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NEWSLETTER

No. 7 May 2022

Dear Parents,

What a busy summer term we have had so far at Samuel Lucas and we are looking forward to next half term. Years 2 and 6 have been working on their SATs; Year 4 have been to Kingswood and Year 6 have been to the Isle of Wight. Please visit the school calendar on our website www.samlucas.herts.sch.uk to keep up to date with all the events coming up next half term.

As the weather will be warming up, please send your child to school with a named water bottle and also a summer cap.

Have a lovely half term break.

Staffing Update

This term we have welcomed Mrs Reed who is teaching Year 6, Mr Davies who is teaching Year 1 and Mr Penny our new site manager. Also, after half term our new Deputy Headteacher, Mrs Kinchin-Smith will be starting at the school.

Attendance

Well done to **Oak class** for having the highest attendance for this month!



ATTENDANCE – May 2022

Lilac	94.8%	Ash	95.8%
Willow	94.7%	Larch	96.4%
Hazel	95.0%	Pine	97.2%
Birch	96.3%	Walnut	96.2%
Hawthorn	97.2%	Maple	96.9%
Oak	97.3%	Beech	95.5%
Elm	96.3%	Spruce	94.6%

Please remember, holidays within term time will **not** be authroised.

Year 6 Isle of Wight

We were all delighted by how well our children coped with SATs week. After a communal breakfast, they all settled into the task in hand and gave one hundred percent effort, drawing on their knowledge throughout the year. The Isle of Wight trip was a brilliant way to escape and celebrate!

What a fantastic time we had! Our first trip with sixty children and a fresh hotel all to ourselves.... we were all excited. The children were incredible and it made no difference whether we had thirty or sixty children; the hotel was set out in such a way that little "zones" allowed friendship groups to stay together and gone were the days of eight children in a room with bunk beds. The food was gratefully (and eagerly) received by everyone.

The weather was great, apart from an interesting twenty minutes on the beach on Tuesday evening (the trainers soon dried) but even then we were treated to a magnificent double rainbow!

The itinerary went very smoothly although a high tide prevented us from fossil hunting. Instead, we were treated to an extended talk on palaeontology and evolution by an incredibly inspiring and amusing guide named Greg.

The other day trips were so successful: toboggan rides and ice-creams at Robin Hill, flumes and rollercoaster at Blackgang Chine and the wonderful history and views at HMS Victory, Osborne House and Carisbrooke Castle. The crazy golf was popular and we are still recovering from the brilliant singing from our disco on Thursday evening!

A wonderful time was had by all and thank you for the kind messages of thanks that we have received this week.

Kingswood

Year 4 have recently returned from Kingswood, West Runton. During the residential, the children were able to enjoy some outdoor learning and try out lots of different activities such as, ziplining, climbing, shelter building and aeroball. They all had great fun competing in the mini Olympics and showing off their best moves at the disco. The children were so engaged throughout the trip and everyone tried their best to challenge themselves and try new activities. We had a lot of compliments about their attitude and behaviour while we were away and we are incredibly proud of them all.

Celebration Assemblies

We are very pleased to have been able to resume assemblies this term. Each week the children attend a celebration assembly, in their key stage, where they celebrate their achievements for the week. The children are celebrated for being a Maths Whizz, Writer of the week or for modelling exceptional behaviours with the 3Cs and 5Rs, in the Golden book.

Each class teacher will nominate a child from their class for an award each week. They will be told why they have been given the award and this achievement is celebrated during the assembly. The children will then be able to tell you about this achievement when they come home.

If they have made any achievements at home e.g. awarded a swimming certificate then please feel free to send this award in with your child so it can be celebrated in the assembly.

Wix Cup Champions!



Squad: Olly, James, Jack, Rudy, Dan, Jacob, Harry, Archie, Zac, Thomas.

One of our football teams participated in the Wix Cup Final here at school last night (Thursday 21st April).

We were up against St.Ippolyts who we had faced in two very close fixtures earlier on in the season.

The game was very tense and both teams played their part in a very entertaining match. Chances were at a premium with both teams working hard to try and gain the upper hand. Both teams had half chances with both defences marshalling the attacks well. Our first chance of note came when Jacob did brilliantly to evade two tackles and slip a pass through to Dan who hit well struck shot across goal which just missed the bottom corner. On the brink of half time, St.Ippolyts worked their way through our defence and the ball broke to their attacker. With the shot being lined up, James bravely threw himself in front of the ball and made a fantastic block to keep the game tied.

Half Time: 0-0

The second half continued in much the same way as the first half with both teams looking for that elusive goal. Some excellent passing sent Dan through and he crashed a fantastic effort towards goal. The ball bounced down off the crossbar but unfortunately didn't cross the line. With time running out, we won a free kick on the right hand side of the pitch. Dan put in an excellent cross which was met by a brilliant header from Archie who made no mistake to open the scoring for 1-0!

Time was running out and St.Ippolyts were on the attack to try and find an equaliser. They were awarded a free kick on the edge of the penalty area. A well struck shot from the attacker was met by a great save from Olly. From the resulting corner the ball was knocked down and bounced around before being fired into the bottom corner for a late equaliser.

Full Time 1-1.

This meant extra time and the possibility of penalties. The team lifted themselves from the late setback and rallied for 10 minutes of extra time. St.Ippolyts hit the crossbar from a free kick and the rebound was brilliantly saved by Olly with an outstretched leg. A long ball forward was met by Jacob who couldn't quite divert his header on target after a well-timed run into the box.

Extra Time 1-1.

This meant the game was to be settled by penalties which is always a cruel way to decide a match. I am very proud of all of the players for how they came together and of course every player wants to score

their penalty but the courage and bravery they showed to step up in a pressure situation to take on that responsibility for their teammates and the school is something that they should be very proud of.

Olly saved the first two penalties and Thomas converted his well into the top corner. James also scored his penalty with a well struck effort amongst saves and goals from St.Ippolyts. We arrived at a point where we needed to score to win the match and Zac stepped up and calmly slotted his penalty into the net to win the game!

A huge well done to all of the boys – they have been a real credit to the school and displayed lots of qualities that we work on throughout our school journey. They were resilient, respectful, determined, hard-working and showed that they could find a way to overcome setbacks.

A big thank you to all of the parents, staff and children who turned out to support the team. It showed what a wonderful school community we have!

Year 4 Tennis Champions!



A team of tennis players from Year 4 travelled to Letchworth Tennis Club this week to participate in the NHSSP U9 Tennis Tournament.

All of the schools were separated into two groups with the group winners of both progressing to the final and a chance to represent North Herts at the county finals in July.

The results from the group stage were as follows:

St.Andrews 1-3 SL

SL 3-1 St.Marys

Wilbury 0-4 SL

Whitehill 'B' 1-3 SL

SL 3-1 Ickleford

This superb performance in the group stage meant the team had won the group and that meant a place in the final vs Hartsfield.

All of the children won their game in the final which meant a 4-0 outcome and they were crowned as worthy winners. They will represent North Herts at the County Finals in July!

All four children were a huge credit to the school in the way that they performed – showing skill, composure, resilience and sportsmanship. I was incredibly proud of how each of our children went to the net after each game to shake hands or tap rackets with their opponent. It shows that not only are they able to perform and show their skill but they have a great attitude and are able to demonstrate the values that are important to us in our school.

Well done team!

PE

EYFS –

We have been busy continuing our work in Dance and movement to music which is themed all around Ourselves. We have created movements for our morning routine, our journey to school and our bedtime routine! We have also practiced performing in front of each other.

Year 1 –

Have been working really hard in a Jumping unit this half term focusing on how, when and where we can jump. We have looked at a variety of jumps and how we can apply these into games.

Year 2 –

Have started a unit of Dance which is themed around Explorers after finishing off our Jumping unit. We are working on creating a motif that includes movements and actions around an explorer on an island. This will be extending to partner work and performances.

Year 3 –

Are arriving at the end of an Orienteering unit where we have looked at map reading, locating points on a map, planning a route and teamwork. We will be starting a unit of Cricket this week.

Year 4 –

are coming to the end of their Cricket unit this week and will be participating in their intra-house matches. We have learnt about when and where we can strike the ball to when batting as well as fielding skills and tactics. We have applied these skills into game scenarios.

Year 5 –

Have started working on a Rounders unit in the last two weeks after finishing Cricket earlier in the half term. We have been consolidating our knowledge of Rounders in the first few lessons.

Year 6 –

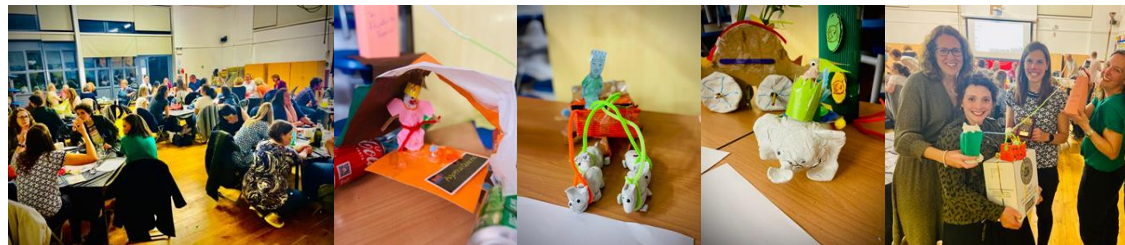
Have also started Rounders with an emphasis on batting and running. We have looked at decision making about how far we can run as well as ensuring we are organised from a fielding perspective.

Well done everyone keep up the good work!

Mr.Smith

A Note from the SLPA

Firstly, a big thank you to those parents and staff who attended the quiz night at the beginning of May. The evening was great fun, as evidenced by the photos and resulted in some ingenious creations for an alternative carriage for the Queen's forthcoming jubilee parade! A special thank you must go to the amazing quiz masters Vicki and Dom, who did a sterling job at entertaining us for the evening!



What next for the SLPA you may ask? Well, we have a Bags2School collection on Thursday 16th June. A perfect opportunity to clear out any unwanted clothes, shoes, bags, bed linen, soft toys and raise money for your school. Further details on what can be donated can be found here:

<https://bag2school.com/what-we-collect>

The May lottery draw has been made and this month's winning cheques are on their way to the lucky recipients. Thank you to all those who are participating in this fund raising event!

And finally, the SLPA event of the year - the Summer Picnic! After a three year absence we are delighted to announce the return of the annual end of term celebration and fundraiser on Friday 15th July from 5pm to 9.30pm. For those who are new to the school the summer

Picnic is a fantastic opportunity for the school community to come together and celebrate the end of the academic year in a relaxed and family friendly atmosphere.

To help make the event as fantastic as possible we do however need your help please! If you can spare an hour or two to help us prepare for the summer picnic, please sign up on PTA Events

<https://www.pta-events.co.uk/samuellucas>. Any time you can give us would be greatly appreciated.

Amazon Smile

Amazon Smile brings another opportunity for fundraising with no effort! 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 three 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!

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 receive a percentage of your order. www.MyNametags.com ID 35460
www.name-labels.com ID 17422

Thank you for reading!

The SLPA - Supreet, Natalie, Nicola, Caroline, Jenni and Suzanne.

School Events Calendar

Event	Date	Time	Year Group
PE Week	13.06.2022-17.06.2022	All Week	Whole School
Parents Evening	14.06.2022	3.30-6.30pm	Larch class
Parents Evening	15.06.2022	3.30-6.30pm	Larch class
Parents Evening	22.06.2022	5-8pm	Y1, Y3, Pine, Y5
Parents Evening	23.06.2022	4-7pm	Y1, Y3, Pine, Y5
Additional Bank Holiday in Lieu – School Closed	24.06.2022	All Day	Whole School
Parent Forum	04.07.2022	1.30pm	Class Representatives
Open Evening	06.07.2022	4-7pm	Whole School
Reports out to Parents	08.07.2022	3.15pm	Reception, Yr 2, Yr 6
Sports Day	12.07.2022	9.30-11.30am	KS2
		1.30-3pm	KS1 & Reception
Transition Day	14.07.2022		All year groups. Year 6 to visit their secondary school.

Term Dates 2021/2022

Summer Term 2022	
Half-Term break	Monday 30 th May – Friday 3 rd June
Bank Holiday in Lieu	Friday 24 th June
Term Ends 2pm	Wednesday 20 th July
INSET Day*	Thursday 21 st July
INSET Day*	Friday 22 nd July

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

Yours sincerely,



Tracy Thomas
Headteacher