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Headteacher: Mrs. Tracy Thomas

## NEWSLETTER

No. 2      October 2019

Dear Parents,

This half term has been a very busy one. I would like to say a personal thank you to all of you for coming to the parents' consultation evenings. Also, a big thank you to all of you that came to join us in our Harvest Festival celebrations.

### Staffing Update

We will be saying a very fond farewell to Mrs Ferridge at the end of November when she leaves to take up a new position in another school. We will miss her and I am sure you join me in wishing Mrs Ferridge all the best in her new job. We are currently recruiting for a new senior office administrator, with interviews planned for the week after half term. Miss Adam is also sadly leaving mid-November and Mrs Douglas has been appointed as our new school receptionist. After half term we also welcome Miss Huggins and Mrs Carpenter to our midday supervisory team.

### Children in Need

As you may know, the BBC is launching Children in Need on Monday 11th November. To help us raise funds for this very important charity, we are going to have a non-uniform day and would like to invite all the children to come to school on Friday 15th November wearing something yellow and / or spotty. Please support us in this by donating £1 (or more if you would like) which will be collected by the class teachers on the day. Thank you.



### NSPCC Visit

Just a reminder that the classes in KS1 and KS2 will be taking part in a 'Buddy workout' in the first week back after half term to raise money for the NSPCC following their assemblies and workshops to share their 'Speak out. Stay safe' programme.

They carry out these activities in schools all over the country free of charge and as a thank you we are supporting them by raising money to enable them to keep doing this. Please help your children to collect sponsorship from trusted adults and send the money back to your class teacher in the sealed envelope provided by Thursday 14th November. Thank you.

## Class Outcomes

As you will know from the Parentmail notification, we are excited to announce the dates for the class outcomes:

Class	Date	Time
Reception (Lilac & Willow)	27 <sup>th</sup> November 2019	2.15pm – Please come in via the school office
Year 5 (Maple & Walnut)	27 <sup>th</sup> November 2019	2.15pm – Please come in through the gate by the field adjacent to the staff car park
Year 6 (Beech & Spruce)	29 <sup>th</sup> November 2019	2.15pm – Please come in through the gate by the field adjacent to the staff car park
Year 4 (Larch & Pine)	3 <sup>rd</sup> December 2019	9.15am - Please come in through the gate by the field adjacent to the staff car park
Year 1 (Birch & Hazel)	4 <sup>th</sup> December 2019	9.15am – Please come in via the school office
Year 3 (Ash & Elm)	4 <sup>th</sup> December 2019	2.15pm – Please come in through the gate by the field adjacent to the staff car park
Year 2 (Oak)	5 <sup>th</sup> December 2019	2.15pm – Please come through the gate near the new hall
Year 2 (Hawthorn)	6 <sup>th</sup> December 2019	9.15am – Please come through the gate near the new hall

Please do come along and find out about what your child has been learning this term in class. These are drop in sessions, so if you have more than one class to visit at a time there is plenty of time to do so.

## Harvest Foodbank Collection

During the week of 4<sup>th</sup> November we will be collecting donations of food for the Letchworth Foodbank via the Hitchin Partnership. There will be special collection boxes placed in the school office porch for you to leave a donation of the following non-perishable food items:

Tinned Potatoes  
Dried Potatoes  
Tinned Rice  
Tinned Custard  
Tinned Fruit  
Longlife Juice

Pasta/Noodles (ind packets)  
Squash Drinks  
Tinned Meat  
Tinned Fish  
Sauce for Pasta in Jars  
Toilet Rolle etc.



## **School Website**

The school website can be found at

[www.samlucas.herts.sch.uk](http://www.samlucas.herts.sch.uk)

Here you can see all the diary dates for the year, class blogs and lots of information including curriculum overview and also statutory policies for your perusal. You can sign up to your class blog and receive notification whenever there is a new blog to read.

## **Reception Class 2020**

Your child can start in Reception class in the **September following their 4th birthday**. Applications for Reception 2020 must be submitted to Herts County Council by **15th January 2020**.

<https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/services/Schools-and-education/School-admissions/School-admissions-and-transport.aspx>

Prospective parents are welcome to visit our school on the following dates. Places are by appointment only. To book your appointment please either telephone the school office on 01462 456737 or email [admin@samlucas.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@samlucas.herts.sch.uk)

We look forward to meeting you.

Visit dates available are:

Monday 11th November	2pm	Tuesday 19th November	9.30am
Tuesday 12th November	9.30am	Thursday 21st November	2pm
Monday 18th November	2pm	Tuesday 26th November	2pm



## **Applying for a Secondary School Place**

Applications for a secondary school place must be made by **31<sup>st</sup> October 2019**.

Hertfordshire County Council's application form is the legal application to any maintained school or academy in Hertfordshire (including Year 10 applications for a place at UTCs). If a child lives outside Hertfordshire they must use their own authorities' application form.

We encourage you to make an online application. You can access all the information you need, and can make an application for a school place at [www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/admissions)

School information is available at [www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/schoolsdirectory](http://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/schoolsdirectory)

## **Parent Forum Meetings**

Parent Forum meetings resumed this half term. The meetings are now be held by Mrs Thomas and Mrs Kenny, please see dates below:

- Monday 9<sup>th</sup> December 2019 at 2pm
- Monday 10<sup>th</sup> February 2020 at 2pm
- Monday 30<sup>th</sup> March 2020 at 2pm
- Monday 11<sup>th</sup> May 2020 at 2pm
- Monday 6<sup>th</sup> July 2020 at 2pm

If you would like anything raised at the meetings please email your year group representative no later than one week prior to the meeting via emails below:

[willow@samlucas.herts.sch.uk](mailto:willow@samlucas.herts.sch.uk)  
[lilac@samlucas.herts.sch.uk](mailto:lilac@samlucas.herts.sch.uk)  
[birch@samlucas.herts.sch.uk](mailto:birch@samlucas.herts.sch.uk)  
[hazel@samlucas.herts.sch.uk](mailto:hazel@samlucas.herts.sch.uk)  
[hawthorn@samlucas.herts.sch.uk](mailto:hawthorn@samlucas.herts.sch.uk)  
[oak@samlucas.herts.sch.uk](mailto:oak@samlucas.herts.sch.uk)  
[year3@samlucas.herts.sch.uk](mailto:year3@samlucas.herts.sch.uk)  
[year4@samlucas.herts.sch.uk](mailto:year4@samlucas.herts.sch.uk)  
[year5@samlucas.herts.sch.uk](mailto:year5@samlucas.herts.sch.uk)  
[year6@samlucas.herts.sch.uk](mailto:year6@samlucas.herts.sch.uk)

## **Science club**

Science club for Years 3 & 4 this half term has been extremely rewarding for the children (and for me!). It provided all the children with a chance to explore and investigate Science ideas beyond their curriculum and classroom. Not to mention, the opportunity for the club members to collaborate and form relationships with children in other classes. The wow-factor investigations included marshmallow and spaghetti tower building, surface tension of paperclips, elephant toothpaste and investigating fat and protein. Here are some of the wonderful pictures from Science club and I hope to see them next year!

Science club will be open for year 5 and 6 children after half term!

Miss Mai

## **Sports Update**

It has been a very busy half term for all things sport in school!

## **Physical Activity**

We have found on a few occasions that the weather has hampered our daily mile or active break. There are some excellent websites that can help contribute to our daily physical activity and can be accessed at school or at home. We have tried BBC Supermovers, Go noodle and Joe Wicks primary workouts this half term.

## **PE**

EYFS – We have worked very hard during our Locomotion lessons this half term and have explored a range of ways we can use and move our bodies.



Year 1 and Year 2 – have spent the half term developing their movement skills including balancing, dodging and volleying. We look forward to our first intra-house multi-skills festival in the last week of the half term. We have also developed wide, narrow and curled rolling in Gymnastics (year 1) and our throwing, dribbling and bouncing skills in Target Games (year 2).

Year 3 – Year 6 – have spent the half term developing their Tag Rugby skills including tagging, passing, running with the ball and working on our tactics when defending and attacking. We are looking forward to our intra house Tag Rugby tournaments to finish the half term. In Year 3 gymnastics we have worked on linking movements together, in Year 5 we have learnt about the history of the haka and explored ways to create our own and in Year 6 we have worked on developing our counter balance and counter tension skills in Gymnastics.

## **School Sport**

### **Football**

The A team have started their league season with 3 wins from 3 matches and finish the half term with a Wix Cup 1st round match against St.Ippolyts. The B team have played two matches – winning 1 and drawing 1 and the girls' team are through to the quarter finals of the Wix Cup after victory against St.Ippolyts in the 1st round.

### **Netball**

We have had one A and B team fixture against St. Andrews this half term and although both matches ended in defeat it was a great joy to watch lots of children representing the school for the first time in a competitive fixture. We are now looking forward to matches against Whitehill and William Ransom after half term.

### **Tag Rugby**

We had a great day at the tag rugby festival at Letchworth Rugby Club with two teams playing against other schools using the skills that we have been learning during our PE lessons and lunchtime club.



### **Cross Country**

Our cross country runners were fantastic at the sports partnership cross country event last week. The year 5 boys and Year 6 boys teams finished in 2nd place overall out of 16 schools competing, the Year 5 girls finished 3rd and the Year 6 girls finished in 9th place. I hope you are all incredibly proud of your performances and I would like to give a special mention to Hannah and Fred from Year 5 who both finished 3rd in their respective races from 60 children taking part in their category. Well done everyone!



## ESFA Football tournaments

Our A and girls football teams competed in the ESFA district football tournaments at Whitehill this week. Both teams came away as overall winners from their tournaments!

After the most tense penalty shoot-out, the girls team made it through to the final having won their group and goals from Ella (2) and Zoe secured the victory.

The A team also won their group and after winning the semi-final by one goal to nil, they also won the final and goals from Rory and Jim gave us a well-deserved double trophy win!



Congratulations to all of you and both teams will now represent Hitchin at the county finals in December in Watford.

Well done to all of our children this half term, I am very proud of the effort you put into your lessons, clubs and fixtures and it is a joy to see you enjoying physical activity and sport.

Mr. Smith

## Music

Thank you message from Rufus Frowde - Orchestra

*Dear Colleagues,*

*A belated note to thank you and your pupils for their superb singing on Saturday. 'Seaside Postcards' is not an easy piece to put together but the young singers rose admirably to the challenge. I hope that the thrill of singing with a symphony orchestra to a near capacity audience in such a wonderful building will long remain in their memories. I am also delighted to report that £1063 was raised for Keech Hospice.*

*Thank you to you as teachers for your tireless efforts preparing the children outside my workshops and for the time that you gave on concert day and the Wednesday of the joint rehearsal. I am also aware that many hours will have been spent cajoling your students to be part of this project and chasing parental consent forms. I am most grateful to be able to work in a county where teachers so frequently go that extra mile to create life-enhancing opportunities for their pupils.*

*With best wishes,*

*Rufus*



### **A message from the SLPA**

What a great half term of fundraising, THANK YOU everyone for your support.

### **Colour Run**

Huge thanks to everyone involved in this event, from those that came to run, to the staff members that gave up their time setting up or volunteering on the day and to the parents who pitched in setting up, throwing paint, selling paint or clearing away, we raised £564.86 and have enough paint left for 1, if not 2 more colour runs!!! We have lots of unclaimed medals still! Everyone who bought a ticket has a medal, text Caz if you still need yours on 07737102586.



### **Bags2School**

Thank you to Victoria Soans for organising this and to all those that donated clothes, we raised £208.

### **Cookie Sale – 25<sup>th</sup> October 3:15pm**

We will be selling cookies at 50p after school on the playgrounds. There will be plenty for pre-schoolers to have one too.

### **Rock Decorating Competition**

Thank you to all those that have already entered, the deadline date for entries has been extended to Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November.

### **Christmas Cards**

Thank you to all those who ordered Christmas cards and to Megan Wilkins and Abbie Carpenter for organising, we look forward to seeing the finished products soon.

### **6<sup>th</sup> November – Christmas Fayre Meeting 8pm at School**

This is our next meeting and we desperately need people to come! There is no expectation to join The SLPA or to take on a huge job or to even come to another meeting! But we need help to put the Christmas Fayre on, there are lots of jobs, some as small as wrapping grotto gifts, making grotto decorations or table centres for the Christmas Café, please come and help us.



### **The Christmas Tree Festival**

You should have received a letter through Parentmail on Thursday asking you to make a 2D, circular bauble with an act of kindness written on it for our reverse advent, 'Rocking Around the Kindness Tree' tree entry for the Hitchin Christmas Tree Festival, held at Holy Saviour Church on 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> December. Please leave your baubles in the box in the School Office from the 4<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> November. Thank you.

### **The SLPA Lottery**

Thank you to those who have purchased your numbers already, anyone still wanting to purchase numbers, we are selling tickets for £10 now with a big draw at Xmas, please text Caz if you want one. You need to be in it to WIN it!

### **Christmas shopping – Amazon Smile**

Please purchase Amazon products through [smile.amazon.co.uk](https://smile.amazon.co.uk) selecting Samuel Lucas Parents' Association as your chosen charity to raise money for us.

### **Name labels for uniform**

If you purchase name labels for uniform and shoes through either of the below companies and quote our school ID, the SLPA get a percentage of your order.

[www.MyNametags.com](http://www.MyNametags.com) ID 35460

[www.name-labels.com](http://www.name-labels.com) ID 17422

**Christmas Fayre – 7<sup>th</sup> December – 11:30-2pm**

The SLPA



Hitchin Partnership helps support 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.

## **Samuel Lucas JMI School are collecting: Children's Chocolate Selection Boxes**

Please donate one per family during the month of November



# **THANK YOU**

**On behalf of the Hitchin Partnership CIO**  
(Family Support Service for all Hitchin Schools)



## **Term Dates 2019/2020**

### **Autumn Term**

Half-Term break	Monday 28th October – Friday 1st November
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Term Ends at 2pm	Friday 20th December
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### **Spring Term**

Children return to school	Monday 6th January
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Half-Term break	Monday 17th – Friday 21st February
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Term Ends at 2pm	Friday 3rd April
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### **Summer Term**

INSET Day*	Monday 20th April
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Children return to school	Tuesday 21st April
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Bank Holiday	Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> May
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Half-Term break	Monday 25th May – Friday 29th May
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Occasional Day*	Friday 19th June
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Term Ends 2pm	Friday 17th July
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INSET Day*	Monday 20th July
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INSET Day*	Tuesday 21st July
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\*Children do not attend school on INSET Days or on the OCCASIONAL day

## **Diary Dates**

Date	Class	Event	Time
11 <sup>th</sup> November 2019		Prospective Parents Meeting	2pm
12 <sup>th</sup> November 2019		Prospective Parents Meeting	9.30am
15 <sup>th</sup> November 2019	Whole School	Children in Need – Non-uniform	All day
18 <sup>th</sup> November 2019		Prospective Parents Meeting	2pm
18 <sup>th</sup> November 2019		SLPA Meeting	8pm
19 <sup>th</sup> November 2019		Prospective Parents Meeting	9.30am

21 <sup>st</sup> November 2019		Prospective Parents Meeting	2pm
26 <sup>th</sup> November 2019		Prospective Parents Meeting	2pm
5 <sup>th</sup> December 2019		SLPA Meeting	8pm
7 <sup>th</sup> December 2019	Whole School	Christmas Fayre - SLPA	11.30am – 2pm
7 <sup>th</sup> & 8 <sup>th</sup> December 2019		Christmas Tree Festival	TBC
9 <sup>th</sup> December 2019		Parents Forum Meeting	2pm
11 <sup>th</sup> December 2019	Whole School	Christmas Lunch	
12 <sup>th</sup> December 2019	Oak & Birch	Christmas Performance	2pm
13 <sup>th</sup> December 2019	Hawthorn & Hazel	Christmas Performance	2pm
17 <sup>th</sup> December 2019	Yr 5 & Yr 6	Christmas Performance - Christchurch	1.30pm – 3pm
15 <sup>th</sup> January 2020		SLPA Meeting	8pm
w/c 3 <sup>rd</sup> February 2020	Whole School	Feeling Good Week	All week
7 <sup>th</sup> February 2020		School Disco 1 - SLPA	TBC
10 <sup>th</sup> February 2020		Parents Forum Meeting	2pm
11 <sup>th</sup> February 2020		SLPA Meeting	8pm
6 <sup>th</sup> March 2020		Quiz Night - SLPA	TBC
w/c 9 <sup>th</sup> March 2020	Whole School	Science Week	
11 <sup>th</sup> March 2020	R, Yr 2, Yr 6	Parents Evening	5pm – 8pm
12 <sup>th</sup> March 2020	R, Yr 2, Yr 6	Parents Evening	4pm – 7pm
18 <sup>th</sup> March 2020	Whole School	Class Photos	All Day
27 <sup>th</sup> March 2020		Film Night - SLPA	TBC
30 <sup>th</sup> March 2020		Parents Forum Meeting	2pm
w/c 30 <sup>th</sup> March 2020		SLPA Easter Colouring Competition	All week
3 <sup>rd</sup> April 2020		SLPA Easter Egg Hunt	2pm
w/c 11 <sup>th</sup> May 2020	Year 6	SATS Week	All week
11 <sup>th</sup> May 2020		Parents Forum Meeting	2pm
13 <sup>th</sup> – 15 <sup>th</sup> May 2020	Year 4	Kingswood Trip	Wed – Fri
18 <sup>th</sup> – 22 <sup>nd</sup> May 2020	Year 6	Isle of Wight Trip	All week
w/c 8 <sup>th</sup> June 2020	Whole School	PE Week	All week
12 <sup>th</sup> June 2020		School Disco 2 – SLPA	TBC
23 <sup>rd</sup> June 2020	Yr 1, 3, 4, 5	Parents Evening	5pm – 8pm
24 <sup>th</sup> June 2020	Yr 1, 3, 4, 5	Parents Evening	4pm – 7pm
w/c 29 <sup>th</sup> June 2020	Whole School	Music Week	All week

6 <sup>th</sup> July 2020		Parents Forum Meeting	2pm
9 <sup>th</sup> July 2020	Whole School	Transition Day	All Day
10 <sup>th</sup> July 2020		SLPA Picnic	TBC
14 <sup>th</sup> July 2020	Whole School	Sports Day - KS2 - Rec & KS1	9.30am – 11.30am 1.30pm – 3pm

Yours sincerely,

*Tracy Thomas*

Tracy Thomas  
Headteacher