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NEWSLETTER

No. 8 July 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

What a very different school year this has been. Thank you to all the parents for doing an amazing job with home learning. We have seen some excellent work from your children.

It has been lovely to welcome back Reception, Year 1, Year 6 and, for the final week, Year 5. We look forward to having all the children back in September.

I would like to say a big thank you to all staff and Samuel Lucas. We are so lucky to have such a dedicated team.

Staffing Update

At the start of the half term we said goodbye to Mrs McDonnell and today we are saying a very fond farewell to Miss Smith from Year 5, Miss Aynsley from Reception and Teaching Assistant Mrs Lovatt. I am sure you will join me in thanking them and wishing them all the best in the future.

We are delighted to have appointed Miss Rogers, a new teacher who will be in Year 1 next year. We have also appointed four new teaching assistants - Mrs McLaughlin, Mrs Sear, Miss Herbert and Miss Thrush. We would like to welcome them all to the Samuel Lucas team.

Farewell to Year 6

Last week, the Year 6s said farewell to Samuel Lucas as they embarked on their fresh start at secondary school. Of course, emotions ran high with Friday's final goodbyes between peers who have spent the last several years playing, learning and supporting each other on their journey from Reception to Year 6 – that's more than half their lives spent together! They had a week full of exciting activities they will remember for a long time! Here's some of the things they've got up to in their final week of primary school:

On Monday, the bubbles took part in a little healthy competition for our Year 6 Sports Day. We were lucky enough to have a V.I.P present (THE Mr Smith) who led the activities whilst the teachers and TAs recorded scores and egged their classes on. This year, there was even time for the teachers to get involved by taking part in the 'teacher sprint' to gain extra points for their bubbles. Overall, the Year 6s competed in activities such as 20m sprints, non-contact relays, speed bounce, target throw and the

long-distance run of 3 laps around the field; all of which were completed whilst adhering to the Covid-19 regulations!

On Tuesday, the Year 6s had a socially-distanced picnic on the field where they were served a nutritious meal of pizza, crisps and cupcakes! They then took part in a talent show with acts from solo singers to magic tricks before having yet another treat in the form of very colourful ice lollies. To end their final Tuesday at primary school, the Year 6s were handed their leavers books. The teachers and TAs stood back and watched (in awe) as every child gratefully turned the pages and reflected on their years at Samuel Lucas – often prompting bouts of laughter and reminiscing of the good times.

Thursday was transition day. All three secondary school provided us with valuable resources for the children to access online and work through in the classroom. The children were shown the final version of their very own music video to Queen's "*Don't Stop Me Now*" after spending hours planning, rehearsing and filming their sections in their bubbles. They watched the video with delight and were pleasantly surprised when they saw their teachers and TAs appearances, as they'd secretly recorded their own sections for the video!

Throughout the week, the year 6s made the most of their last days at Samuel Lucas by taking part in quizzes, writing messages for each other's leavers books and playing games. Finally, all the staff from Samuel Lucas would like to wish every single pupil all the best in their transitions to secondary school and beyond. Just remember, if you're happy, you're doing just fine 😊

Please have a look at the photos below that capture some of the highlights of Year 6's final week;



Early Years

It's been a different but never the less busy half term in reception. We've enjoyed exploring a range of books and have produced some fantastic work inspired by the stories we have read. In our final week we have been training for our reception sports day, where each of the bubbles will be competing against each other.

We hope you and your children have a lovely summer. Thank you for all of your help and support throughout this term.

The reception team.

Year 1

We have thoroughly enjoyed spending quality time with the children in Birch and Hazel Classes who have come back into school. We have taken advantage of the weather and been outside in our "gardens" as much as possible and played group games. We have been creative by sketching and painting and have had great fun learning how to code on the laptops! We have been able to share lots of books and stories together and all the children have been developing their writing and maths skills.

The children have loved improving their football skills in PE and we are looking forward to holding our Y1 sports day across the gardens on Thursday before we break up for the summer.

The Y1 children have all worked really hard since returning to school and have loved being back with all their friends. We are all looking forward to returning to school in September and wish everyone a safe and happy holiday.



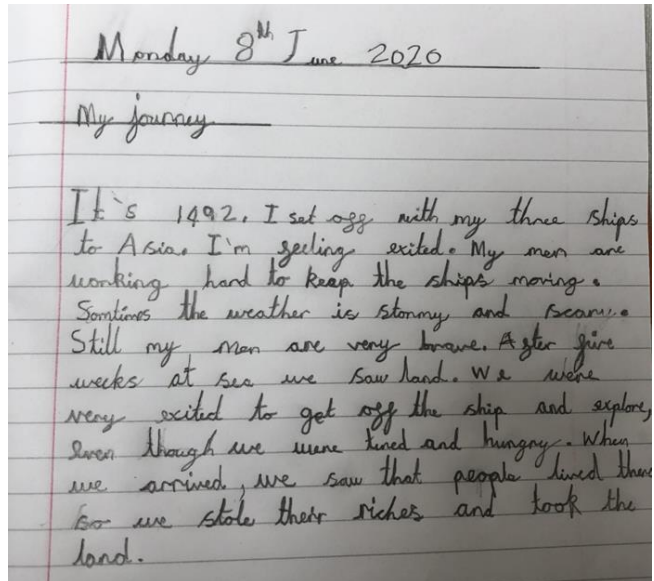
Year 1 team.

Year 2

Wow Year 2 what can we say!? The learning that you have all been doing recently has been so impressive. We will really miss logging on to Purple Mash and seeing all your incredible efforts. Where to start... Denny wrote an incredible story recently about a blue fish that was actually black! Avneet wrote an amazing story about a Queen and her son Jack who lived in a creepy castle. Philippa wrote an imaginative story about a genie and a princess! Isabella created an interactive story about a girl called Ella and even added her own sound effects! You were also all so creative with your quizzes that you made. Violet made an astonishing spelling quiz, whilst Lilly W created an awesome quiz about sea creatures and Scarlett created an exciting quiz all about bees!

Year 2 - Home Learning

Year 2 have been learning about famous explorers. As part of this theme year 2 were asked to imagine they were on one of Christopher Columbus' three ships that sailed to North America. Having read an information text, year 2 wrote their own diary entry describing what they imagine their journey to have been like. Mrs Hull really liked this wonderful diary entry written by Olivia Payton.



I am Neil Armstrong I was the first man on the moon. My life has been an amazing experience. When I first landed on the moon I said that's "One small step for man, that's one giant leap for mankind." I was so excited to be the first person on the moon, I couldn't sleep! It was so beautiful, I hadn't seen such a beautiful sight

Continuing with our Great and Ghastly events theme, year 2 conducted their own research about Neil Armstrong. The children then put their own face on to an astronaut and used a speech bubble to share Neil Armstrong's thoughts and character. This lovely piece of work is by Lily Wise.

We have been continuously impressed by Year 2's strong work ethic and determination with all the learning tasks we have set. We know the children will continue to thrive and wish them every success for Year 3.

Once again, we thank the children for all their hard work and creativity over the last 3 months.

See you all in September 😊

Mrs Easton and Miss Riste

Years 3, 4 & 5

All the teachers have been so impressed with the work produced by all the children at home. Their resilience and dedication to their school work has really made us incredibly proud of them all.

Year 3 have produced some wonderful work while being at home. I was very impressed with all of the science experiments children did as part of the learning on plants. Last week the children received a number of design activities to get them thinking like a designer. The children completed an activity on right-angled thinking, where they had to combine two of their favourite things. Here are a few of the wonderful designs I received.



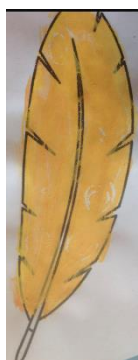
Max Seaton – combining
Lego and dragons.

Right angled thinking design.



Audrey Carey –
combining the
softness of petals
with the colours of
gems & crystals.

Year 4 completed an art project based on An Experimentation on a Bird in the Air Pump by Joseph Wright. They looked at emotions represented in the painting and colour mixing. We were so impressed with the beautiful feather designs that we received, here are a few examples.



Edie King
Taylor

Isaac Taylor

Ruby Smith

Dexter Roberts

Joshua

We also loved looking at the photos of your science experiments the children did while learning about states of matter from looking at the melting point of chocolate, making a cloud in a jar and investigating the gas in fizzy drinks.

Year 5 have worked incredibly hard while they have been at home and Miss Shepherd has been really impressed with the standard of the work. She thoroughly enjoyed watching all of the stop animations that you made demonstrating some very creative ideas.

There have been some fantastic pieces of art work created at home. Here are a few of the wonderful examples that Miss Shepherd received.



Jessica Gulliver using a credit card to create a cityscape.



Ahsen Tarafdar- using a credit card to create a picture



Olly Turner perspective drawing.

A big well done to all the children in years 2, 3, 4 & 5 for completing their home learning to such a high standard. We are really looking forward to seeing you all in school again in September.

Mrs Farnell, Miss Shepherd and Mrs Hull.

Key Worker Pods

The key worker children have worked really hard and played hard over the last few weeks. Despite the wide age range, we have been so proud of how they have all grown into one big family and looked out for each other. They have grown in independence - being able to organise themselves and take ownership of their learning. We have really enjoyed being in the pod with them and being part of this unique term.

"I have enjoyed being with the different year groups."

"It has been really nice being back with the teachers."

"I like having my packed lunch with the teachers and my friends."

Mrs Langrish, Mrs Butterworth and Mrs Fisher

Diversity

At Samuel Lucas School, we are a community which is diverse in its cultural, social and economic constitution. Children at our school come from different ethnic backgrounds, different religions, and diverse socio-economic backgrounds and speak different languages.

We recognise that this diversity is an asset which we seek to draw on for the benefit of all the children. As a school, we believe that every child and member of staff is of equal value. We are committed to providing equal opportunities for all pupils and staff irrespective of ethnicity, age, gender, class, social circumstance, ability, disability, religion or appearance.

Over the last two weeks, Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 children in school have created a piece celebrating our diverse school community. We are all so proud of our wonderful display and cannot wait for Years 2, 3 4 and 5 to add to it.



Sports Update

It's been a very strange time for PE and sport at the moment but hopefully you are all finding ways to be active whether you have been in school or are at home.

I feel that one of the positives that we can take from the current situation is the great impact that physical activity and sport can have on our lives. I have certainly found that going for a walk with my family, going for a run or taking part in a home workout has really helped with my wellbeing and it's been a great way to clear my mind at times and help me focus. This will be the same for you too so whether it be time in the garden or park practising your skills or going for a walk/run/cycle with your family – give it a try when you can and have a think about how you feel before, during and afterwards.

Unfortunately it wasn't the usual way that we would normally finish the summer term with various fixtures, events, competitions and sports day but hopefully (if you haven't already) you can start to get back to your clubs and activities over the summer and start to remember the joy and happiness that sport and being active can bring us with our friends and family.

Here are some useful websites to try if you need some ideas for being active at home:

BBC Supermovers

Go Noodle

The Bodycoach TV

Cosmic Kids Yoga

Zumba Kids

Youth Sport Trust

I hope you all have a great summer and look forward to seeing you for PE in September!

Mr. Smith

Term Dates 2020/2021

Autumn Term	
INSET Day*	Wednesday 2nd September
Start of term	Thursday 3rd September
Half-Term break	Monday 26th October – Friday 30th October
Occasional Day*	Friday 27th November
Term Ends at 2pm	Friday 18th December
Spring Term	
INSET Day*	Monday 4th January
Start of term	Tuesday 5th January
Half-Term break	Monday 15th – Friday 19th February
Term Ends at 2pm	Friday 26th March
Summer Term	
INSET Day*	Monday 12th April
Start of term	Tuesday 13th April
Bank Holiday	Monday 3rd May
Half-Term break	Monday 31st May – Friday 4th June

Summer Term	
Term Ends 2pm	Tuesday 20th July
INSET Day*	Wednesday 21st July
INSET Day*	Thursday 22nd July

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

Virtual Parent Forum Meetings

Parent Forum meetings will resume in the autumn term via Zoom. The meetings will be held by Mrs Thomas and Mrs Kenny, please see dates below:

- Monday 12th October 2020 at 2pm
- Monday 7th December 2020 at 2pm
- Monday 8th February 2021 at 2pm
- Monday 22nd March 2021 at 2pm
- Monday 10th May 2021 at 2pm
- Monday 5th July 2021 at 2pm

Full diary dates will be published in our start of term newsletter in September.

Yours sincerely,



Tracy Thomas
Headteacher