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Newsletter: 8

July 2017

Dear All,

As we approach the end of term and another academic year at Samuel Lucas, it is a time for celebration and reflection. The reflection undoubtedly will bring mixed emotions as we say goodbye to Year 6 and to some members of staff. Ms Oke, Reception Teacher and Mrs Higginbotham who has worked at Samuel Lucas for a number of years as SMSA, leave us tomorrow and we wish them both the best of luck for the future. We also say goodbye and thank you to Miss Briddon who has stepped in to cover Mrs Hammacott's role when she left at the end of May. We have also had news that Mrs Bannister will not be returning to Samuel Lucas following her maternity leave and we wish her well in her new job.

Sports Day

Thank you to all of you who came and supported the children on Sports Day. The weather was lovely and the children all enjoyed the day immensely. I would like to say a big thank you to Mr Smith from Rising Stars for helping us out and making sure that the day ran smoothly.

Lion King Production

What an amazing show the children put on! A special thank you to Mr Burgess and Miss Painter for all their hard work but also to Nicky Footer from the music service and a big thank you to everyone who was involved in putting the fantastic costumes together. The children did themselves and the school proud.

Athletics

On Tuesday 11th July our Athletics team travelled to Ridlins Athletic Stadium to compete in a variety of events against other schools from the North of Hertfordshire. The children were a real credit to the school and the team came 3rd overall. Well done!

Successful Transition Morning

Last Thursday the children enjoyed their first morning in their new classes with their new teachers. It was wonderful to also welcome the new members of staff – Mrs Schroder, Miss Morgan and Miss Gibson. The children seemed settled during the morning and September looks to be an exciting time.

Questionnaires

Thank you to all of you that have returned the completed questionnaire. A summary of feedback will be give out after the summer. It has been lovely to read so many wonderful positive comments.

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Results

(National and Herts Data is still provisional at this stage and subject to minor changes)

EYFS :

	Herts 2017 (%)	National 2017 (%)	Samuel Lucas 2017 (%)
Good Level of Development	72	71	80

Key Stage 1 :

Subject	Performance Descriptor	Herts 2017 (%)	National 2017 (%)	Samuel Lucas 2017 (%)
Reading (Teaching Assessment)	Expected Standard +	79	76	91.5
	Greater Depth	32	25	39
Writing (Teacher Assessment)	Expected Standard +	71	68	79.7
	Greater Depth	21	16	32.2
Mathematics (Teacher Assessment)	Expected Standard +	77	75	83.1
	Greater Depth	25	21	42.4

Key Stage 2 :

Subject	Performance Descriptor	Herts 2017 (%)	National 2017 (%)	Samuel Lucas 2017 (%)
Reading (Test)	Expected Standard +	76	71	91.4
	Higher Standard*	30	24	34.3
Writing (Teacher Assessment)	Expected Standard +	79	76	88.6
	Greater Depth	24	18	34.3
Mathematics (Test)	Expected Standard +	77	75	85.7
	Higher Standard*	26	22	37.1
RWM combined	Expected Standard +	65	61	82
	Higher Standard*	11	7	20
Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling (Test)	Expected Standard +	79	77	91.4
	Higher Standard*	34	31	42

'Higher standard' has been assumed to mean a scaled score of 110 or above. However this will be confirmed by the DfE in the Autumn Term.

I would like to thank all the staff across the school, including our Teaching Assistants for all their hard work and commitment to giving the very best opportunities to your children.

Musical Success

Congratulations to all our children who have taken part in music lessons this academic year; your performances during the Open Evening were brilliant. I know a number of you have taken musical examinations and I hope you all continue to achieve and be the best that you can. We have been informed that the following children have been successful in their recent exams:

Alexander Starr	Grade 2	Piano
Lydia Skuse	Grade 1	Clarinet
Scarlett Lait	Grade 2	Clarinet
Amelie Woollass	Grade 2	Flute
Nathaniel Edwards	Grade 3	Alto Saxophone
Ottillie Summerhayes	Grade 3	Flute

Well Done!

Attendance

Attendance at Samuel Lucas continues to be good with our whole school figure at 97.2%. May I remind parents to avoid booking holidays or medical appointments during school times, especially during registration time, wherever possible.

Class	% Attendance
Lilac	97.6
Willow	97.6
Hazel	96.9
Birch	97.4
Hawthorn	96.1
Oak	97.9
Elm	97.8
Ash	97.8
Year 4	96.9
Year 5	96.4
Year 6	96.7

Well done to Oak class who top the attendance table for this academic year!

Certificates will be given to all those children who have achieved 100% attendance.

Open Evening

I was immensely proud of the school and the children on Open Evening, thank you to all of you for coming to look around. It was fabulous to see the children's work on display and to witness the children being so proud of what they have achieved this year. The school's Hertfordshire Improvement Partner visited school the next morning and was really impressed by the broad and balanced curriculum that Samuel Lucas offers and even more so by how engaged children were in each other's learning.

SLPA Picnic

What a fantastic event! It was so very well attended with all 500 tickets selling out. The weather held out and everyone had an amazing time. Thank you to all of the SLPA for their hard work and efforts not only for the smooth running of this event but for all that they do during the whole year.

2017/2018 Term Dates

Autumn Term (*INSET day 4th Sep 2017)

Tuesday 5th September 2017 – Tuesday 19th December

Half term – 23rd Oct to 27th Oct 2017

Spring Term (*INSET day 3rd Jan 2018)

Thursday 4th January 2018 – Thursday 29th March 2018

Half Term – 12th Feb to 16th Feb 2018

Summer Term (*INSET day 16th April 2018)

Tuesday 17th April 2018 – Friday 20th July 2018

Half Term – 28th May to 1st June 2018

*INSET Days 23rd & 24th July 2018

**Children do not attend school on INSET days*

Diary Dates

Date	Event
Monday 4 th September	INSET Day (no children at school)
Tuesday 5 th September	Children return to school
Monday 11 th September	Swimming starts for Year 4 Pine
Tuesday 12 th September	Swimming starts for Year 4 Larch
Thursday 14 th September	Year 3 trip to Celtic Harmony
Saturday 16 th September	A Team Rally – Wilshere Dacre
Monday 25 th September	Individual School Photos

Window Works and Kitchen Extension

I am very happy that the window walling works have all been completed and with minimum disruption to the school and the children. The kitchen extension works have begun and will be completed by the time the children return to school in September.

Final Farwell

I would like to take this opportunity to say a huge thank you and farewell to our Year 6 pupils. We are all proud of their time at Samuel Lucas and wish them the best of luck in their new schools.

Enjoy your summer holiday!

Yours sincerely

Tracy Thomas

Tracy Thomas
Headteacher