

Gaping Lane, Hitchin, Hertfordshire, SG5 2JQ

Tel: 01462 456737

Fax: 01462 457360

Email: [admin@samlucas.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@samlucas.herts.sch.uk)

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

Headteacher: Mrs. Tracy Thomas

## NEWSLETTER

No. 7 July 2021

Dear Parents,

As we have come to the end of term and another academic year at Samuel Lucas, it is a time for celebration and reflection. The reflection undoubtedly will bring mixed emotions as we say goodbye to Year 6 and Mrs Langrish who has been a member of staff for almost 10 years, but is now retiring. Mrs Langrish has made a huge difference in so many children's lives. She will be sadly missed by the children, staff and Samuel Lucas community.

**I am sure you would all like to join us in wishing her Happy Retirement!**

We have new staff joining the Samuel Lucas team in September. Mrs Granger who will be a teaching assistant in Year 2 and Miss Woodbridge who will be a teaching assistant in Reception. We look forward to working them.

At this stage, we are planning for a year that is as close to normality as it can be. However, as always, should things change over the holidays we will respond to government guidelines and keep you informed of any changes. Fingers crossed we won't have to.

I hope you all have a safe and happy summer.

### Goodbye Year 6

It is with sadness that we now have to say our fond farewells to Year Six. In this strangest of years, you have been amazing. You have coped so well with the disruption and uncertainty and we have been very proud of how you settled back into routine after lockdown.

Thank you for all your commitment and effort and the incredible work you have produced both at home and in school. We are so glad that we were able to take you to Wells and Whipsnade; you thoroughly deserved those day trips and we hope that they will remain in your memory for years to come, along with all the other special moments from your time at Samuel Lucas.

We know that you are ready for this exciting new phase of your life and we wish you all the very best for September and beyond!

Mr Burgess and Miss Shaw



## **Year Six Trips**

It was lovely to be able to take the year six children on two day trips this half term.

Wells-next-the-sea proved extremely popular with all, despite the temperature being rather bracing!

I was extremely disappointed not to have taken part due to my isolation period just beginning but I have heard nothing but positive reports from the children. Spruce wrote some lovely letters to me expressing their gratitude and telling me of the great day they had, and their home learning for the week also reflected this. Sandcastle kingdoms and freedom on the beach, together with the special fish and chip option on the beach all made for a very enjoyable day for children and staff alike.

The Whipsnade Zoo trip was equally popular and enjoyable; the weather was perfect and, once again, the children displayed exemplary behaviour which was commented upon by the coach drivers and adults at the zoo. It was wonderful to share this experience and see the children's genuine interest and enthusiasm for the animals and displays. The Butterfly House and Aquarium proved especially popular and we think we clocked up a fair few steps by the end of the day!

Mr Burgess

## **Instrumental lessons**

At Samuel Lucas School we offer a variety of extra-curricular music lessons for children in KS2.



Individual lessons are offered to pupils in Year 3 and upwards via Hertfordshire Music Service in the following instruments: Piano, Guitar, Brass, Cello, and Violin (please note, violin lessons are offered for pupils in Year 2 upwards).

If your child is interested in learning an instrument, you will now need to register with Herts Music Service directly at [www.hertsmusicservice.org.uk/registeronline](http://www.hertsmusicservice.org.uk/registeronline) to apply for lessons or to join the waiting list, as the waiting list is no longer held by the school.

If you are in receipt of benefits you may be able to receive either 50% or full remission for music lesson fees. Details are available on the Herts Music Service website.

We also offer woodwind (clarinet, flute and saxophone) lessons through a company called Musicale [www.musicale.co.uk](http://www.musicale.co.uk) for pupils in Year 3 and above. Please contact Musicale via email [info@musicale.co.uk](mailto:info@musicale.co.uk) or telephone 01582 713333 for further details and an application form.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact the school office.

## **Musicale**

Clarinet, Flute or Saxophone Lessons:


Four places available for September, Years 3-6 only. 10 x 20 minute lessons per term.

Instruments provided for trial period, hire purchase scheme.

Contact: [info@musicale.co.uk](mailto:info@musicale.co.uk) or Katie on 01582 713333 for further details.

## Attendance

Well done to Birch class for having the highest attendance for this year! Congratulations to everyone our 2020/2021 Academic Year attendance for the whole school overall is 98.1%.



ATTENDANCE – Academic Year 2020/2022			
Lilac	98.4%	Ash	98.2%
Willow	97.4%	Larch	98.1%
Hazel	98.8%	Pine	98.3%
Birch	98.9%	Walnut	98.0%
Hawthorn	98.8%	Maple	97.5%
Oak	98.2%	Beech	97.5%
Elm	98.4%	Spruce	97.1%

## Parent Forum Meetings

Parent Forum meetings will be held via Zoom by Mrs Thomas and Mrs Kenny, please see dates below:

- Monday 11<sup>th</sup> October 2021 at 1.30pm
- Monday 6<sup>th</sup> December 2021 at 1.30pm
- Monday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2022 at 1.30pm
- Monday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2022 at 1.30pm
- Monday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2022 at 1.30pm
- Monday 4<sup>th</sup> July 2022 at 1.30pm

If you would like anything raised at the meetings please email your year group representative via email:

[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)



## 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.

## **Sports Update from Mr Smith**



Our Sports Day events took place across two days last week (Tuesday 13th and Wednesday 14th July). All of the children competed to represent their house team – Murray, Pendleton, McArthur, Brownlee, Simmonds or Farah.

We have been working incredibly hard in PE to develop and improve our skills this year and with this in mind the carousel of activities were designed to provide the children with the opportunity to display what they have learnt. We also included some traditional athletics/sports day activities which gave us a really nice mix of skills and events.

Children are timed at their activity to score as many points as they can. Competing at a station doesn't just provide the task of demonstrating our physical skills to score points but to also display other important values and qualities such as teamwork, respect, resilience, determination and self-belief.

### **Key Stage 2**

Years 5 and 6 competed on the Tuesday morning with Years 3 and 4 on the Wednesday morning (the house relay took place on Wednesday afternoon).

The carousel activities were as follows: Cricket Bowling, Javelin, Basketball Passing, Racket Skills, Agility Run, Archery and Skills Obstacle Course. All classes then competed in the house relay race on the track.







## Early Years and Key Stage 1

Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 participated in their carousel of activities on Tuesday afternoon before returning on Wednesday afternoon to take part in their sprint races (Reception – 30m and Years 1 and 2 – 40m).

The carousel activities were as follows: Target Throwing, Javelin, Ball dribbling with feet, Ball dribbling/bounce and catch with hands, Agility Run and Ball rolling to targets.





I am incredibly proud of how the children performed last week. The skills, knowledge and understanding you have been able to display have been a real testament to your hard work and attitude towards everything we have done in our PE lessons and enrichment sessions this year. On top of that, there have been some wonderful moments that both your teachers and I have observed during the sports days, moments of teamwork, encouragement, helping each other and above all else enjoyment.

Well done everyone and I hope you all enjoy the summer break.

Mr.Smith

### **A note from The SLPA...**

We made it!!!!

Firstly The SLPA would like to wish you all a happy and safe summer and thank you for being a part of our fundraising this year. We are really looking forward to the return of our usual events next academic year, including our much loved Colour Run in October (more info to follow in Sept.)

### **Name labels for uniform**

If you purchase name labels for new school 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

### **SLPA AGM 20th September, 8pm at school**

We would like to invite everyone to our AGM!! We want this to be a big event, in the hall with as many parents as possible. At this meeting we will need to appoint a vice chair, secretary, finance officer and treasurer. We would also like to appoint teams to events at this meeting so that we can get all of our usual events back up and running. Please chat with your friends over the summer and come along ready to sign up for an event or take a committee role on. Full support and guidance will be given for each event, so please don't worry about not knowing where to start. See below for detailed committee job descriptions!

### **AmazonSmile**

Please purchase Amazon products having first selected Samuel Lucas Parents' Association as your chosen charity, this can be passed on to family and friends to do too. In the Amazon app, press the 3

lines at the bottom right, scroll down to AmazonSmile, and select Samuel Lucas Parents' Association. You need to renew this every few months, so do check you are generating donations regularly!

### **How have the children benefitted?**

We thought we would end by sharing with you how the classes have benefited from the money that was given to them from The SLPA to have some class fun with and celebrate the end of a really tricky kind of year!!!! The classes used their donation on the following:

Reception – End of year picnic, food and lollies

Year 1 – Making rocky road cakes for class parties and ice lollies

Year 2 – Oatmeal and raisin cookie and decorating their own pencil cases

Year 3 – Ham bead keyrings, craft activities and ice lollies

Year 4 – End of year craft activities and ice lollies

Year 5 – Craft activities & end of year picnic

Year 6 – Ice creams at Whipsnade Zoo and end of year Pizzas and slush puppy lollies.

The SLPA

### **Proposed Event Dates for 2021/2022 (TBC)**

<b>Event</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Year Group</b>
Early Years Parents Welcome Meeting	06.09.2021	6-7pm	Reception
Parent Information Evening	14.09.2021	7-8pm	Reception, Yr 1 & Yr 2
Parent Information Evening	16.09.2021	7-8pm	Yr 3-Yr 6
SLPA AGM	20.09.2021	8pm	Everyone welcome
Phonics & Maths Parents Information Evening	05.10.2021	6.30-7.15pm	Reception
English & Maths Parents Information Evening	05.10.2021	7.30-8.15pm	KS1
Pupil Flu Vaccinations	11.10.2021	All Day	Whole School
Parent Forum	11.10.2021	1.30pm	Class Representatives
Parents Evening	18.10.2021	5-8pm	Whole School
Parents Evening	19.10.2021	4-7pm	Whole School
Pupils Individual Photos	02.11.2021	All Day	Whole School
Open Evening	23.11.2021	4-7pm	Whole School
Parent Forum	06.12.2021	1.30pm	Class Representatives
Bikeability	13.12.2021- 17.12.2021	All Week	Year 6
Christmas Lunch	15.12.2021	Lunchtime	Whole School
Parent Forum	07.02.2022	1.30pm	Class Representatives
Feeling Good Week	07.02.2022- 11.02.2022	All Week	Whole School



Parents Evening	09.03.2022	5-8pm	Reception, Yr 2 & Yr 6
Parents Evening	10.03.2022	4-7pm	Reception, Yr 2 & Yr 6
Parent Forum	21.03.2022	1.30pm	Class Representatives
Science Week	28.03.2022-01.04.2022	All Week	Whole School
Reports out to parents	01.04.2022	3.15pm	Y1, Y3, Y4, Y5
SATS Week	09.05.2022-13.05.2022	All Week	Year 6
Parent Forum	09.05.2022	1.30pm	Class Representatives
Kingswood	11.05.2022-13.05.2022	3 Days	Year 4
Isle of Wight	16.05.2022-20.05.2022	All Week	Year 6
PE Week	13.06.2022-17.06.2022	All Week	Whole School
Parents Evening	22.06.2022	5-8pm	Y1, Y3, Y4, Y5
Parents Evening	23.06.2022	4-7pm	Y1, Y3, Y4, Y5
Music Week	27.06.2022-01.07.2022	All Week	Whole School
Parent Forum	04.07.2022	1.30pm	Class Representatives
Open Evening	06.07.2022	4-7pm	
Transition Day	07.07.2022	All Day	Year 6
Reports out to Parents	08.07.2022	3.15pm	Reception, Yr 2, Yr 6
Sports Day	12.07.2022	9.30-11.30am 1.30-3pm	KS2 KS1 & Reception

### **Term Dates 2021/2022**



#### **Autumn Term 2021**

INSET Day*	Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> September
Start of term	Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> September
Half-Term break	Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> October – Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> October
Occasional Day*	Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> November



<b>Autumn Term 2021</b>	
Term Ends at 2pm	Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> December
<b>Spring Term 2022</b>	
INSET Day*	Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> January
Start of term	Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> January
Half–Term break	Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> February
Term Ends at 2pm	Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> April
<b>Summer Term 2022</b>	
INSET Day*	Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> April
Start of term	Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> April
Bank Holiday	Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> May
Half-Term break	Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> May – Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> June
Term Ends 2pm	Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> July
INSET Day*	Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> July
INSET Day*	Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> July

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

Yours faithfully,

*Tracy Thomas*

Tracy Thomas  
Headteacher