



Gaping Lane, Hitchin, Hertfordshire, SG5 2JQ

Tel: 01462 456737

Email: admin@samlucas.herts.sch.uk

Website: www.samlucas.herts.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mrs. Tracy Thomas

NEWSLETTER

No. 5 January 2020

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to a new term and Happy New Year to you all; it is lovely to see the children back in school ready to learn.

Staffing Update

We would like to wish Mrs Schroder the best of luck as she is finishing to go on maternity leave on Friday 14th February. After half term, we are delighted to welcome back Mrs Hull who will be returning from maternity leave.

Parking

Please take care when driving towards the school and slow down as you come around the corner into Gaping Lane, as there are children crossing. The school car park is used for dropping off and picking up from Play Aloud or after school clubs. In these cases, please use the top car park and park considerately. Please do not pull in alongside the school building and leave your car unattended.



Please do not park or drop off outside the school gates as there are double yellow lines and it is a residential area and residential parking only. Parking permits for parents to use the upper car park, near Waitrose, are available from the school office.

School Website

The school website can be found at

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.

Waterstones Book Event

Waterstones Hitchin are holding an event on Thursday 6th February: Harry Potter Book Day. This is a national event, held annually by bookstores and libraries. This year they are doing games, craft activities, fancy dress and prizes as a public event in the afternoon during usual business hours (closing at 17.30).

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
lilac@samlucas.herts.sch.uk
birch@samlucas.herts.sch.uk
hazel@samlucas.herts.sch.uk
hawthorn@samlucas.herts.sch.uk
oak@samlucas.herts.sch.uk
year3@samlucas.herts.sch.uk
year4@samlucas.herts.sch.uk
year5@samlucas.herts.sch.uk
year6@samlucas.herts.sch.uk

The meetings are held by Mrs Thomas and Mrs Kenny, please see dates below:

- Monday 10th February 2020 at 2pm
- Monday 30th March 2020 at 2pm
- Monday 11th May 2020 at 2pm
- Monday 6th July 2020 at 2pm

Musical Success

Congratulations to all our children who have recently taken musical examinations. I hope you all continue to achieve and be the best that you can be. We have been informed that the following children have been successful in their recent exams:

Amelie-Su Thompson	Grade 1	Flute
Charlie Moore	Entry Level 3 – Distinction	Classical Guitar
Frank Jennings	Entry Level 3 – Distinction	Classical Guitar
Pavel Stognev	Entry Level 3 – Merit	Classical Guitar



Play Leader Update

A massive thank you to all our Year 5 and Year 6 Play Leaders who show up each day to lead games and play with the children on the Year 1 and Year 2 playgrounds.

This isn't the warmest term to take on this responsibility, but the Play Leaders have all been 100% reliable and always positive, despite the wind and low temperatures.

Alexa said, 'I like being a play leader because it's really interesting to see how the younger children adapt games and make them their own. We'll explain a game and play it, but then they'll make some suggestions about how to include more people or how to make it more fun.'

It's great to see the Play Leaders growing in confidence on the playground, working out which games work best and making their own suggestions for games as well.

Spring Term Play Leaders:

Emilia Kelly, Alexa Mayes, Olly Turner, Cathal Elders, Mia Hall-Benett, Evie Coe, Jack Avis, Marcel Owiesny, Stanley Banks, Adam Kitchener, Harry Cannon, Iris Cockburn, Aariana Patel, Jack Tasker, Harry Cox, Emily Cross, Flo Herbert, Orla Nicoll, Imogen Proctor, Kate Risby, Ashton McDonnell, Tylen Barrett

Lunch Monitors

Thanks to all the students from Year 5 Maple and Walnut who have come down to the dining hall as Lunch Monitors so far this term. These students do an invaluable job providing extra hands to support the younger pupils as they become fully independent in the dining hall.

It's impressive to see the Year 5s organising themselves as teams, planning their job rotations and really engaging with the Reception children who still occasionally need a little reminder about where to put their dirty cutlery!

A special mention to Archie and Bertie who have shown great initiative with their Year 5 peers and the younger ones.

Sports Update

This half term in PE in Early years we are focusing on a unit of Dance which is themed around the Jungle and the animals that live there.



In KS1, year 1 are working on target games skills as well as a unit of Dance which is themed around the sea and sea creatures. In Year 2 we are developing our invasion games skills along with a unit of gymnastics that focuses on stretching, curling and arching.

KS2 Years 3-6 are focusing on Handball in our invasion games unit with intra house competitions before the half term break. Year 3 are swimming this half term and Year 4 are working on a unit of Dance that is themed around the Romans. In upper KS2, Year 5 are focusing on a unit of health related fitness with a particular focus on endurance and Year 6 are developing their group sequencing in gymnastics.

School Sport

The first few weeks back have been quiet for sports fixtures however there are football and netball fixtures planned in the coming weeks.

Our year 5 and 6 sports hall athletics team participated in the Hitchin heat of the NHSSP sports hall athletics competition at Hitchin Boys School (30th January). After competing in a variety of track and field events, it was announced that the boys' team had finished in 1st place and the girls' team had finished as runners-up. Both teams will now take part in the district finals in Letchworth after half term.

Healthy Selfie

The response for the display has been fantastic and it's been a joy to see the different ways that the children are active away from school. There is still time for more selfies so please keep them coming in.

Thank you

Mr Smith

A message from the SLPA

Happy New Year!

We are looking forward to a term full of fundraising!

SLPA Winter Disco – Friday 7th February 2020

Don't forget to book your tickets by **Friday 31st January**

www.pta-events.co.uk/samlucas

Please volunteer if you can via pta-events, we need lots of volunteers to be able to run this event.



Quiz Night – adults only – 6th March AND Film Night 27th March

Information to follow shortly but ticket sales will commence during the first week of February. We will need volunteers for both, so please volunteer to enable these events to proceed.

Shopping – Amazon Smile

Please purchase Amazon products through smile.amazon.co.uk selecting Samuel Lucas Parents Association as your chosen charity to raise money.



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 ID 35460

www.name-labels.com ID 17422

Come to a meeting!

We welcome new faces and ideas, so please join us at a meeting this year and be involved in our fundraising ideas and organising.

Thanks, the SLPA.

Everbridge School Closure Notification System

In the event of inclement weather or in an emergency where we would have to close the school, as well as using Parentmail, the school also uses the Everbridge system which is the Hertfordshire County Council's School Closure Notification System. It takes 5 minutes to register your details so that you can receive immediate information and updates. Please sign up for Everbridge using this link:

<https://member.everbridge.net/index/892807736725489#/login>



Term Dates 2019/2020

Spring Term	
Children return to school	Monday 6th January
Half-Term break	Monday 17th – Friday 21st February
Term Ends at 2pm	Friday 3rd April
Summer Term	
INSET Day*	Monday 20th April
Children return to school	Tuesday 21st April
Bank Holiday	Friday 8 th 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
7 th February 2020		School Disco 1 - SLPA	
w/c 10 th February 2020	Whole School	Feeling Good Week	All week
10 th February 2020		Parents Forum Meeting	2pm
11 th February 2020		SLPA Meeting	8pm
6 th March 2020		Quiz Night - SLPA	TBC
w/c 9 th March 2020	Whole School	Science Week	
11 th March 2020	R, Yr 2, Yr 6	Parents Evening	5pm – 8pm
12 th March 2020	R, Yr 2, Yr 6	Parents Evening	4pm – 7pm

18 th March 2020	Whole School	Class Photos	All Day
27 th March 2020		Film Night - SLPA	TBC
30 th March 2020		Parents Forum Meeting	2pm
w/c 30 th March 2020		SLPA Easter Colouring Competition	All week
3 rd April 2020		SLPA Easter Egg Hunt	2pm
w/c 11 th May 2020	Year 6	SATS Week	All week
11 th May 2020		Parents Forum Meeting	2pm
13 th – 15 th May 2020	Year 4	Kingswood Trip	Wed – Fri
18 th – 22 nd May 2020	Year 6	Isle of Wight Trip	All week
w/c 8 th June 2020	Whole School	PE Week	All week
12 th June 2020		School Disco 2 – SLPA	TBC
23 rd June 2020	Yr 1, 3, 4, 5	Parents Evening	5pm – 8pm
24 th June 2020	Yr 1, 3, 4, 5	Parents Evening	4pm – 7pm
w/c 29 th June 2020	Whole School	Music Week	All week
6 th July 2020		Parents Forum Meeting	2pm
9 th July 2020	Whole School	Transition Day	All Day
10 th July 2020		SLPA Picnic	TBC
14 th July 2020	Whole School	Sports Day - KS2 - Rec & KS1	9.30am – 11.30am 1.30pm – 3pm

Yours sincerely,

Tracy Thomas

Tracy Thomas
Headteacher