

School website = www.stluke.sch.je Facebook = St Luke's School Jersey

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Dear Parents and families.

Welcome back everyone and welcome to our new families joining us this year. You are most welcome to our very special community that will only strengthen in the months and years ahead. I am available to be contacted via admin@stluke.sch.je and I will do my best to help directly, or to ensure one of my well-placed colleagues will do so. On behalf of all the staff we wish you all a very happy, successful term.

St Luke's School

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# Attendance / Holidays

Please be aware that the Education Welfare Team have informed schools that they will be closely monitoring attendance and punctuality as a priority this year, to ensure that school attendance figures return to that of pre-pandemic. As such please be aware that we will be expected to monitor lates/absence and develop attendance plans much swifter than previously.

If you are requesting permission for your children to be absent from school you are asked to complete a "Holiday Request Form" either electronically (via our school website) or on paper (available from the school office.)

A child can only be given permission in **rare** circumstances and only 10 days in their entire primary school career.

Repeated unauthorised absences will result in Educational Welfare taking active involvement in partnership with Parish Centeniers.

For more information please refer to the letter attached to this Newsletter from Gareth Bayley, Education Welfare Team Manager. St Luke's Attendance Policy is available on our school website.

#### No nuts, please!

No 👷 Nuts!

Please can we remind everyone that St Luke's is a peanut and nut free school. We have several children with allergies so please don't put any in lunchboxes. Thank you for your support with this.



Nursery come in via the roadside gate.

Reception come in through the main school door.

Year 1—Year 6 come in through the main gates and walk through the playground.















#### Reminder: Pencil Cases & Pen licences

From Year 2 children bring in their own pencil cases to school.

Pencil cases need to be able to fit inside the children's trays, so please try to avoid buying huge, unwieldly, ones!

We have introduced a "Pen Licence" and special pen for children who demonstrate that their presentation and writing is neat enough. As such children **don't** need to bring their own pen to school.

Children need the following:

<u>÷</u>£<u>₹</u>££££<u></u>£

2HB pencil for writing 30cm ruler Glue stick

Sharpener Pencil colours / Purple biro

<u>Yr4, 5 & 6 also need a protractor (solid not bendy)</u>

At St Luke's we don't use erasers to rub out mistakes (we like mistakes because they help us learn!). As such children don't need any erasers in their pencil cases.

\*Pencil cases filled with required resources are available to buy from school - children can speak to Ms Hamon to buy one of these.

#### Questions, worries or general feedback.

It is always best to speak to your child's class teacher in the first instance if the issue relates to your child. If you would like to talk to someone else, then the Key Stage Leader would be your next port of call:

Key Stage 1 Leader (Nursery, Rec, Yr1 & Yr2) Miss Scott I.scott@stluke.sch.je Key Stage 2 Leader (Yr3, Yr4, Yr5 & Yr6) Miss Round c.round@stluke.sch.je

If you still don't feel your concern has been answered, then it would be best to next speak to Mrs Hepworth or to myself directly.

If your concern is relating to a learning or additional learning need please raise this in the first instance with your child's class teacher. They can then organise a meeting between yourself, class teacher and SENDCO (Mrs Hepworth).

### Start and end of the day

Gates open at 8.30 when the children are able to go straight into their class to unpack their belongings, greet their friends and take part in the early work/activities. Children arriving after 8.50 will need to be signed in at the office by an adult and will be marked as late.

Once children have been collected at the end of the day **please be prompt at taking them off school grounds**, as our after school club are waiting to come out to play.

Thank you for your understanding with this.

Positive relationships are the key to a happy and successful community, one that puts children first and ensures that each and every student fulfils their potential, and feels valued.

Developing our relationship with you as parents is vital. You have a number of opportunities to engage in the year ahead, including Information Evenings, special events, parental forums, school surveys and many more. However, if you need advice or feel something is not quite right, please be reassured that you can and should reach out to us. My team and I are here to listen. I hope to chat to you at the front gate in the mornings, on the side-lines of sports fixtures, at assemblies , at school socials and many others in the year ahead.



<u>Dates for the Diary</u> 14th September - INSET (School closed) 15th September - <u>Meet the teacher</u> 2:45pm in classrooms 25th September - Nasal Flu vaccination 13th October - family & individual photos 18th October - ST Luke's Day 20th October - Class Council Elections \*School Disco (tbc) 20th October or 1st Dec 24th-28th Oct - Half Term Holiday 9th November - Parent Consultations

16th November - Parent Consultations 23rd November - Parent Consultations 7th December - Christmas Party Day 19th December - Christmas Church Service & Last Day of Term

19th December - 4th January -Christmas Holidays

5th January - Back to School

<u>School Street</u>

We are really pleased that the Government Infrastructure Department have agreed to continue with the highly successful School Street at the start and end of the day, making it much safer for our children to come and leave school.

## Voice21: Oracy Skills

This year we continue working in partnership with the UK Voice21 programme to develop Oracy across the school. <u>What can you do at home?</u> You can help your child by actively engaging in conversation with your child. Ask your child to explain their reasons and teach them that it is good to disagree and to change your mind. Initiate some discussions and debates - dinner time is a great time to do this as a family. Discuss new words and support them to broaden their vocabulary.

### Fire regulations—what it means for us...

Following the introduction of the latest Fire Safety guidelines, introduced in the summer holidays by States Employment Board & Property holdings, we (like many schools across Jersey) have been instructed to comply with some short term and long term directives.

- Coat pegs in corridors have been removed and replaced with small, temporary, mobile units (to be stored in a cupboard during the day). This affects Yr2, Yr4 & Yr5. Coat pegs will be replaced with fire proof lockers for the children (these have been ordered and we are waiting for these to arrive). Until then we are very limited with the space we have to store coats and bags. Backpacks required for after school activities or movement between family homes can of course come in and we will find somewhere to store these, however finding cupboard space for up to 84 bags isn't going to be possible. As such we ask that, while we await lockers, children carry in their snack/bookbags/water bottles or use a carrier bag (which is easy to store).
- Top floor of the rectory building (IT suite / SEN interventions) this can no longer be used due to concerns around safe exits.
- Main Library temporarily this can not be used due to concern around safe exits. To enable our children to still access a library we are currently negotiating with Jersey Library to get weekly visits from the Mobile Library and we will be heavily investing to further develop in class book corners. Jersey Property Holdings will be submitting plans to find ways that this area can be returned to use.
- Shared area computers are currently being replaced with more laptops—these are currently being set up with the CYPES education system & network.

We fully appreciate (and share!) many of the frustrations that accompany these restrictions and appreciate your support with this.