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Headteacher: Mrs. Tracy Thomas

# NEWSLETTER

No. 3 November 2017

Dear Parents,

This term has been a very busy one and Christmas is fast approaching! The children are preparing for their class outcomes for you to enjoy as well as practicing for their Christmas performances.

## Staffing Update

We have said goodbye to Mrs Condon earlier this month and are saying farewell to Mrs Horne this week. We wish them both the best of luck and thank them both for their hard work in school. Mrs McAllister has now joined the EYFS team as a Teaching Assistant and Mrs Cannon will be joining the team in January. Mrs Andreas will be returning from maternity leave in December to teach with Mrs Bradbury in Willow class.

We also say a fond farewell to Mrs Barley at the end of the term. Mrs Barley has been employed at Samuel Lucas since January 2003. Mrs Tarr has been working alongside Mrs Barley this term to ensure a smooth handover for the New Year, as Mrs Tarr will be taking on the Inclusion Co-ordinator role as well as continuing to teach in Year 4. We wish Mrs Barley all the best and hope she enjoys her rest and comes back to visit us.

## Class Outcomes



Dates and times for class outcomes are:

Class	Date	Time	Outcome Title
Reception	29 <sup>th</sup> November	9.30am & 10.15am	Reception Celebration
Year 1	7 <sup>th</sup> December	1.45pm	Let's Remember
Year 2	8 <sup>th</sup> December	1.45pm	Amazing Australia
Year 3	7 <sup>th</sup> December	9.15am	Buildings
Year 4	8 <sup>th</sup> December	1.45pm	Spark Your Imagination
Year 5	5 <sup>th</sup> December	1.45pm	Land of the Fire
Year 6	7 <sup>th</sup> December	1.45pm	Earthquakes, Volcanoes & Zones

Please do come along and find out about what your child has been learning this term in class.



## Attendance

Well done to Larch class for having the highest attendance so far this term:

ATTENDANCE			
Lilac	97.7%	Elm	98.68%
Willow	95.47%	Ash	98.31%
Hazel	96.7%	Larch	99.2%
Birch	97.08%	Pine	96.92%
Hawthorn	97.02%	Yr5	97.57%
Oak	98.14%	Yr6	96.09%

## Christmas Performances

All parents are welcome to join us in attending the following performances:

Date	Class	Event	Time
Mon 11 <sup>th</sup> December	Hazel / Hawthorn	Christmas Play	2.00pm
Tues 12 <sup>th</sup> December	Birch / Oak	Christmas Play	2.00pm
Fri 15 <sup>th</sup> December	Reception	Christmas Concert	9.30am
Fri 15 <sup>th</sup> December	Yr3 – 6	Carol Concert – Christ Church	2.00pm

## Hitchin Partnership Christmas Community Team Hampers – Selection Box collection



A very **big thank you** to all of you who have kindly donated a chocolate selection box (108 to date!) for the Hitchin Partnership Christmas Community Team for their hampers. We would like every family in the school to donate one selection box for this appeal. **A collection box for the selection boxes is in the school office porch area during November.**

The Christmas Community Team 2017 supports individuals and families at Christmas with a food hamper. Last year they delivered over 100 hampers filled with everything needed for a Christmas Meal; turkey, sausages, potatoes, vegetables and extras to help make meals over the holiday period (pasta and sauces, rice, beans and soup). Due to the generosity of schools, the local community and general public there were lots of extra treats such as mince pies, chocolate logs, biscuits and selection boxes



## Message from the SLPA

### **Bags 2 School:**

On **Thursday 9th November** we collected a very large amount of bags that you donated thank you!! We are pleased to confirm we raised £240.00 a fabulous amount. Many thanks to Victoria Soanes for organising and for standing in the cold from 8am to collect the donations.

### **Christmas Cards:**

All the Christmas cards orders have now been placed and we can confirm we have raised £541.20 a superb amount. Thank you to Megan Wilkins and Kate Turner for organising.



### **Children in Need:**

On **Monday 13th November** we had a special visitor at school "**Pudsey Bear**" the children were delighted to meet him at lunchtime. There were many "Hi 5's", "fist pumps", "dabs" and "hugs", a lovely treat for the children whilst also raising awareness of such an important cause.

### **Events:**

#### **Film Night:**

On **Friday 17th November** we held two film nights back to back for the children in years 1-6. All the children had a great evening, a **BIG** thank you to all the volunteers who helped on the night as we cannot host these events without your help. We raised a whopping £733 a fantastic amount!! Special thank you to Natalie Gray, Hayley Moore, Caroline Gordon, Gill Silburn, Nina Roberts and Suzie Campbell for organising this event.

#### **Xmas Fayre:**

Preparations for "**The Samuel Lucas Winter Olympic Fayre**" which takes place on **Saturday 2nd December** are now well underway, by now you will have received a letter so please start bringing in your donations. We will need a lot of help to run this event on both **Friday 1st December** to set up, at the fayre itself on **Saturday 2nd** and of course tidying away after all the fun has happened... so please spare some time to help, either speak to Sharon North or Becky Smith who will be in the playground with the rota, drop your volunteer slips into the SLPA box in the office or email us: [enquiries.slpa@gmail.com](mailto:enquiries.slpa@gmail.com) -Thank you!

#### **Website:**

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/>

#### **Meetings:**

Our next meeting is on **Monday 15th January 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.

#### **And Finally...**

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](mailto:enquiries.slpa@gmail.com).

### **School Uniform**

Children may only wear boots to school if there is inclement weather and must bring a pair of school shoes to change into. Please make sure your child has a pair of trainers in school to wear at break times as we are encouraging the children to be active outside.

As you may have heard Hawkins of Hitchin, which has operated in Bucklersbury since 1863 is to close on 13<sup>th</sup> January 2018. Mr Hawkins has been into school and met with Mrs Cosgrave and we have been notified that Hitchin Initiative are setting up a community enterprise to be located in Churchyard, Hitchin, which will service all the Hitchin schools in terms of school uniform and will also provide an online ordering service. Mr Hawkins is working with Hitchin Initiative to proceed a smooth transition. Further details will follow and will be passed on to parents.

### **Party Invitations**

May I remind parents that children are not to hand out party invitations at school. It is very unfair for those children in the class who are not invited to a party, to see invitations being given out.

### **Vacancy – Cleaner**

We have a vacancy for a school cleaner to start from January 2018. The hours will be Monday to Friday term time only from 3pm until 6pm. If you would like further details please contact Mrs Cosgrave in the school office.

### **Twitter**

Don't forget you can follow the school on Twitter - @SamlucasJMI

I look forward to seeing you all at the SLPA Christmas Fayre on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> December.

Yours sincerely

*Tracy Thomas*

Tracy Thomas  
Headteacher

