



St Luke's News

February 2024

Dates February

Monday 19th

Open the Book Team leading worship;
After-school drama clubs start—Mondays for KS2, Tuesdays for Rec-Y2

Tuesday 20th

Y5 brass concert for parents, 2.30pm;
Sports hall athletics for Y5/6 at Greenbank High School.

Wednesday 21st

Book Fair arrives

Thursday 22nd and Tuesday 27th

Individual Parent-Teacher meetings (face to face)

Book Fair Open

Thursday 22nd

Uniformed

Organisations: World Thinking Day: children can wear uniforms to school

Tuesday 27th

Cross country race 3

Wednesday 28th

Y6 Managing Worries workshop

Thursday 29th

Y5&6 Hockey Tournament at Formby C.C

March

Monday 4th

School Council visiting Parliament in London;
SASWT leading worship re the Bible/World Book Day

Tuesday 5th

School Nurses to see Y6 re health survey

Wednesday 6th

Rec to the Atkinson Theatre - Gruffalo

Dates continued on p.2

Unbelievably, we are halfway through the school year, already! The days are lengthening and there are definite signs of spring. We have lots to look forward to this half term, including World Book Day, Science Week, Red Nose Day, the School Council visit to Westminster, the Y5 Production and our Easter Services, led by Y4. Y4 and Y5 have a tough act to follow after the success of Reception's "Hats Off" presentation on the last day before the break! We were all wowed by their confidence, getting up on the big stage under the lights and performing not only to mums and dads and grandparents, but then again to the whole school. Golden Tickets abounded!

On a personal note, please see the letter from our Chair of Governors, at the end of this newsletter, informing parents and carers that I will be taking an early(ish!) retirement at the end of this school year.

I will write a proper goodbye nearer the time, but after 35 years in teaching, with 22 of these as Headteacher, I am looking forward to spending a bit more time with my family and doing some part-time school leadership consultancy work.

Leading St Luke's has been an honour and a privilege and I will miss it immensely. I'd like to thank the governors, staff, parents and children of St Luke's - past and present - for making this the best job in the world! I will be taking many happy memories with me in July.

Sharon Cowey, Headteacher.



Dates cont'd
March

Thursday 7th
World Book Day:

Wear onesies or dress as a book character £1 suggested donation; World Book Day; FOSLS story-telling evening, 6.30pm

w/b Monday 11th
Science Week (details to follow from Miss Murdock)

Tuesday 12th
cross country Race 4 Bootle

Thursday 14th
Some Y4/5 pupils taking part in Range High School's Spring Spectacular;

Friday 15th
Red Nose Day—red MUFTI, £1 suggested donation

Monday 18th
Open the Book Team leading worship

Wednesday 20th
Sefton schools' X Country Championships

Monday 25th
Y5 show to the school

Tuesday 26th, 2pm and Wednesday 27th, 6.15pm: Y5 Show to parents

Wednesday 27th
Church: Easter Services led by Y4—9.30am 4C, 10.15am 4WM

Thursday 28th
Y6 to *Mission Impossible Southport: the Easter Story*; Term ends 2.00pm After-school club closes at 5pm

Holiday Club open 8th -12th April

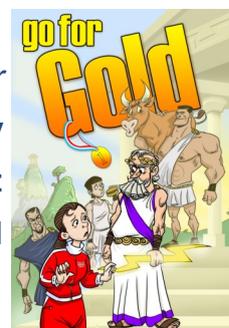
Summer term starts on Monday 15th April

Team Around the School (TAS)

A reminder of this support system for families: TAS aims to make sure that worries are dealt with at the earliest point and families receive the help they need. Some examples of worries we can help with include: family routines, health, drug/alcohol misuse, emotional wellbeing, housing support, parenting, speech and language development, money worries, managing behaviour and parental relationships. This is not an exhaustive list! If you'd like a chat, please contact Eileen.lloyd@sefton.gov.uk or Rachel.traynor@sefton.gov.uk Both Eileen and Rachel are in school every Tuesday morning.

Reminder: Y5 Production

The Y5 extravaganza, the Olympics-themed "Go For Gold" takes place in the last week of term, **Tuesday 26th March at 2pm and Wednesday 27th March at 6.15pm**. Expect some fantastic singing, dancing and acting - and some very corny jokes!



**SOUTHPORT SOUP KITCHEN /
FOODBANK -**

**A HEARTFELT EASTER EGG /
CHOCOLATE APPEAL**

When we think of those who are homeless, lacking regular meals and normal amounts of food, and children who have no luxuries in their lives, it reminds us of how fortunate we can seem to others in society.

We are supporting this appeal for Easter Egg / chocolate donations for children and families of low-income who have known nothing but poverty throughout their lives, often through no fault of their own.

Yet many of our children say they get more Easter Eggs from friends and family than they can eat!

Donations can be left in the porch at St Luke's Church or left on the tables under the canopy at the front of school any time from now up until the end of term, 28th March. Thanks for your support.

Sports Update from Mr Williams

Cross Country Success



We are already halfway through the Sefton Schools' Cross Country league races with races 3 and 4 fast approaching. All 4 representative teams have put in excellent performances in what have been pretty tricky weather conditions at times.

Every athlete demonstrated the school games values and represented St. Luke's with respect, passion and determination.

Special mention needs to be given to a standout performance from our Year 6 boys, where Caden and Ben continue to dominate finishing in 1st and 2nd place respectively.

Staying with cross country, 3 of our children ran in the Merseyside County Cross Country Championships on a very muddy Saturday morning on the Wirral. Caden Y6, Scott Y5 and Millie Y5 put in fantastic performances on a very difficult course against fierce competition. An excellent demonstration of self-belief and determination from our young athletes.

Caden was subsequently selected to represent Merseyside at the National Primary Schools' XC Finals in Loughborough on Sunday 3rd March. This is the 2nd year running that Caden has been selected for Nationals, an outstanding achievement. Good Luck Caden, we are all very proud of you.

Sportshall Athletics

Following weeks of training, 21 athletes represented St. Luke's at the North Sefton Schools' Sportshall Athletics competition on Tuesday 20th February. Excellent performances on both track and field led to a very tight finish. We finished in a very well-deserved bronze medal position just missing out on silver by 2 points! Congratulations to all the athletes whose behaviour was exemplary throughout showing great support to their fellow teammates and respect to other competitors. Well done, St. Luke's!



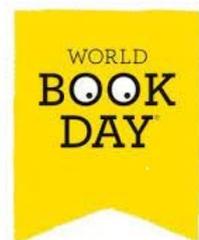
Lewis's Amazing Achievement!

We are so proud of Lewis in Y6 for completing the Anfield Abseil! Such an amazing achievement for him. In addition to stepping out of his comfort zone, Lewis has raised £147 for a local children and young people's mental health charity, the Young Person's Advisory Service (YPAS) which provides mental health and emotional wellbeing support across Merseyside for young people aged 5-25 and their families. Well done, Lewis!



World Book Day: Thursday 7th March

Don't forget you can spend your World Book Day voucher at the Book Fair all this week and next week, including Parents' Evenings. On the day itself, children and staff can pay a suggested £1 donation (all money collected will be used for books in school) to dress as a book character or come in onesies to snuggle up with a book. Mrs Edger has also set a competition, asking for photos of you all reading in unusual places! She has offered an extension for these and they now need to be submitted by 12 noon on Monday 26th February.





Reminder: Church Services

Y4 pupils take the responsibility our Easter Services on **Wednesday 27th March**, 4C leading the 9.30am service and 4WM at 10.15am. We will make sure siblings in school attend the service involving their brother or sister.

No Huggy Wuggies

We are not allowing these soft toys in school. They relate to a computer game intended for much older children and are not appropriate. As a reminder, our rules about bringing a playground toy from home are that it should be:

- small enough to go in your pocket/tray
- not so expensive or special to you that it would break your heart if it got lost or damaged
- labelled with your name and class

Thank you for your support.

St Luke's is Awarded the Music Mark for 2024

Sefton Music Hub has recommended St Luke's for this prestigious quality mark in recognition of all we do for music both within the curriculum and extra curricular. The award is based on the following criteria:



MUSIC MARK
SCHOOL
2023 - 2024

- evidence of a willingness to engage in development conversations related to improving music provision
- recognition of the value of music education as part of a broad and balanced curriculum
- a strategy for music in place which provides for all children

A big thank you to Mrs Harper and all our peripatetic staff, without whom this would not have happened, along with the enthusiasm of our children and the support of parents.

Letter from our Chair of Governors

Dear Parents and Carers,

It is with a heavy heart that I write to inform you of Mrs. Cowey's decision to retire at the end of this school year. Over the past 27 years, she has devoted herself to supporting the children of St Luke's CE Primary School, with outstanding leadership as Headteacher for 22 years. Her unwavering commitment has unquestionably made a lasting impact on our school, contributing to the flourishing place it has become.

Mrs. Cowey's outstanding leadership qualities encompass fostering a sense of community, establishing valuable connections with peers, other school heads, and educational institutions. Engaging in continuous learning, supporting career progression, and encouraging staff to cultivate their own abilities, she significantly contributes to a positive and collaborative work environment. This is evident through the extended tenure and minimal turnover of our dedicated staff, reflecting the positive work atmosphere she has cultivated. Mrs. Cowey's compassionate and supportive approach has not only shaped a workplace culture that is nurturing and empowering but also fueled ongoing efforts to inspire excellence from both herself and her staff, transforming the school into a dynamic environment of learning and growth that greatly benefits the educational journey of St Luke's children.

As both a parent and a governor, I have had the privilege of witnessing Mrs. Cowey's unwavering commitment, particularly to our children. Her commendable dedication to providing a well-rounded and robust education for the children of St Luke's goes beyond a challenging yet interesting curriculum. Mrs. Cowey ensures that our children have access to enriching extra-curricular opportunities that contribute to their overall development. These include engaging and challenging residential, the opportunity to learn various instruments, participation in shows, and the recognition and praise of their out-of-school achievements. Mrs. Cowey's connection with each child as an individual is remarkable, she consistently seeks the best outcomes for every child. Her active presence at assemblies, shows, and concerts speaks volumes about her pride in the children and their remarkable achievements. Mrs. Cowey's leadership is deeply rooted in fostering an environment where each child can flourish academically, creatively, and personally.

On behalf of the Governing Board, I extend our sincerest gratitude for the immeasurable impact she has had on the lives of countless children and the St Luke's community. Her legacy will undoubtedly endure, and we wish her the very best in all her future endeavours. I am confident that you will join me in thanking Mrs. Cowey for her dedication and hard work at St Luke's CE Primary School, and we wish her every success in the future.

We are currently in the process of recruiting a new Headteacher who will assume the role in September 2024. The school leadership team and the board of governors will keep parents and carers up to date as appropriate, however if you have any relevant questions during this transitional period, please feel free to contact the office by usual means.

For any other questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me via email at governortanya@gmail.com

Yours sincerely,



Tanya Wright Chair of Governors