



Message from the Headteacher

Dear SLP Families,

I have had some lovely conversations with teachers and support staff this week as they have reflected on how well children have come back from the Christmas holidays. Well done children!

Reading

Our focus on promoting reading continues and with this I would like to encourage you to visit your local libraries and take part in their 'Winter Reading Challenge'. I know that lots of the children enjoy the sense of challenge in initiatives like this – further information can be found here: <https://libraries.essex.gov.uk/digital-content/winter-reading-challenge/childrens-challenge> . You can make a huge impact on your child's progress in school by hearing them practice their reading on a daily basis. If your child is reluctant to read initially, try some 'echo reading' when you read a line and your child reads it back after you. This can be a good way to get started and for children to feel successful, while supporting your child to develop expression while reading.

Special Assembly

We will have a special assembly on Tuesday next week from the 'Science Dude' which we are really looking forward to. This is for children only and will be focused on aerodynamics!

DT Week

We have decided to postpone DT week which was originally scheduled to be next week, and have moved this to the last week of the half term. All of the classes will be spending time on design and technology projects, coordinated by Mrs Tyler.

Termly Curriculum Overviews

You will all have received a paper copy of the termly learning overview for your child's class. Copies of these are available on the class pages of our website should you need another copy.

Coming up – The 2 Johns Online Safety Training Feb 12th at 8pm for parents

We have online safety training coming up this half term for children and parents. The 2 Johns' online training aimed at parents will be at 8pm via a link which we will send out nearer the time. The PTFA have funded this crucial training which will likely absolutely terrify you about what children are exposed to online BUT will give you the knowledge and skills to understand how to help your child be as safe as possible.

Children will have been learning about online safety during the day on this date in age-appropriate training. The 8pm training is for adults only.

Please, please, make a note of this date and do your best to view – this is a costly activity but all staff who have had experience of this will attest to how valuable it is.

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

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.

Stars of the Week



This Week's Winners:

Little Owls – Ronnie and Artie for resilience

Squirrels – Teddy for creativity, Cali-Mae for collaboration, Sofia for Resilience and Zack for collaboration

Hedgehogs – Harry for responsibility and the whole class for resilience

Badgers – The whole class for resilience

Foxes – Poppy for resilience and Harley for responsibility

Woodpeckers – Mila for perseverance

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

Autumn and Spring Term -

Dates for your diary

Wb 19 th Jan	DT week – Mrs Tyler is coordinating this in-school event (moved to week beginning 9 th Feb) 20 th Jan special assembly linked to DT week (children only)
10 th February	Year 3 to Colchester Castle – Romans Topic
12 th Feb	Online Safety – ‘The 2 Johns’ online training aimed at parents 8pm via a link which we will send out nearer the time. The PTFA have funded this crucial training which will likely absolutely terrify you about what children are exposed to online BUT will give you the knowledge and skills to understand how to help your child be as safe as possible. Please, please, make a note of this date – this is a costly activity but all staff who have had experience of this will attest to how valuable it is.
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



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

Update from your PTFA Committee

Unwanted Christmas presents? Fancy dress that doesn't fit?

The PTFA would be delighted to take these off your hands for upcoming raffles, and for our pre-loved store with world book day coming up on 3 March.

👁️👁️ Look out for posts about world book day costumes coming soon. 👁️👁️

Dates for your diary 📅

- 6 Feb: Bingo, Runwell Social Club
- 1-6 Mar: Readathon
- 6 Mar: Bingo, Runwell Social Club
- 10 Mar: Wonder Woman Event
- 27 Mar: Easter Egg Hunt

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=wwXIf>

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

The Healthy Schools Team

The Healthy Schools team are conducting research to better understand children and young people's habits when it comes to hydration. As part of this work, we are keen to identify the challenges schools, and parents, face when encouraging water consumption with children.

Our objective is to develop a resource campaign that supports both parents and schools. This initiative focuses not only on promoting increased water intake, but also on educating parents that sugary drinks, such as squash, juice, and flavoured water, are generally not permitted in schools. We want to encourage parents to help their children adopt water-only habits before they begin school.

Please feel free to complete the survey below:

Parents - [Hydration survey for Parents – Fill in form](#)

Your support is very much appreciated.

Kind Regards,

The Healthy Schools Team

Essex Child & Family Wellbeing Services (ECFWS)

Service provide by: HCRG Care Group in partnership with Barnardo's

Essex Child & Family Wellbeing Services (ECFWS)

0300 247 0013

website: www.essexfamilywellbeing.co.uk



Changing childhoods.
Changing lives.

Barnardo's is a charity (216250 and SC037605) and a company limited by guarantee (61625 England) Registered Office: Tanners Lane, Barkingside, Ilford, Essex, IG6 1QG

Striving to improve health and wellbeing outcomes for children and families in the community, for the community, with the community.

Dinners – Week commencing 19th January 2026

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Main	Pizza Whirl (Puff Pastry whirl with tomato and cheese filling) (v)	Creamy Carbonara (Pasta in white sauce mixed with chopped ham)	Local Butcher's Roast Chicken	Beef Tortilla Chip Pie (mild Beef chili con carne sprinkled with cheese and tortilla crisps)	Bird's Eye Omega 3 Fish Fingers(GF)
Veg	Cheesy Pasta (Plain pasta topped with grated cheese) (v)	Macaroni Cheese (v)	Herby Quorn Fillet (ve)	Quorn mince Tortilla Chip Pie (Quorn mince sprinkled with tortilla crisps)(v)	Vegetable Burger (v)
On the Side	½ jacket potato (ve) Baked Beans (ve)	Baguette (ve) Broccoli (ve)	Roast Potatoes (v) Yorkshire pudding Peas (ve) Carrots (ve) Gravy (optional)	Sunshine Rice (ve) Green Beans (ve)	Oven Baked Chips (v) Baked Beans (ve)
Dessert	Yoghurt (v)	Chocolate Crispie Cake (v)	Fruit Platter (v)	Flapjack(v)	Fruit Platter (ve)