

# A very warm Welcome to St Luke's School!



St Luke's School





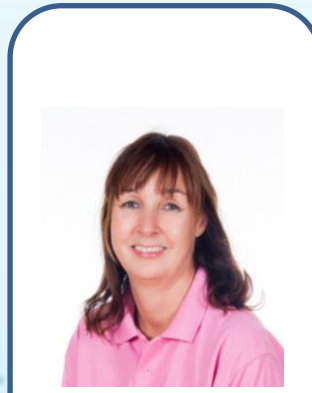
Adam Turner



Kath Hepworth



Lucy Scott



Karen O'Connor



Vicky Smith



Tanya Martins



Chantelle Le Couteur



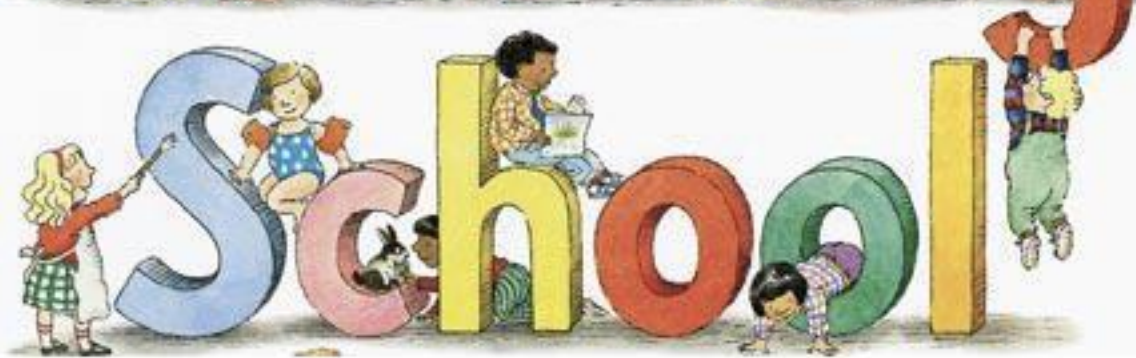
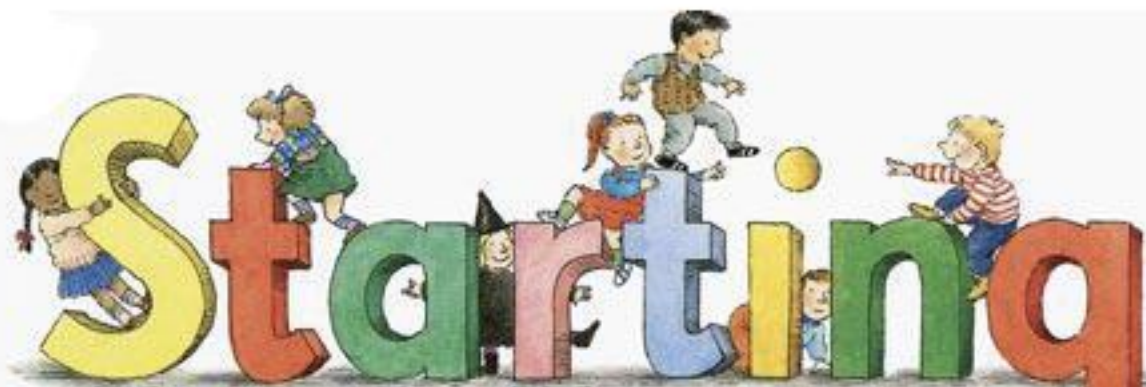
Jayne Hamon

Meet the team!

# About us

- ❖ - Rights Respecting Schools
- ❖ - Parental Involvement
- ❖ - PTA
- ❖ - School website
- ❖ - Facebook & Twitter Page
- ❖ - Open Door Policy





# Transition into St Luke's School

- Park and Play sessions have taken place at Howard David Park.
- Stay and Play sessions have started and there is one more session tomorrow.
- Make sure that you have collected your pack today. The pack includes key information about the EYFS day and leaflets on phonics, maths, healthy lunches and any forms that you need to fill out and bring into school with you.
- Reception and Nursery teachers have already met with the children's current Nursery teachers to hand up information.
- Home visits take place for Nursery children in September.



# Starting Dates

- We stagger both Reception and Nursery children's start dates into school over a few days, starting children in small groups. This enables us to give the children the best opportunity to settle.
- Individual start dates have been posted home.
- We ask that all Nursery children attend mornings initially. Nursery afternoon hours begin on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> September. This is flexible based on children's needs and some children may need to attend mornings only for longer.
- On your child's first day at St Luke's School, you will need to bring with them: a named bag with a spare pair of clothes, a water bottle, a lunch box (if you haven't signed up to hot lunches through Flourish) a pair of wellington boots and a sun hat.
- You will also need to bring any relevant paperwork with you and hand it into Ms Hamon at the office. This includes birth certificates (to be photocopied and original can be taken home) data protection agreement, In the Moment Planning agreement and for Reception children, medical forms such as eye test agreements.



# First Day at School

- If your child is starting Nursery, you are welcome to come into the classroom initially to help your child settle. You can support your child by helping them find their peg (they will see their picture and their name). Please help them to hang their belongings on their peg.
- Help your child to self register by hanging their picture/name on the registration tree (there will be a member of staff there to help you out, please don't worry!)
- You will then need to help them put their lunchbox in the kitchen (if they are not having hot lunches) and their water bottles on a tray in the kitchen.
- Doors open at 8.30 and close at 8.45. The registers are sent at 8.50.
- Nursery will enter through the side gate to the classroom.
- Reception will enter through the main front door. As they are a little older and more independent, they will put their own belongings on their pegs, self register and put away their lunch box and water bottle (staff will be there to support).
- All children will leave through the side gate (Nursery at 12.30 / 2.30 and Reception at 2.55).



# How the Early Years Unit Works

- At St Luke's School we run our early years as one unit, rather than two separate classrooms.
- This means that children have access to two full time teachers, two full time Nursery Officers and one full time teaching assistant.
- This enables us to have a ratio of 1 adult to every 9 children (the normal ratios in Nursery are 1:10 and in Reception classes are 1:15 (although can be 1:30)).
- It also enables us to have a bigger learning environment, with more opportunities to access resources.
- As we can provide higher staffing levels, the children have access to more adult time within their play, as well as more opportunities to take part in any activities that they request, such as cooking.
- The children work with their own teacher and class during carpet times for learning such as phonics, maths, story time, rhymes and singing.
- Working in this way makes transition times much smoother for the children.





# Daily Routine

We have a routine in Early Years as it is shown that this makes children feel safe and secure.

**8.30-8.50** Settling in time. We encourage the children to be as independent as possible in their morning routine.

**8.50- 9.00** Community Carpet Time. This is where Nursery and Reception come together with all members of early years staff to plan their day. We talk about what we have done the day before and what ideas the children have for the day ahead. We use this time to talk about the children's interests and to help them plan their own learning.

**9.00- 11.20** Snack opens. Children are engaged in learning through play, supported by the early years staff.

**11.20 - 11.30** Phonics carpet time. Nursery come together on their carpet and Reception come together on their carpet.

**11.30 - 12.30** Lunch time in the kitchen supported by our early years staff.

**12.30** Morning only Nursery children go home.

**12.30-2.10** Learning through play.

**2.10-2.30** Group carpet times. Nursery come together on their carpet and Reception come together on their carpet.

**2.30-** Get ready for home time.

**Nursery home time: 2.30**

**Reception home time: 2.55**



# Snack and Healthy Lunches

- **Morning Snack.** A rolling snack where children eat when they are hungry. We ask for a £30 contribution per child for each term (£90 for the year).
- **Perishable Goods.** Your £30 per term also covers playdough ingredients so that we can make this fresh every day, cooking ingredients, replacing perishable goods and to use for treats for the children.
- **Healthy Lunches.** You can sign your child up to receive a hot lunch through Flourish. You can look ahead to the term and choose the meals that you would like your child to receive. Meals currently cost £2.50 or are free if you are in receipt of income support.
- **Water.** Please supply your child with a named bottle full of water each day.



# Uniform

There is a Swedish saying that we apply to our practice: "There is no such thing as bad weather, just bad clothing!" We make use of all the learning areas available to us including sand and mud pits and we encourage outdoor play whatever the weather! All Children will require:

- A pair of named Wellington boots for messy and wet play activities
- A named sunhat and a named winter hat (in cold weather)
- Velcro/strap/buckle shoes or trainers as we encourage the children to be independent as possible with socks and shoes.
- A bag on their peg with a full change of clothing (including socks and underwear).
- A blue school fleece (with a St Luke's School logo on it). This is available to purchase from Redvers (by the metal cows in town).
- Navy blue or black leggings or tracksuit bottoms or jogging bottoms (these are not school issue and can be purchased from any high street store such as Matalan, M&S, Next).
- Reception children may also like to have a St Luke's School book bag (which can be ordered at our school office).



# Early Years Curriculum

In the Early Years know that children learn best through play. Many years of research has shown that through play children perform beyond their years and this is where they thrive. With this in mind, the majority of the time that children are with us in Nursery and Reception, staff spend their time in play with the children, interacting with them and moving their learning forward using the child's interests.

There are 7 Areas of Learning in the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS), which provision is planned around:

1. - Personal, Social and Emotional Development
2. - Physical Development
3. - Communication and Language
4. - Literacy
5. - Mathematics
6. - Understanding the World
7. - Expressive Arts and Design

Throughout the EYFS, children will be working towards the Early Learning Goals. These describe the level of attainment expected at the end of your child's Reception year in school.



# Project Books

- We have 'Project Books' that document what the children have been learning throughout the week.
- Project books are child-led and document the interests of the children and the learning that has taken place through their interests. We often have multiple books running at once.



# Home Learning

- We understand and value the support you provide for your child at home. Early years staff would love to hear about what you and your child have been doing at home. We encourage you to share your child's learning, achievements and experiences with us on Seesaw, as this helps us to build a more complete picture of your child.
- Each week parents will receive a weekly newsletter from their child's class teacher. In this newsletter we also provide a home learning idea for the week.
- Reception children have the opportunity to take home reading books, these are linked to our phonics program Little Wandle. These will start off as wordless books to support children to develop early book skills for example retelling/ creating their own story and will then progress into phased books which will link to their current phonic knowledge and recognition of tricky words.
- Reception have access to home readers all year round outside the classroom for you to take home and share.
- All Nursery and Reception children make a weekly visit to the school library to choose a book to share at home.



# Phonics

- Nursery and Reception children take part in high-quality phonics sessions every day. These are fun sessions involving lots of speaking, listening and games, where the emphasis is on children's active participation.
- As children develop their confidence with spoken language, we begin to look at letter sounds, letter formation and recognising words. Children learn to use their phonic knowledge for reading and writing activities in their independent play.
- Phonics is about children knowing how letters link to sounds, for example c as in 'cat', ll as in 'fell', ee as in 'sheep'. Children use their phonic knowledge when they are reading and writing.
- You will receive a leaflet explaining this further to you in your parent pack, one tailored for Nursery children and the other to Reception children.
- In Autumn, you will be invited back into school for a short talk on how phonics is taught in school and how you can support at home.



# Thank you

Should you have any questions, please feel free to speak to a member of staff by either ringing the school or sending an email to [admin@stluke.sch.je](mailto:admin@stluke.sch.je)

- We look forward to welcoming you all to St Luke's School.

