



Gaping Lane, Hitchin, Hertfordshire, SG5 2JQ

Tel: 01462 456737
Fax: 01462 457360

Email: admin@samlucas.herts.sch.uk
Website: www.samlucas.herts.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mrs. Tracy Thomas

Newsletter No. 2

December 2015

Dear Parents,

We have a round up of news from the last few weeks which have been as busy as ever!

North Herts Cross Country Competition:

On October 20th, 13 of our KS2 children attended Hitchin Boys' School for the North Herts School Partnership Cross Country competition.

Everyone performed really well in excellent running conditions. We are very proud of our children who worked well both as a team and as individuals.

Special mention to Jessica Astill who won the Y6 Individual Girl's Race and Elliot Koning who won the Y6 Individual Boys' Race.

We look forward to following their progress into the County Championships in 2016.

Netball Roundup:

Please see below for brief reports from some of our players:

"I was Captain for our match against William Ransom and although our interceptions and spacing had improved, we lost." Jess

"We played against Whitehill and even though we didn't win, I am really proud of my team and we had a great time." Anya

"We played against Offley and, for the first time we won. We played really well and I am so proud to say I was Captain. We played well in the shooting position and the score was 5-10." Sophie.

Football:

We are looking forward to our football match tonight (at home) against William Ransom! The new goals are in place and the footballers have been working hard each week, developing different skills to help them in a game situation.

There won't be any training but other team members are welcome to come along (supervised) and support!

Harvest Festival:

Before half term the whole school celebrated Harvest Festival. Reception children learnt about The Little Red Hen and tasted lots of different sorts of bread. KS1 and KS2 held Harvest Festivals in school and at Christchurch respectively.

Both celebrations were on the theme of mental health. Songs, poems and sayings were performed to help us all celebrate our range of emotions and to consider the importance of both feeding our brains with healthy, positive thoughts as well as our bodies with healthy food. At Christchurch Tom, the youth support worker, helped us to pray and reflect on thoughts at harvest time.

As always Mrs Footer taught the children to sing to a very high standard and this year the KS1 children were also taught by our new music teacher Miss Moore.

We thank everyone for their kind donations and we were able to raise £307 for Young Minds, a local charity that supports young people with their mental health.

The Exhibition:

It was Book Week....

Before the October half term the whole school participated in our annual Book Week. This year we learnt all about the writing and illustration styles of the well loved author and illustrator Eric Carle. We once again used the expertise of the wonderful Jane Bower and children were challenged to build on their skills in drawing, painting, sewing, writing, DT and collage skills. We also called on the skills of our talented parents. We are really grate-

N
E
W
S
L
E
T
T
E
R

ful to Mrs Finch, Mrs Lock, Mrs Bradford, Mrs Pietersz and Mr Allan who all enhanced our learning for the week.

To celebrate the creative outcomes we held The Exhibition in our Gallery and the parents and local community were astonished at the results. The children quite proudly shared their learning and artwork, enhanced by their own books that they had created at home over half term.

As you walk into school you are now met by an array of different colours and textures and there are hundreds of books, written by authors aged 4 to 11, to choose from!

Parent Information Evenings:

We have held two information evenings for parents to learn more about the teaching and learning in school and therefore to help them support their child's learning at home. Parents were invited into school to learn more about Literacy and Maths teaching in Reception and KS1. In KS2 parents were invited in to learn about the new spelling programme and the change and the changes to Home Learning. At both events teachers were able to explain about how we teach, what we teach and why. Also we were able to underline the importance of children becoming independent learners. We hope that those who attended found the events informative and useful and we look forward to holding some more in the future.

Children in Need - Champions of Change:

The children and staff enjoyed taking part in this year's Children in Need fundraiser. We raised a whopping £436.36! Thank you so much to all the parents and children who supported us.

Poppy Appeal:

We raised £224.78 this year, a small contribution towards the £28,000 raised across the district.

Appeal for infant socks and old uniform:

If anyone has any old socks or other old school uniform suitable for Reception age children, we will happily take it off your hands to replenish our supply! Thank you.

Reminders:

Parking

Please can we remind all parents and carers not to park on the zig zag or double yellow lines outside the school gates. These lines are there to prevent putting children's lives in danger. Following complaints we have been in touch with the Highway Agency and they will be monitoring the situation. Thank you.

Star Performer:

Well done to Rowan Scourfield who entered the MusicNet Songwriting competition for under 18s. His single 'Nobody to Know' is currently 4th in the chart and he has been selected to perform at the Songwriter Showcase at Stevenage Music Centre. You can listen to his song on the songwriter chart on www.musicnet-east.org.uk/songwriter2015/#

From the SLPA:

Our Bags2School effort raised £184 last month so a big thank you to all contributors.

The Christmas card project raised £471.74 (last year it was £410.90) thus proving it is still a worthwhile fundraiser and it does provide a lovely keepsake for families. Thank you to Megan and Kate Turner for co-ordinating.

The School Disco was a huge success and we raised an outstanding £553.17! Thank you to everyone for supporting this event.

The Christmas Fayre on Saturday made an amazing profit of £2,360. Thank you to all who gave up their time to make it happen and to everyone who came along and supported it.

Dates for your diary:

Friday 5th February - Film night.

Friday 11th March - Barn Dance.

More information to follow in due course!

Yours sincerely

Tracy Thomas

Headteacher

N
E
W
S
L
E
T
T
E
R