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Headteacher: Mrs. Tracy Thomas

## NEWSLETTER

No. 9 July 2022

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 to some members of staff. Mrs Tarr, Mrs Tranter and Miss Clapp are leaving to embark on new challenges and we wish them all luck in their new jobs. And we wish Mrs Bernstein well in her retirement. All will be sadly missed by the children, staff and Samuel Lucas community.

We also have new staff joining the Samuel Lucas team in September. Mrs Houlihan will be teaching in Year 1 - Hazel class; Mrs Murrell will be teaching Reception - Willow Class. Mrs Barclay will be joining us as a Teaching Assistant and Miss Medlock who is currently a Midday Supervisory Assistant is also joining the Teaching Assistant team. We look forward to working them.

### Attendance

Well done to **Pine class** for having the highest attendance for this school year!



#### ATTENDANCE – 2021/2022

Lilac	94.8%	Ash	95.9%
Willow	93.9%	Larch	96.1%
Hazel	95.3%	Pine	97.1%
Birch	96.3%	Walnut	95.9%
Hawthorn	97.0%	Maple	97.0%
Oak	96.7%	Beech	95.3%
Elm	96.5%	Spruce	95.3%

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

## **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.

## **Peter Pan**



Many thanks to all those who came to watch our performances of Peter Pan. The children in years 5 and 6 have worked incredibly hard to put on a great show this year and we appreciate your kind words of support and thanks for this enormous project. The teaching assistants did us proud with the wonderful props and Mrs Soanes led a fantastic team of parents to co-ordinate the amazing costumes. Thank you to Mrs Davies for the music and to Rossco for the sound system.

We hope that the children carry on the skills they have developed during this time, whether it be acting, singing, dancing, playing in an orchestra, backstage prop making and organisation, prompting or operating the sound system.

Thank you too to Mr Penny for creating the stage and to the SLPA for organising refreshments.

## **Sports Update**

### **Sports Day**

We are really pleased to have been able to rearrange the postponed Sports Day for Friday 9<sup>th</sup> September when the children return from the summer break. This will not apply to the new Reception intake.

Sports Day	09.09.2022	9.30-11.30am	KS2
		1.30-3pm	KS1

Sports Day for 2022-23 will then take place in the Summer term. Please see 'Events Calendar' below.

## Cricket League

The U11 Hitchin Schools Cricket League came to an end last week with our team finishing level on points with eventual winners St.Andrews but just missing out on runs scored. Well done to all the children involved for a really enjoyable season!

Pos	School	Pd	W	D	L	Rns	Pts
1	St. Andrews	8	7	0	1	2,130	21
2	St. Ippolyts	8	7	0	1	2,116	21
3	Samuel Lucas	8	7	0	1	2,035	21
4	Ickleford	7	4	0	3	1,625	12
5	Wilshire-Dacre	8	3	1	4	1,875	10
6	Wymondley	6	2	1	3	1,368	7
7	Whitehill	8	2	0	6	1,623	6
8	Weston	8	1	0	7	1,771	3
9	Offley	7	0	0	7	1,528	0

# Hertfordshire School Games 2022 – U9 Tennis

Friday 8th July

We were very lucky to be part of the Hertfordshire School Games event last week. We represented North Herts in three participation areas: inspire and engage (coaching), aspire and develop (skills festival) and compete (competition).

It was a very warm but enjoyable day which started by meeting the school games mascot and then listening to an inspiring speech from Lutalo Muhammad who is a two time Olympic medallist as part of the opening ceremony!

We had a great day and the children were amazing in terms of their teamwork, skills and self-belief. We had lots of fun and even managed time to visit the ice cream van!

We were awarded certificates and school games batons for our passion and honesty throughout the day.

Our compete team played some brilliant tennis against other schools finishing in 5th place which is a huge achievement and one we are very proud of!

Well done everyone for making a great day so enjoyable and thank you to Mrs.Wright for her support at the event.



Mr Smith

### **Samuel Lucas scientists**

This summer term we celebrated science week at Samuel Lucas! Our Samuel Lucas scientists participated in a range of selected activities by the children in each year group where they were given opportunities to explore, inquire and get practical with the theme 'Growth' focusing on how we grow, growing population and how we can create a more sustainable future!

Each class took part in our whole school investigation -growing the tallest sunflower, we observed our sunflower growth over this summer term and the results were impressive!

Congratulations to Year 1 Birch and Hazel class for growing the tallest sunflower measuring a mighty 97cm tall! Taller than most year 1 scientists!

Yours scientifically,  
Miss Mai



### **Parent Forum 2022-2023**

Thank you to the parents who have represented their classes this year at Parent Forum. We hope that all parents found the summary of our last meeting on the theme of reading interesting and you will notice the agreed actions happening already.

Dates for our termly meetings in the next academic year are:

Monday 10th October at 2pm

Monday 27th February at 2pm

Monday 8th May at 2pm

All meetings will be in person, and we will confirm the theme of the meeting in advance to allow our reps to gather feedback and suggestions. The themes will be areas of school life that have been suggested by our Parent reps.

Many thanks for your support.

## **A Note from the SLPA**

WOW! What an amazing half term we have had for SLPA fundraising! A huge thank you to all of you for your generosity and more importantly to those who volunteered to help make events happen and raise funds to help enhance our children's learning experience.

We raised over £200 from the refreshments sales before each of the four Peter Pan performances, which were most excellent although no credit to us, it all goes to year 5 and 6 pupils, teachers and teaching assistants.

Another impromptu ice pop sale in the previous heat wave generated £160. It must be the fastest way of raising funds, the ice pops are popular and selling them is intense but fun!

The second hand uniform sale has generated another £160, on top of £250 raised before half term. We must pass on a massive thank you to Dilly Barclay for single handedly organising the ice pop sales and second hand uniform sales.

And last but not least, the Summer Picnic. This was our first big event as a committee and the first summer picnic the school has had since 2019 and it didn't disappoint! It was a lovely relaxed evening and everyone had fun socialising with school friends outside of school hours. We raised nearly £4000 from the evening, a fantastic amount and a brilliant contribution at the end of the year to the SLPA funds!

We couldn't have put on the event without the help of you as parent volunteers and Mr Penny, the school site manager who kindly stayed until the very end to help us tidy up after everyone had gone home. Miss Adam from the school office was also amazing, giving up her time for the evening to help support us. Thank you!!

If you would like to help out with future events, please contact us on [enquiries.slpa@gmail.com](mailto:enquiries.slpa@gmail.com) We would love to hear from you and always need more volunteers to help organise events, as well as on the actual day.

### **SLPA Lottery**

The summer picnic also marked the end of this year's SLPA lottery. Thank you to the 92 members who subscribed this year and congratulations to the winner of the summer bonus draw. The bonus draw is a £1 for every member so this year the summer bonus was £92!!

You can join the lottery with £12 for a year's subscription. Two draws each month winning 25% and 10% of the monthly takings respectively for first and second prize. Plus the two bonus draws (winter and summer). Joining instructions will be sent out in September for the next academic year.

### **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, 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](http://www.MyNametags.com) ID 35460

Thank you for reading!

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

### School Events Calendar

Event	Date	Time	Year Group
Sports Day	09.09.2022	9.30-11.30am	KS2
		1.30-3pm	KS1
Parents Information Evening	13.09.2022	7pm-8pm	Reception, Yr 1, Yr 2
Parents Information Evening	15.09.2022	7pm-8pm	Yr 3, Yr 4, Yr 5, Yr 6
Phonics & Maths Information Evening	04.10.2022	6.30pm-7.15pm	Reception
English & Maths Information Evening	04.10.2022	7.30pm-8.30pm	Yr 1 & Yr 2
Parents Evening	19.10.2022	5pm-8pm	All Years
Parents Evening	20.10.2022	4pm-7pm	All Years
Flu Vaccinations	31.10.2022	8.30am-3pm	All Years
Anti-Bullying Week	W/c 14.11.2022	All Week	All Years
Individual Photos	16.11.2022	All Day	All Years
Children in Need	18.11.2022	All Day	All Years
Flu Vaccinations Session 2	01.12.2022	Morning	All Years
Feeling Good Week	W/c 06.02.2023	All Week	All Years
World Book Day	02.03.2023	All Day	All Years
Parents Evening	08.03.2023	5pm-8pm	R, Yr 2, Yr 6
Parents Evening	09.03.2023	4pm-7pm	R, Yr 2, Yr 6
Science Week	W/c 13.03.2023	All Week	All Years
Class Photos	15.03.2023	All Day	All Years
Red Nose Day	17.03.2023	All Day	All Years
SATS Week	W/c 08.05.2023	All Week	All Years
Kingswood Trip	10.05.2023- 12.05.2023	3 Days	Year 4
Isle of Wight Residential Trip	W/c 15.05.2023	All Week	Year 6
PE Week	W/c 19.06.2023	All Week	All Years

Parents Evening	21.06.2023	5pm-8pm	Y1,3,4,5
Parents Evening	22.06.2023	4pm-7pm	Y1,3,4,5
Sports Day	27.06.2023	9.30-11.30am 1.30-3pm	KS2 KS1 & Reception
Sports Day <u>Reserve</u>	04.07.2023	9.30-11.30am 1.30-3pm	KS2 KS1 & Reception
Open Evening	05.07.2023	TBC	All Years
Transition Day	13.07.2023		All Years

### **Term Dates 2022/2023**

#### Autumn Term

INSET Day\* Thursday 1st September

INSET Day\* Friday 2nd September

Start of term Monday 5th September

Half-Term break Monday 24th October – Friday 28th October

Occasional Day\* Friday 25th November

Term Ends at 2pm Wednesday 21st December

#### Spring Term

Start of term Thursday 5th January

Half-Term break Monday 13th – Friday 17th February

Term Ends at 2pm Friday 31st March

#### Summer Term

INSET Day\* Monday 17th April

Start of term Tuesday 18th April

## Summer Term

Bank Holiday Monday 1st May

Half-Term break Monday 29th May – Friday 2nd June

Term Ends 2pm Wednesday 19th July

INSET Day\* Thursday 20th July

INSET Day\* Friday 21st July

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

Yours sincerely,



Tracy Thomas  
Headteacher