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Newsletter: 5

February 2017

Dear Parents and Carers,

This half-term seems to have flown by and we have been very busy in school with our learning and creative curriculum. This week the children have been enjoying Feeling Good Week, they have engaged in a number of activities including a daily jog, yoga and a Kidz Fit session.

Internet Safety Day

This week we focused on internet safety. The children attended special assemblies learning about e-safety and participated in activities based on how to stay safe when using the internet. The following website: saferinternet.org.uk has lots of useful information as well as an on-line quiz, which you may wish to discuss with your child.

The following websites also offer useful information:

CEOP – www.ceop.police.uk/

ThinkuKnow- www.thinkuknow.co.uk

Childnet – www.childnet-int.org

Beat Bullying – www.beatbullying.org

Know IT All – www.childnet.com/KIA

Insafe – www.saferinternet.org

We appreciate your help in keeping your children safe.

Message from the SLPA

Thank you to everyone who was involved in the setting up and running of the three discos. These were enjoyed by all and a great success. Thank you for supporting the school. Our next event is the Adult Quiz Night on 24th March, further information regarding this will follow after half-term. The Children's Easter Egg Hunt is on Friday 31st March and details will be sent via Parentmail nearer this time.

Our SLPA page on the school website is now updated with blogs regarding our events so please do have a look and read what we have been up to. To access, just click on the following link: <http://samlucas.herts.sch.uk/our-community/slpa-blog/>

Our next meeting is on **Tuesday 21st February at 8pm** (venue to be confirmed). If you would like to know more about us or want to join us please come along, we always welcome new members. If you do have any feedback for us or want to know any information about us you can contact us on the following email address: enquiries.slpa@gmail.com.

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NSPCC

Last week, the children in both KS1 and KS2 enjoyed assemblies led by the NSPCC as part of the 'Speak out. Stay Safe.' campaign. They delivered key safeguarding messages including who to talk to if they have a worry and the work of Childline as a means of support.

As they have offered the assemblies and workshops for Y5 & 6 free of charge, we thought a good way to say thank you would be to raise some money for the NSPCC so that they can continue supporting children around the country. Each class will be taking part in an activity during Feeling Good week, which we are asking for your support in sponsoring. Forms have been given out and we are encouraging all pupils to ask relatives and friends to sponsor them to complete these activities. The deadline for returning your form is Tuesday 21st February. Please give whatever you can to support the vital work the NSPCC do to keep our children safe. Thank you on behalf of the NSPCC.

Absences from school

If your child is unwell please notify the school office as soon as possible if they are going to be absent from school. If you leave a recorded message please state the **exact reason** for your child's absence and the nature of the illness, not just that your child is unwell; this helps with our attendance records.

Twitter!

You can now follow Samuel Lucas School on Twitter. Follow us @sam lucasJMI.

Parent Consultation Evenings

Just a reminder that Year 2 parent consultation will be taking place on Tuesday 7th and Wednesday 8th March. Reception, Year 5 and Year 6 parent consultations will take on Wednesday 15th and Thursday 16th March. More details of how to book a time slot will be available after the half-term holiday.

Family Support Worker Service

If you are finding raising children challenging or frustrating at times, then you are not alone; for many people, parenting can be a lonely and difficult job.

If you feel that you would like to speak to someone other than family or friends, we can refer you in strictest confidence to the Family Support Worker Service. There is a team of people with a wealth of experience, who work alongside families by giving practical support and user friendly parenting strategies. The Family Support Workers also offer Hardship Support and are authorised distributors of:

- * Food Bank Vouchers for emergency food parcels
- * Community Wardrobe Vouchers for uniform, clothes and shoes
- * Shoe Vouchers (Where need is identified they can provide vouchers for children requiring school shoes)
- * Holiday Activities (Through the support of local organisations and fundraising, they have paid for children to attend holiday activities with participating providers)

We also send out regular information regarding free courses that are accessible to parents of children with Special Educational Needs and Difficulties and some which are suitable for all. Please remember to tell us if your child has a younger or older sibling who has additional learning needs as the impact on family life can be significant. Any information that helps us have a better understanding of your child can only be helpful.

If you would like further information, please speak to Mrs Barley directly or email the school office and mark your message for her attention. Any communication will be treated with the utmost confidence.

Sainsbury Vouchers

Just a reminder that we are collecting Sainsbury school vouchers. The collection box is in the porch, by the school office, or you can send the vouchers in via your children.

Outcome Dates

Just a reminder that you are all invited to come in and find out more about what your children have been learning. Dates are:

EYFS	“What a Wonderful World”	Wed 29 th March	9.30am – 10.00am or 10.00am - 10.30am
Year 1	“Out of the Toybox”	Tues 28 th March	9.00am – 10.30am
Year 2	“This is our House”	Tues 7 th March	1.45pm-3.00pm
Year 3	“Building the Bronze Age”	Thurs 30 th March	1.45pm-3.00pm
Year 4	“Ruthless Romans”	Thurs 23 rd March	1.45pm – 3.00pm
Year 5	“Building Kingdoms”	Thurs 30 th March	9.15am
Year 6	“The Land of Fire & Ice”	Wed 29 th March	1.30pm–2.10pm or 2.30pm– 3.10pm

World Book Day

We will be celebrating World Book Day on Thursday 2nd March 2017. Children may come to school dressed as their favourite book character.

School finishes at the normal time on Friday. I hope you all have a lovely, safe half-term break and we look forward to seeing you all back at school on Monday 20th February 2017.

Yours sincerely



Tracy Thomas
Headteacher