



St. Luke's Catholic Primary School **Autumn 1st Half Term Newsletter 2024**

Dear Families,

Welcome Back

I hope everyone enjoyed the summer break and managed to get a little sunshine at some point in the holidays. It is a pleasure to welcome back all the children, who have returned eager and ready to start in their new classes. May I also extend a special welcome to our new staff and families who have joined St. Luke's for the first time.

Meet the Teacher Meetings

Next Wednesday 11th September is your first opportunity to meet your child's new teacher. All parents are welcome to meet in their child's class at 3.30pm on this day. This is an informal group meeting in which teachers will share key information and dates regarding this academic year. Presentations will be posted on Class Dojo for those parents who are unable to attend afterwards.

Staffing Updates

May I take this opportunity to welcome Miss Bretherton as Year 4 teacher. Also, huge congratulations to Mrs Dobson who is expecting a baby in the Autumn term. We will also be saying Goodbye to Mrs Vickers and Mrs Crane our Breakfast Club Assistants at the end of September and we would like to say a big thank you and wish them well on their onward journey. Following their retirement, current school staff will take over the Breakfast club duties and breakfast club will continue as normal.

Attendance & Punctuality

May I remind parents that school starts at 8.45am and finishes at 3.15pm. Staff will be on duty from 8.40am. Any child arriving after 8.50am will have to enter through the main office. Any child arriving at school after 8.45am will be marked as late in the register. Arriving on time allows all children to be well prepared to start their learning without interruptions and helps them practise good life habits. You may not be aware that missing 10% of sessions is categorised as persistent absence. **Please see attached letter with new statutory updates.**

Child Care & Early Childcare Offer (ECO)

If you want affordable quality childcare from 8.30am – 5.30pm., Monday to Friday, then we can ensure your child is well looked after in a safe, secure environment. The cost for Daycare is £18 per day. St Luke's offers the Early Childcare Offer for nursery aged children (up to 30 hours per week). Working parents who are eligible can find further information on the school website. Places are limited.

After School Club & Breakfast Club

After School Club £6 per day up until 5.30pm, including a snack. Please contact Mrs Bloor for more information. Breakfast Club starts at 8.00am – 8.50am costs £1.00 per day. Can I remind parents that no supervision is available until 8.00am and ask that children arrive no earlier for Breakfast Club.

School Uniform

Well done to all our children on the high standard of uniform on their return to school. May I remind you that black shoes, **NOT TRAINERS** is part of school uniform. Please help us to keep track of uniform by ensuring all items of clothing including PE kits are clearly marked with your child's name. Can I remind parents that all children should wear the St. Luke's jumper or cardigan with the school logo. This is now available in good quality knitted styles. Now we are in the autumn term, pupils are expected to wear the Autumn/Winter uniform of shirts and ties not polo shirts or summer dresses. Uniform is available to purchase from TopForm, unit 22, Sinclair Way, Prescot Business Park, Knowsley, L34 1PB, Telephone 0151 426 1813 or www.schooluniformknowsley.co.uk. However, we do have a limited stock of school ties to purchase from the school office for a cost of £5.00.

P.E Kit & Days

Your child will be allowed to come to school wearing their school PE kit on the day that they have PE and will wear for the day. PE kit is pale blue T- Shirt with school badge and Navy-blue shorts. If the weather is cold, they can wear navy blue tracksuit bottoms and school jumper or cardigan over their PE kits. These are available to purchase from uniform shop detailed above. Please see over for your child's PE days.

Reception – Tuesday & Thursday

Year 1 – Thursday & Friday

Year 2 – Tuesday & Wednesday

Year 3 – Monday & Friday

Year 4 – Monday & Tuesday

Year 5 – Wednesday & Thursday

Year 6 – Wednesday & Friday

School Funding

You can help us to secure more school funding by applying for free school meals if you are in receipt of Housing benefit. The Government gives extra money to schools based on the number of children eligible for free school meals. It doesn't mean your child has to have free school meals, they can still bring a packed lunch, but it does mean that St. Luke's can access extra money for the school to spend on resources like computers and books. So please collect a form from the office if you think you may be eligible. As you are aware children up to and including Year 2 are entitled to free school meals already, however completing a free school meal form for those that are eligible would still be of great benefit to the school budget.

School Levy

Archdiocese school levy is charged to the school at £10 per family, per year. **Instead** of paying £1 per month and wearing own clothes on the last Friday of each month that historically happened at St Luke's we now collect the **£10** one off charge on **Friday 13th September**. Children can wear their own clothes on this day. **Children can also wear their own clothes when it is their birthday if they would like to**. This is a special day for the children, and everyone will know it is their birthday and can congratulate them. The School Levy can be paid on ParentPay or cash through the school office.

Data Collection & Privacy Notice

Please see attached and refer to school website to familiarise yourself with school privacy notice, this is to be sent out every year to inform you on how we handle your data. It is essential we have up to date information to contact parents in the case of an emergency. If you get a new mobile phone, please make us top of your list of people to tell of the change.

Class Dojo & ParentPay

Class dojo APP is used to communicate with Parents. All new starters will be issued login details from the class teacher. All new starters will be issued with ParentPay login details. Any existing parents who have not activated their Class dojo or ParentPay accounts can you please do so as this is our primary communication with Parents/Carers and all upcoming events are published on Class dojo.

School Photographs

The school photographer will be in school on morning of **Friday 4th October** to record your child's beautiful smiling face! Please ensure your child is in full school uniform. If you have more than one child in the school they will be photographed as a family unless you request otherwise. Children that have PE on this day will need to be in full school uniform. More information to follow.

Macmillan Coffee Morning

We will be holding a coffee morning in Support of Macmillan charity on Friday 27th September at 9:15am. We will be selling a collection of cakes and refreshments for a small charge. Any donations of cakes or biscuits will be hugely appreciated. Many thanks in advance. Information to follow.

Dates for your Diary

Wednesday 11th September

Thursday 12th September

Friday 13th September

Thursday 19th September

Thursday 26th September

Friday 27th September

Monday 30th September

Friday 4th October

Thursday 10th October

Monday 14th October

Friday 18th October

Thursday 24th October

Friday 25th October

Meet the teacher – 3.30pm

Forest School Y6 am and Y3 pm

Non uniform day/ School Levy payment £10 per family

Forest School Y5 am and Y2 pm

Forest School Reception/Y4 am and Y1 pm

Macmillan Coffee Morning – 9:15am

Rejoice Assembly Year 6 – 9.15am

School Photographs

World Mental Health Awareness Day

Bikeability – Year 5 and Year 6 Monday – Thursday (for some pupils)

St Luke's Feast Day and St Luke's Day Mass – 2pm Church

Rejoice Assembly Year 5 – 9.15am

Staff INSET Day – (Children do not attend school on this day)

Thursday 24th October 2024 – School finishes at normal time for pupils

Monday 4th November 2024 – Pupils return to school.

Thanking you for your continued support

Mr. A Crist