Love God. Love your neighbour as yourself:
Be the Good Samaritan. Luke 10. 25-37

ST LUKE'S NEWS

APRIL 2026

Our Vision Statement

Inspired by Jesus' parable of the Good Samaritan, we live out our love for God through collective worship and meaningful opportunities for spiritual growth. Rooted in God's unconditional love, we treat everyone with respect and compassion, nurturing a safe, loving, inclusive school where everyone belongs. Learning together, we flourish and reach our full potential. We empower each other to make positive change for the community we share.

*At St Luke's, we **Love, Include, Flourish**, and **Empower** – our **L.I.F.E.** principles.*

A message from the Executive Head

Dear Parents,

I am delighted to be writing this message alongside Francesca Bear and Ben Williams, our Joint Heads of School, as the new Executive Head of St Luke's. During our first month in our respective roles, we have been struck by how welcoming the entire St Luke's community has made us feel. As the Executive Head of three Camden primary schools, I am excited by the opportunity to work with St Luke's, continuing to drive the school forward and achieve the best possible outcomes for your children, whilst ensuring that the school's vision is fully realised so that children may truly understand and enact St Luke's L.I.F.E. principles: at St Luke's, we Love, Include, Flourish and Empower. It is my belief that, with education at its heart, every child should be given the opportunity to lead a fulfilled life and to succeed.

It is clear from this term's activities that the school places a huge emphasis on enrichment opportunities that broaden the children's experiences. These range from Spanish lessons with Miss Gonzalez and PE with Mr Bennett, to the work of our Naturehood Tutor, Miss Ioannou, who has been using charitable funding to help make the school look fantastic as we head into summer. We have also been treated to the beautiful singing and music created with Mr Jones each Friday, whilst children continue to enjoy opportunities in dance, performance, cricket and tennis throughout the curriculum.

Below, class teachers have shared the wealth and range of learning that has been taking place across the school. In primary education, the culmination of teachers' hard work is often seen in Year 6, as children approach the end of their journey at St Luke's. On behalf of myself and all of the staff at St Luke's, I would like to wish our Year 6 pupils the very best of luck this week as they take their end of Key Stage 2 SATs examinations. Thank you to Mr Grey, Mrs Damolekum and all of the Year 6 team for supporting the children so brilliantly to this point. Following the tests, Year 6 will enjoy a trip to the Emirates Stadium, as well as our annual retreat which, for the first time this year, will take place at Stubbers Adventure Centre in Essex.

By now, you will have received communication from the Chair of Governors regarding the headship and the appointment of the new substantive Headteacher, Mrs Elizabeth Barnes, who will begin her tenure at St Luke's in September 2027. I am delighted to have been given the opportunity to steer the school through the academic year and look forward to continuing to get to know and further develop this fantastic school.

I hope that you all have a wonderful week.

Mrs Hall
Executive Headteacher

Safeguarding Update

At St Luke's, safeguarding remains our highest priority. Creating a school where every child feels safe, valued and able to thrive is fundamental to everything we do. Safeguarding is not a single action or policy; it is a culture that underpins the daily life of our school.

Francesca Bear and Ben Williams will jointly take over the role of Designated Safeguarding Lead.

The broader safeguarding team works closely together to ensure that concerns are responded to quickly, appropriately and in the best interests of children. Staff across the school are trained to recognise and respond to safeguarding concerns, and any worries about a child's wellbeing are reported immediately through our safeguarding systems.

This approach ensures safeguarding remains visible, regularly discussed and embedded in everyday practice.

Working with Families and Other Agencies

Safeguarding children is a shared responsibility. When concerns arise, the school works closely with a range of partners to ensure families receive the right support. These partners may include:

- Children's Social Care
  Early Help services
- Health professionals
- The police
- Other education professionals and safeguarding services

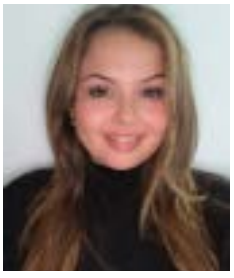
How Parents and Carers Can Help

Parents and carers play an essential role in safeguarding. If you ever have a concern about the safety or wellbeing of a child—whether your own or another child—please do speak to us. Concerns can be raised directly with the school office or with a member of the safeguarding team. By working together as a school community, we can ensure that St Luke's remains a place where children feel safe, supported and able to flourish.

Deputy Safeguarding Leads: Anisa Lucey, (Learning Mentor, Attendance and Welfare Officer), Keith Grey, (Assistant Headteacher, English/Curriculum Lead and Year 6 teacher) and Vicki Hills (Child and Family Support Worker and Extended Day Lead)

SENDCO: Miriam Macallan






Attendance Matters

At St Luke's, we place a very high value on excellent attendance, as we know it plays a crucial role in children's academic success, wellbeing and sense of belonging in school.

Every day in school matters. When children attend regularly, they are able to fully engage with their learning, build secure friendships and develop the confidence and routines that support them both academically and socially.

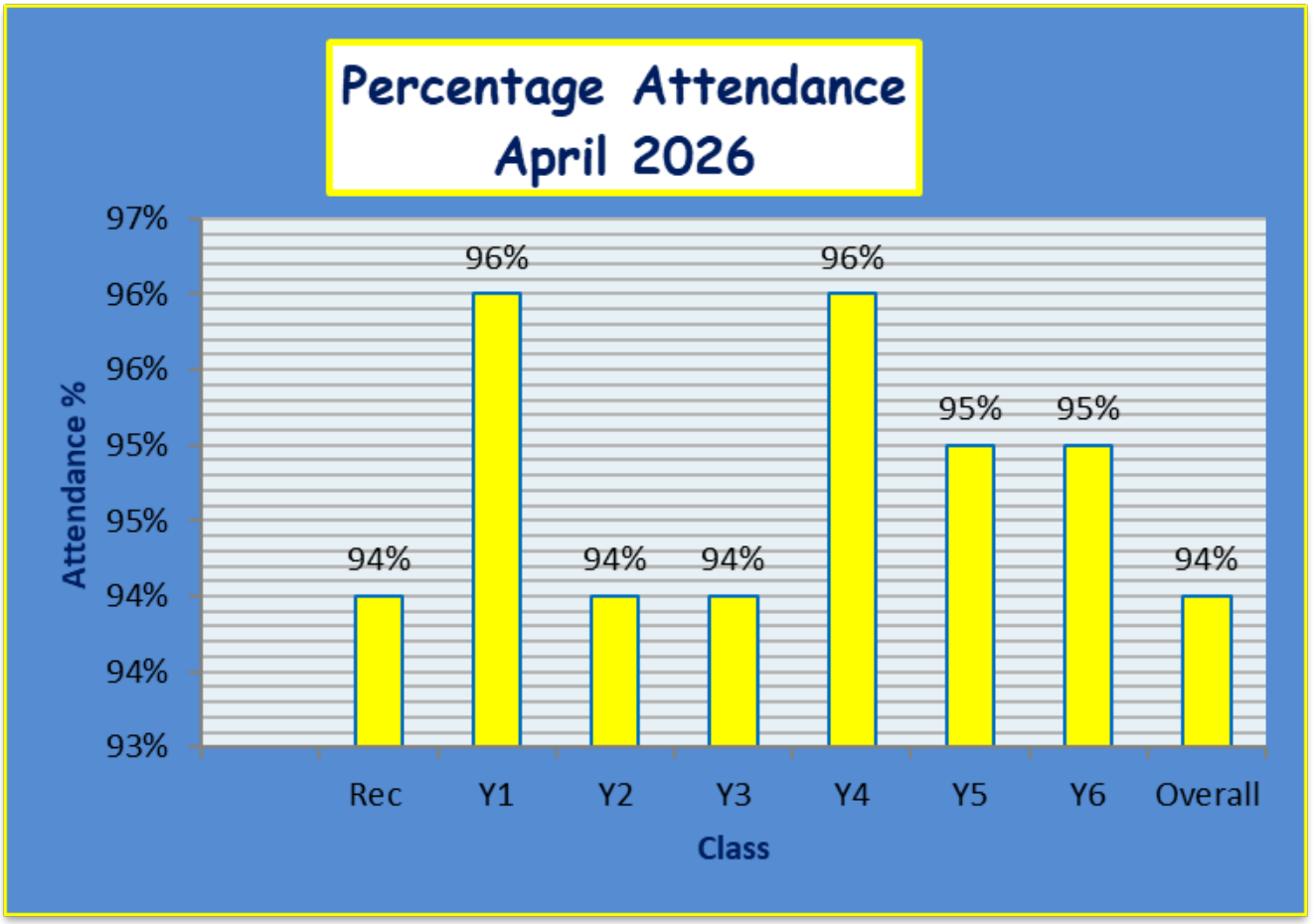
- establish positive routines and habits for learning
- While we understand that children will occasionally be absent due to illness, we encourage families to avoid taking holidays during term time wherever possible, as this can disrupt learning and make it harder for children to maintain continuity in their education.

Working Together

Attendance is a partnership between home and school. Our team carefully monitors attendance and works closely with families to offer support where needed. If there are challenges affecting your child's attendance, please do speak with us. We are always keen to work together to ensure every child has the best possible opportunity to succeed.

By working together as a school community, we can ensure that every child at St Luke's benefits from the consistent attendance that supports both strong learning and positive wellbeing.

Thank you for your continued support.



Dates for your Diary

Key dates	Event
May 2026	
Monday 11th - 14th	SATS week
Monday 18th - 21st	Y6 residential - Stubbers
Tues 19th	9.15 Y1 sharing assembly
Friday 22nd	Break up for Half term

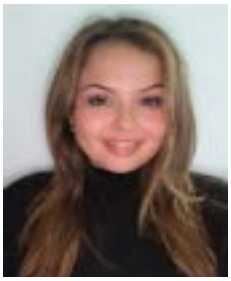
MORE DATES TO FOLLOW

*Please note that key dates are also available via the school's website using the link below:
https://www.st-lukesislington.co.uk/diary/list/

Children/Family Support Worker

I work with children to support them in their school environment, with a focus on their social and emotional wellbeing, helping them to feel safe, confident, and ready to learn. If you or your family are experiencing any difficulties and would like support, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Unfortunately, our coffee morning was unable to go ahead this term. However, we will be holding a coffee morning next term (date to be confirmed), focusing on supporting our Year 6 pupils as they transition to Year 7. This will be a valuable opportunity to ask questions, share information, and connect with other parents and carers, and I warmly encourage you to attend.



After-School Clubs and Enrichment at St Luke's

Our current enrichment and after-school offer is below:

Monday

- Multi-Sports (Years 3–6, open to all, fee applies) – Mr Bennett
- History Able & Talented (Year 5/6, selected) – Mike Greenwood
- Young Women's Group (Years 5–6, open to all) – Vicki Hills, Nick Crivello at Soapbox Youth Centre

Tuesday

- Ball Games (Years 1–2, selected, fee applies) – Mr Bennett

Wednesday

- Arsenal Double Club (Years 3–6, open to all, free) – Vicki Hills & Henry Milton (Arsenal) at Vibast Community Centre

Thursday

- Maths Able & Talented (Years 4 & 5, selected) – Mrs Damolekun, Jill Nicholls, Stephen Barber
- Debate It (Years 5–6, selected) – Natalia Guitterez & Hogan Lovells Volunteers
- Drama (Years 1–3, open to all, fee applies) – Sarah Mackenzie (Swoosh)

Friday

- Choir (Years 5-6) Mr Jones

If you would like more information or wish to enrol your child, please speak to Vicki Hills. We are always looking to expand our offer, so if you have links, partnerships, or personal interests you would like to share with our children, we would love to hear from you.

Class news

Nursery update

Our theme for this term is *In the Garden*. The children have been learning about minibeasts. We have been looking closely at the life cycle of butterflies and we have our very own Live Butterfly Garden!

In Maths, we have been looking at patterns. We have been practising recognising and completing repeated patterns, using objects, shapes and bingo dabbers.

This term we also had another lovely EYFS Open Morning! Thank you to all of the families who came and took part with the Spring themed activities on offer.



Water play


Large construction


Recognising patterns

Reception update

Our theme for this term is *In the Garden*, and we have been busy planting with Sophia, our resident gardener. The children have also been learning about minibeasts. Reception class children can now classify insects and spiders and talk about the habitats of a range of invertebrates. We are also taking a close look at the life cycle of butterflies, and we even have our very own Live Butterfly Garden!

In Phonics, the children have covered Phases 2 and 3. We are now working on consolidating the sounds they have learned and developing their blending skills. It has been very tricky for the children to identify digraphs and trigraphs within words, but they continue to practise daily and their progress is really showing!

In Maths, we have been working on adding and taking away within 10, and we are now learning about shapes. The children are learning to choose shapes for a purpose, rotate and manipulate shapes, explain shape arrangements to create 2D shape pictures, and find 2D shapes within 3D shapes.


2D Shapes


Planting


Butterflies and dragonflies

Year 1 update

We have been as busy as always in Year 1!

In English, we have been reading a lovely book called: 'The Lion inside' which is all about a timid mouse's journey to find his voice and confidence. We have also been exploring rhyming poetry and the use of syllables. We have even been writing some of our own 'Seasons' poems with 5 syllables in each line.

In Maths, we have been measuring using cubes, hands and feet and started to look at rulers and the use of centimetres. We have also just begun counting in 2s, 5s and 10s and looking at the patterns created on a number grid.

In Science, we have started to learn about plants by planting seeds, labelling flowers and finding out the difference between deciduous and evergreen trees.

In DT, we have been designing our Little Red Riding Hood puppets and we are starting to make the real thing!

In Geography/Science, we are learning about Woodlands habitats and are looking forward to finding out more at Highgate Woods in a few weeks!





Planting our seeds



Making our puppets

Year 2 update

This term, students have been busy across all subjects. Here is a snapshot from our favourite moments…

This term, our children have been busy exploring the fascinating life cycle of sunflowers! From tiny seeds to tall, bright flowers, students have enjoyed learning about each stage of growth and discovering how plants change over time. They have also been developing their writing skills by creating wonderful non-chronological reports, using facts, headings, and scientific vocabulary to share their learning.

In Religious Education (RE), we have been thoroughly enjoying learning about Islam, with a special focus on the Five Pillars of Islam. The children have shown great curiosity and respect as they explored the important beliefs and practices that guide Muslim life. It has been a joy to see their thoughtful discussions and growing understanding of different faiths and cultures.









Year 3 update

This term, Year 3 have been working really hard across all subjects and have shown a fantastic attitude towards their learning. In PE, the children have been learning cricket with Mr Bennett and have really impressed him with their developing skills. It has been great to see their teamwork, coordination and enthusiasm grow each week. The class have also worked brilliantly with Kirsty during their Country Kitchen sessions. The children showed great independence and listening skills, and they really enjoyed preparing and making their own food together. In Science, the children have been busy investigating how plants transport water through their stems. They also explored the life cycle of flowering plants, learning about each stage from germination to seed dispersal through a range of fun and engaging activities. In History, the children have been enjoying finding out about the Stone Age and how people used to live. They explored what life was like during this time and made great comparisons with life today.

It has been a busy and enjoyable term, and we are very proud of everything the children have achieved.






Year 4 update

This term, Year 4 have been working hard across all subjects and have shown great enthusiasm in their learning. In RE, we have been exploring Hinduism, with a focus on the concepts of karma and dharma. The children have enjoyed discussing how actions can have consequences and what it means to live a good and responsible life. In History and Geography, we have been studying Ancient Greece. The class have been fascinated by Greek life, including their achievements, culture, and influence on the modern world. In Maths, we are continuing to practise our times tables regularly to build confidence and fluency. We have also recently moved from fractions to decimals, and the children are doing a fantastic job applying their understanding to this new topic. In PE, we have been learning and practising cricket skills. The pupils have been developing their batting, bowling, and fielding techniques while working well as a team. In Science, we are studying animals, including humans. The children are learning about the body, how it works, and how to stay healthy. Finally, a big thank you to all the parents and carers who were able to attend our sharing assembly – it was wonderful to see so many of you there supporting the children.






Year 5 update

This term, Year 5 have been very busy across all subjects! In Maths, we have been learning how to identify and draw angles accurately using protractors. The children have worked hard to measure and create different angles with confidence. In Literacy, we have been writing our own play scripts. We have focused on creating interesting settings and characters, while exploring the use of stage directions and how they can help us show actions and emotion; the children thoroughly enjoyed performing their scripts. Our Science topic this term is *Earth and Space.* We explored the distances of the planets from the Sun and learnt a mnemonic to help us remember the order of the planets. We also investigated the Earth's movement in space by creating our own Earth models and observing how the Earth rotates to give us day and night. In addition to all of our learning in class, Year 5 have been travelling to Mulberry Academy each week, to take part in a DT workshop, where we have been making our own key rings and using saws to create parts for our very own moving toy!



Exploring the Earth's rotation.



Plotting out the planets



DT Workshop

Year 6 update

The Year 6 children have been working very hard in preparation for their SATS. Their hard work is bearing fruit with great progress and an improved readiness and confidence. Everyone at St. Luke's school wishes them the best of luck for their SATS week. To let off steam during their studying, children have been learning to play the summer sport of cricket with Mr Bennett; reading the brilliant book 'Skellig' by David Almond and watching an interesting nature documentary from the renowned centurion naturalist - Sir David Attenborough.

REMINDERS

Nursery applications

If you know any families who have a child who was born between: **1 September 2021 – 31 August 2023** they are eligible for a space in our lovely Nursery. Please do put them in touch with us.

Uniform

Thank you for adhering to our expectations around school uniforms. Our policy and updated guidance can be found here:
https://www.st-lukesislington.co.uk/uniform-information/
Please note the school has two Lost Property crates stored in the Family Kitchen. If your child has lost any items of clothing last term or this term, please contact the office who can give you access to our Lost Property crates. We also have lots of spare uniform that has been donated available in our Family Kitchen. Please check what we have on offer before buying replacement items for your children.

Scooters and Bikes

Bikes and scooters should not be ridden in the playground.

Please be aware all bikes and scooters parked in the playgrounds

Are left at your own risk!

We do not take responsibility for any that are lost or stolen.

We would advise you to put your child's name on them.

Birthday cakes and party bags

Please note we are a Healthy School and cannot give out birthday cake and party bags in the classroom.
Parents can however give out cake and bags outside their child's classroom at hometime.

Free School Meals

Islington Council offers free school meals to all Primary school age children. If you are in receipt of a benefit and you register on the Islington website you may also be entitled to a food voucher in the holidays - which total £15.00 a week per child. Please register here:

https://www.islington.gov.uk/children-and-families/help-with-childcare-and-family-costs/free-school-meals-and-uniform-grant

PUPIL CONTACT DETAILS

We are constantly updating our pupil records. Please call on 0207 253 3880 or pop into the school office to provide us with your **email address** if you have one.

We now require a minimum of three contacts for your children
It is very important that we have up to date contact information in case of an emergency.
Also, please inform us if you have changed address or phone number recently.
Thank you.

Contact us: Tel – 020 7253 3880 Email – admin@st-lukes.islington.sch.uk
Website www.st-lukesislington.co.uk X (Twitter) @stlukesoldst

Instagram @stlukesoldst