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Headteacher: Mrs. Tracy Thomas

## NEWSLETTER

No. 3 November 2019

Dear Parents,

We have had a very busy half term so far including new prospective parent visits, the beginning of our class outcomes and a visit from the Birdman. We are now preparing for the build up to Christmas and our class productions (see below for more details).

### Staffing Update

Today we are saying a very fond farewell to Mrs Ferridge who is leaving 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 delighted to have appointed an experienced School Administrator, Mrs Joyce, who will join the Samuel Lucas office on 9<sup>th</sup> December. Mrs Douglas started as our new School Receptionist this month and has settled in very well.

### Children in Need

Samuel Lucas took part in raising money for Children in Need on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> November. It was lovely to see the children dressed in their yellow and/or spotty clothes. In total we raised **£412.23**.

Thank you.



### NSPCC Visit

A huge thanks to everyone who sponsored the children to complete their Buddy Workout earlier this term. Kelly from the NSPCC came in to our assembly on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> November to say thank you because the children raised an astonishing **£3904.39**! That fantastic amount will pay for a counsellor on ChildLine for a whole year! So thank you for your generosity we can make a difference to many children who need their support.

Thank you all so much for your support in sponsoring the children.

Don't forget there are links on the website to the NSPCC including <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/shareaware> which gives parents lots of useful advice about staying safe online.

## Class Outcomes

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

Class	Date	Time
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.

## School Website

The school website can be found at

[www.sam lucas.herts.sch.uk](http://www.sam lucas.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>



## **Parent Forum Meetings**

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)

The meetings are 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

## **Birdman**

Last Wednesday, we were lucky enough to have the Birdman visit us at Samuel Lucas. During his show, he introduced us to 4 different, beautiful birds of prey. He taught us about their habitats, diets and breeding. Not to mention, many stories and facts! It was full of exciting information. We even got to have a class photos with a bald eagle that our teachers held. It is clear that everyone thoroughly enjoyed it because we can't stop (teachers included) 'raven' about it!

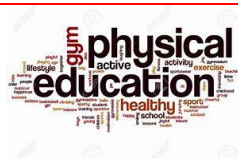


Thank you to the Birdman and the birds.

Miss Mai

## **Sports Update**

### **PE**



In EYFS we have started work on our Gymnastics unit with our focus on Flight – bouncing, jumping and landing.

In Year 1 we have started our Invasion Games unit with a focus on understanding some attacking and defending principles in a range of games whilst using a variety of equipment. The children will also be working on their Gymnastics skills with a focus on small and long pathways.

In Year 2 we are continuing our work on Movement Skills with a variety of new movements and challenges for us to encounter and the children will also be working on their racket and hand to eye co-ordination skills in a Net and Wall games unit of work.

In our games unit in KS2 every class will be focusing on Hockey this half term with an emphasis on safety, control and applying our skills into a range of games in preparation for our intra house tournaments before the Christmas break.

In Year 3 the children will also continue their gymnastics with a focus on symmetry and asymmetry work with a partner.

In Year 4 the children will be finishing their block of swimming lessons, after which they will have some Health Related Fitness lessons to finish the half term.

In Year 5 the children are starting a Gymnastics unit focusing on Matching, Mirroring and Contrasting sequences and routines.

Year 6 will be working on a Team Building and Problem Solving unit exploring a variety of ways they can work together and how some of the values they come across can be beneficial in sport and life in general.

### **School Sport**



Our girls' football team progressed to the Semi Final of the Wix Cup after a 7-0 victory against Wymondley School on the first Wednesday back after half term. We now face Whitehill at home on Wednesday 27th November for a place in the Final.

Our A football team matched the girls achievement by beating Whitehill 5-1 last night (Thursday 14th) and now play Our Lady school in their semi-final on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> December. They also continued their winning run in the league with a 10-0 victory against Oughton on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> November.

Our Netball teams have showed some real determination and resilience in their recent fixtures. The A team lost matches against William Ransom 10-3 and Whitehill 12-1 in the league in some tough matches. However, the way they are playing continues to improve and I was really proud of them for not giving up and trying to do things properly.

The B team won 5-2 against William Ransom in their most recent game and played some fantastic netball along the way.

Well done to everyone who has represented the school in the past few weeks, you have shown excellent skill, knowledge, understanding and a willingness to improve and do your best.

Mr. Smith

## Christmas Performances



Date	Class	Event	Time
Thurs 12 <sup>th</sup> December	Oak/Birch	Christmas Play	2.00pm
Fri 13 <sup>th</sup> December	Reception	Christmas Play	9.30am
Fri 13 <sup>th</sup> December	Hawthorn/Hazel	Christmas Play	2.00pm
Tue 17 <sup>th</sup> December	Yr. 5 & 6	Carol Concert – Christchurch	2.00pm

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

This year our aim was to collect 120 children's chocolate selection boxes during the month of November, to send in to the Christmas Community Team for their hampers. Samuel Lucas families donated **176** selection packs.



The Christmas Community Team 2019 supports individuals and families at Christmas with a food hamper. Last year we 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.



**THANK YOU FOR SUPPORT**

**On behalf of the 2019 Christmas Community Team**

## **A message from the SLPA**

A fantastic term of fundraising, well done everyone! All contributions from the giving of time, to donations to the buying of tickets, it all helped.

## **Christmas Fayre 7<sup>th</sup> Dec 11:30-2 – Please come along!**



### **Volunteers**

We still have many empty spaces on the rota, particularly 12:40-2 and 2 onwards clearing up, please text Caz on 07737102586 to volunteer.

### **Donations**

Thanks for all the donations so far. We still need, new, unopened quality gifts for the Secret Present room, high quality food and drink items, sweets and chocolate (no nuts), soft toys, wrapping paper and small items for Trash or Treasure, such as pens, rubbers, party bag things etc.

### **Christmas Character Recycling Competition**

Please use 1 piece of recycling to create a Christmas character containing £1 or £1 worth of sweets or chocolate (no nuts) and bring the School Office on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> before 9am for judging. We raffle these off at the fayre so they could not only win your child a prize if they win their category, but they also make money at the fayre.

### **Homemade or shop bought cakes and biscuits**

Please bring to the tech kitchen on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> or the School Office on the morning of Sat 7<sup>th</sup>. Please list ingredients if homemade and name containers you want back!

### **Bags2School**

This upcycling earned us £208.

### **Cookie Sale**

£73 earned and many happy children!



### **Christmas Cards**

A whopping £631.40 earned. A huge thanks to Lisa Nichols, Megan Wilkins and Abbie Carpenter for organising and to all those that bought the cards and wrapping.

### **Colour Run**

A really happy and healthy event, £569 earned.

### **Rock Competition**

£27 earned. We obviously didn't get anywhere near as many entries as we thought we would and would really appreciate any feedback you have. Was there too much going on to make a rock? Did the children

not fancy an art competition? Was it too tricky to find a rock or appropriate paint? If you see an SLPA member on the playground do let us know!

### **Christmas Tree Festival**

Thanks to all that made a bauble with an act of good will. Be sure to vote for our tree on Sat 7<sup>th</sup> or Sun 8<sup>th</sup> at Holy Saviour Church. If you still want to make a bauble please put in the box in the School Office Foyer by Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> Dec.

Thanks, the SLPA.



### **Term Dates 2019/2020**

<b>Autumn Term</b>	
Term Ends at 2pm	Friday 20th December
<b>Spring Term</b>	
Children return to school	Monday 6th January
Half-Term break	Monday 17th – Friday 21st February
Term Ends at 2pm	Friday 3rd April
<b>Summer Term</b>	
INSET Day*	Monday 20th April
Children return to school	Tuesday 21st April
Bank Holiday	Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> May
Half-Term break	Monday 25th May – Friday 29th May
Occasional Day*	Friday 19th June
Term Ends 2pm	Friday 17th July
INSET Day*	Monday 20th July
INSET Day*	Tuesday 21st July

\*Children do not attend school on INSET Days or on the OCCASIONAL day

## Diary Dates

Date	Class	Event	Time
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 & Christmas Jumper Day	
12 <sup>th</sup> December 2019	Oak & Birch	Christmas Performance	2pm
13 <sup>th</sup> December 2019	Reception	Christmas Performance	9.30am
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