text or call Katie on 07929 044959

