



# St Luke's News

September 2023

## Dates:

### **September**

#### **Thursday 7th**

Reception pupils start

#### **Monday 11th**

Rev Matt for Worship

#### **Tuesday 12th**

KS1 Art Club and  
Hugh McAuley football  
after school club start  
today

#### **Wednesday 13th**

ROOTS & SHOOTs

starts, 9.15am;

KS2 Art Club starts today

#### **Thursday 21st**

Reception Open

Afternoon, 2.00pm;

Welcome Meetings for

parents Y5/6 5.00pm;

Y3/4 5.30pm; Y1/2

6.00pm

#### **Friday 22nd**

Josh Lacey, author visit

for Y3 and Y5

#### **w/b 25th**

Cycle to School Week

#### **Monday 25th**

Rec/Y1 early maths

meeting for parents/

carers, 9.00am;

Open the Book Team for

Worship

#### **Wednesday 27th**

#### **Harvest at Church**

9.30: RI, 1P, 2GN, 4C,

5H, 6G—led by 3R

10.30am RP, 1FO'N, 2M,

4WM, 5W, 6H: led by 3H

## **October**

#### **Monday 2nd**

Rec/Y1 reading meeting

for parents/carers

9.00am

#### **Thursday 12th**

Times tables meeting for

Y3/4 parents/carers,

9.00am

#### **Wednesday 18th**

Church - St Luke's Day

9.30: RI, 1P, 2GN, 3R,

4C, 5H, 6G

10.30am RP, 1FO'N, 2M,

3H, 4WM, 5W, 6H

#### **Friday 20th**

INSET DAY—holiday

club open

Mon 23rd-Friday 27th

HALF TERM—no holiday

club

## **WELCOME BACK!**

Happy New School Year to all our parents and carers and welcome to all the new families joining us this year. We know they will be made to feel part of the St Luke's family by other parents and by school staff and children.

The staff have asked me to pass on their thanks for all the lovely gifts they received at the end of the summer term: your generosity really is appreciated. There is a special thank you from Mrs Pearson, who was overwhelmed by your gifts and kind words on her very early retirement!

## **Walk/Cycle/Scoot to School**

We are encouraging children to walk, cycle or scoot to school. Bikes and scooters can be stored in the bike shelter on the field. However, pupils can only cycle alone once they have completed the safe cycling course (these take place for Y5 and Y6 later in the year). **See page 4 for details of cycle to school week.**

Please do not arrive at school before the gates open at 8.35am, as this creates congestion on the pavement. School starts at 8.45am, when the gates are locked. Latecomers need to enter via the front door and have their name and class recorded in the late book. Frequent lateness will trigger a phone call from our Parent Support Adviser, Mrs Dwan, to offer advice and support to ensure your child is in school on time each day.

## **Remember our new finishing times:**

**3.20pm Monday - Thursday and  
2.55pm on Fridays!**

## Parents/Carers Meetings



As previously advised, we have our Welcome meetings for Y1-Y6 parents on **Thursday 21st September**. These will take place in your child's classroom and are for parents/carers only - not children. Apologies in advance if you have more than one child and the meetings clash: the teachers will make sure you receive the necessary paperwork. Since this is also the Open Evening for Formby High School, we have decided to hold the Y5/6 meeting first.

**Y5/6: 5.00pm**

**Y3/4: 5.30pm**

**Y1/2: 6.00pm**

Our Reception parents/carers have already met their teachers during this week's home visits and we look forward to welcoming you again for the Reception Open Afternoon, also on **Thursday 21st September, 2.00pm**, when your children will be excited to show you what they have been doing in class.

Individual parent-teacher appointments to discuss children's progress will be held remotely for all year groups on **Thursday 2nd and Wednesday 8th November**. Booking details will come out via Spider shortly. The Spring term parent-teacher meetings will be held as face-to-face appointments in school.

A meeting will take place to share **reading strategies for Reception, and Y1** parents/carers on **Monday 2nd October** in the school hall, 9.00am. Please try to attend as reading fluency is THE most important skill your child learns: it opens the door to all subjects and future learning. Miss O'Neill and Miss Irvin will also show you how to make the most of the flashcards you have purchased and our virtual phonics classrooms.

An **Early Maths Meeting** will take place for parents / carers of **Reception and Y1** on **Monday 25th September** at 9.00am in the school hall. Finally, a meeting focusing on **times tables for parents/carers of pupils in Y3 and Y4** will take place on **Thursday 12th October**, 9.00am, again in the school hall.

We hope as many parents as possible can attend. We have made the meetings a 9.00am start, as working parents tell us it is easier to go into work a bit late than to take time off for an afternoon meeting.



## HARVEST

Our Harvest Services are traditionally led by Y3 in St Luke's Church. This year, the services take place on Wednesday 27th September, with the Church's celebration of harvest the following Sunday 1st October.

Services will take place as follows:

**9.30: RI, 1P, 2GN, 4C, 5H, 6G—led by 3R**

**10.30am RP 1FO'N, 2M, 4WM, 5W, 6H: led by 3H**

We will walk to Church with our buddies and we will make sure all siblings of Y3 children go to the appropriate service, even if it means going with the other class in their year group.

We are asking all Reception, Y1 and Y2 children to bring in donations of tins/packets of food that will be donated to church to be distributed to those in need locally. There will be collection boxes for these items at the school entrances on Monday 25th and Tuesday 26th September. Please only donate food with a decent use by / best before date.

Y3-Y6 children are asked to bring in a cash donation to be given to the Church's harvest charity collection. This can be handed into teachers in the classroom on Monday 25th or Tuesday 26th September.

**We will also be in Church on Wednesday 18th October to celebrate St Luke's Day.** If you can help with walking the children to Church for either service, please contact the relevant year group email address.

## Cycle to School Week

25th-29th September

Organised by the Bikeability Trust and Sustrans, it would be great to see as many children as possible cycling to school with a parent/carer. Take the pledge at:

<https://mail.sustrans.org.uk/7CK6-44Z0-CO3UH-2BVJH-1/c.aspx>



Some parents have asked for advice about cycling to school. One of our parent governors, Glynn Stockton, a keen cyclist, has shared the following link:

<https://www.cyclinguk.org/article/cycling-guide/cycling-road-children>

Also, for families looking for a safe place to practise for beginning cyclists, Glynn says there is a lovely circuit around the new park in the corner of Lonsdale Road (adjacent to Formby Little Theatre):



## Flu Immunisation Campaign

Please check Spider for information about this year's campaign, as parents/carers need to OPT OUT if they do not wish their child to be included. School nurses will visit school on 11th October 2023 to administer the immunisation.



# Join a beach clean

MARINE  
CONSERVATION  
SOCIETY

Contact your local organiser for more information about this event:

## Beach

NATIONAL TRUST-  
FORMBY - VICTORIA  
ROAD

## Date

**Sunday -17/09/2023**

## Time

**Meet at 09:45**

## Meeting place

Meet in beach car park.  
Look out for the MCS  
sail flags!!!

## Organiser

**ANDY LAVERICK**

## Contact Details

GREATBRITISHBEACHCLEAN  
FORMBY@YAHOO.CO.UK

Every year thousands of people join our cleans, recording every piece of litter they find. The data is vital for our campaigning as we seek to influence government and industry to take action to reduce ocean pollution.

Find out how you can get involved at [mcsuk.org/beachwatch](https://mcsuk.org/beachwatch)



Registered charity in England and Wales 1004005 and in Scotland SC037480. Registered company limited by guarantee in England and Wales 02550966. Registered office: Overross House, Ross Park, Ross-on-Wye, HR9 7US.

## Communication with Teachers

Please remember to use the appropriate year group email address to contact teachers - unless it is an urgent matter, in which case ring or email the office. Any messages left on the office answering machine will be converted to an email and addressed as soon as possible. Teachers will always try to get back to you within two working days.

**With some children coming straight into school from 8.35am, it is not possible to catch a word with teachers at the start of the day.**

### FOSLS

Our PTA the Friends of St Luke's School (FOSLS) is getting busy planning a range of fundraising events for the school year. Look out for their newsletters.

The first FOSLS meeting of the year is on Wednesday 13th September at Queen's Road Social, 7.00pm. Please come along: the more the merrier!

### School Lunch Menu

The new menu is available to view on the school website and we returned to school on Week One. Since all children from Reception to Y2 receive a free school lunch, we are trying to persuade them all to take up this offer, as it means they get a warm and nutritious meal in the middle of the day. Our Cook is pulling out all the stops with a special themed menu on Thursday 5th October, to celebrate World Space Week. She will cater for every child in Reception, Y1 and Y2 that day, even if they usually have a packed lunch. (They can still bring a packed lunch if you think they will not eat the school lunch, but it would be great if they could all give it a try!) Further details to follow.

### Free School Meals

Your child could be eligible for Free School Meals beyond Y2, which in turn gives our school some additional funding for them (Pupil Premium) and also provides reduced charges for residential visits. Even if your child is in Reception-Y2 and receives a free lunch anyway, it is worth applying for the other benefits the Pupil Premium brings. Families have benefitted from extra tuition, music lessons and wraparound care using the additional funding. Information about eligibility for free school meals can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals> It is quick and easy to check! Contact Mrs Dwan in school if you would like more information or would like school to check on your behalf.

### Building Improvements

Over the summer we have fitted external doors to our two Y3 classrooms at last! We have also had a new low carbon air flow pump heating system installed throughout the school, having secured a government grant of over £400,000. The final part of this is to complete the system in the hall, which is going to take a few days. **Unfortunately, this means there can be no holiday club this October half term, apart from the Inset Day on Friday 20th.**