



Friday 13th March

St Luke's CE Primary School News

Our Vision

'Growing in Strength, Love and Wisdom We Shine'

We shine like bright stars in the sky

"You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead, they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven." (Matthew 5:14-16)

Trip to Newcastle College for the Fantastic Foxes

Our Foxes had an absolutely fantastic time during their visit to Newcastle College this week. The children were immersed in a hands on engineering experience, working collaboratively to design, build, and test their very own mechanical LEGO structures. From initial planning to the final adjustments, they showed real perseverance and problem solving skills.

One of the highlights of the day was exploring the coding element behind their designs. The children embraced the challenge with enthusiasm, debugging their programmes, experimenting with movement, and celebrating each successful test run. Staff at the college commented on their excellent behaviour, curiosity, and teamwork throughout.

We are incredibly proud of how brilliantly they represented the school. Their positive attitudes, creativity, and willingness to learn made the whole experience a memorable one.

Well done, Foxes, you were fantastic! 🦊👏

Sports festival

On Thursday, a group of our children took part in an exciting sports festival where they had the chance to try out a variety of activities, including boccia, curling and archery. Everyone threw themselves into the experience with great enthusiasm, and it was fantastic to see so many smiles throughout the morning. The children had a wonderful time and represented our school brilliantly. Well done to all who took part!

Well done to our fantastic football team!

The team have had a brilliant evening of matches tonight, winning three games and drawing one. We are incredibly proud of their teamwork, determination, and sportsmanship throughout.

A huge congratulations to all the players and thank you to the staff and supporters who continue to encourage them. Keep up the great work! One more set of games to go!

Outstanding Owls' Class Assembly and Cake Sale

It is the return of Class Assemblies and it is now the turn of Outstanding Owls. This is on Thursday 19th March starting at 9am and 5pm. We look forward to seeing you there and sharing the learning from September. We would also like the children in Outstanding Owls to provide cakes for a sale. Monies raised will go towards school trips and experiences.



Star of the Week

Tiny Tigers	Sienna
Busy Bees	Carter
Performing Pandas	Jorgie
Dazzling Dolphins	Amelia
Outstanding Owls	Josh
Fantastic Foxes	Reggie
Learning Leopards	Lincoln

Christian Value Certificate

Tiny Tigers	Lili
Busy Bees	Jaykae
Performing Pandas	Khloe
Dazzling Dolphins	Fiona
Outstanding Owls	Alfie
Fantastic Foxes	Violet
Learning Leopards	Arthur

Special Mentions

Robinson-Phillips Excellence in Kindness goes to: Freddie, Taylor, Eadie, Ava, Sofia and Luella

Mr Shenton's award: Football Team

Makaton: Edith

Football achievements: Aidey

Gymnastics: Coral and Rhianna

Martial Arts: Jacob

TTRS: Winning Class: Learning Leopards

Overall child: Phoebe

DD: Aidey **OO:** Josh

FF: Kaiden **LL:** Phoebe

Monday 16th March
Parental Meetings

Tuesday 17th March
Madula Concert for the children in
Year 5

Thursday 19th March
Outstanding Owls' Class Assembly
and Cake Sale

Dojo Points and this week's Task

This week's task is: can you draw or create an Easter garden. It could be:

- A sunrise
- A garden
- A cross with flowers
- An empty tomb with the stone rolled away

Every Dojo task completed gets rewarded by 20 Dojos!

Make sure you return the Task by Friday 27th March

2nd

4th

1st

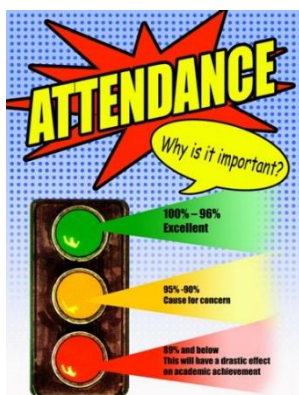
3rd

Attendance

Have you seen our attendance policy?

We have created a two-page summary with all the key points. To view this please see the link below:

[St Luke's CofE \(VC\) Primary School - Attendance](#)



Tiny Tigers	96%
Busy Bees	82%
Performing Pandas	97%
Dazzling Dolphins	96%
Outstanding Owls	85%
Fantastic Foxes	96%
Learning Leopards	93%

Parental Meetings

A reminder that our upcoming parent meetings are fast approaching. These meetings are a really important opportunity for us to come together to talk about your child's learning, progress and next steps. Hopefully everyone has been able to sign up for a slot. If you haven't yet made an appointment, please do so using the links that were sent out previously. If you are having any difficulties booking a time, contact the office and they will be very happy to help.

Budget setting and funding

At the moment we are in the process of setting our budget for the next financial year. Like many schools, we are facing some tough decisions to ensure we can continue to afford everything we do – including the fantastic staff we have and the creative, outward-facing curriculum we are proud of at St Luke's. Our number one priority will always be the efficient and successful education and personal growth of every child. Thank you, as ever, for the support you give the school community. From contributions towards trips and events, to the fundraising through PTFA activities, it all makes a real difference and helps us maintain the rich experiences we offer our children. Last night, our PTFA Chair, Jemma Fisher, and I attended the Betley Bonfire Awards, where we were delighted to receive a cheque on behalf of the school. This generous donation will go towards purchasing new outdoor equipment for our children.

The amount we receive each year is directly linked to the number of volunteers who support the Bonfire event. As we approach November, I will be reaching out for any help you may be able to offer — your support really does make a difference.

In addition to the Bonfire, Betley also hosts a three-day summer event during the holidays. Information about this can be found at the end of this newsletter. If you are able to volunteer, please do sign up. Your time and help are

very much appreciated.
Thank you for your continued support.

Looking ahead:

Spring Term 2026

[Fantastic Foxes - Vikings Workshop Workshop – Fill in form](#)

Summer Term

[Performing Pandas - National Forest Adventure Park Thursday, 23rd April 2026](#)

[Busy Bees – Florence Nightingale Workshop – Friday 8th May](#)

Madula

As the performance date is fast approaching, the children have just one more rehearsal remaining before the evening performance of Madula on Tuesday 17th March.

To purchase tickets, parents should contact the New Vic Box Office on 01782 717 962. Please note that tickets are available by phone only and cannot be reserved online. When calling, simply state which school you are connected to. We will be sending extra details next week.

Our School Prayer

God give me the strength to accept the things I cannot change, Courage to change the things I can, And wisdom to know the difference. With the help of your love. Amen.

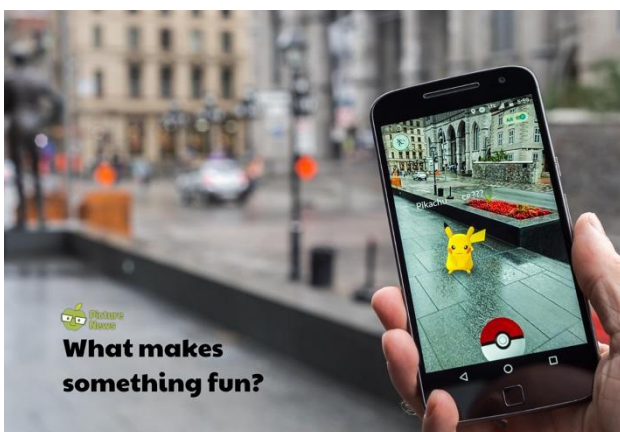
You who are young, be happy while you are young,
and let your heart give you joy in the days of your youth.
Follow the ways of your heart
and whatever your eyes see,
but know that for all these things
God will bring you into judgment.

Ecclesiastes 11:9



British Values

Next week:



Rule of Law

We often come across rules, whether in games or laws we need to follow. When we all follow the same rules, we create a fair and fun environment that helps every person feel included and valued.

In the news this week

This week's news is about Pokémon, which is celebrating 30 years since it was first created. First released as a video game in 1996, it has since grown into TV shows, films, trading cards and apps enjoyed by millions of people around the world. Today, both children and adults continue to enjoy Pokémon in many different ways.

Things to talk about at home ...

- > Why do you think Pokémon has stayed popular for 30 years?
- > How do games, stories, or hobbies bring people together at home?
- > Do you think something can be fun for both children and adults? Why?
- > What are some of the things you find fun to do?

Makaton Sign of the week...

Each week we'll be sharing a new Makaton sign that the children are learning in school. You'll find the sign in this newsletter, along with a link to a video completed by Mrs Easby if you'd like to see more information or practise at home. Please ask your child to show you the sign—they'll love teaching you what they've learned! What is Makaton? Makaton is a way of communicating that uses simple signs and symbols alongside speech. It helps children (and adults) to understand and express themselves, especially if they find language tricky. You may have seen Makaton being used on TV, in hospitals, or in other schools—it helps make communication more inclusive for everyone. By learning Makaton together, we're giving all our children an extra tool to support understanding, confidence, and inclusion.

This week's sign is...Garden



garden



garden

[St Luke's CofE \(VC\) Primary School - Week 5 Garden](#)

Snacks

Children order snacks on a Monday for the week. If your child is absent on Monday they will be able to order on their return to school.

Snacks	
Milkshake	82p
Cup of Milk	38p
Bagel	38p
Pancake	45p
Toast	38p
Crumpet	38p

Lunches

To go alongside the daily menu below, there is also Hot Tomato Pasta, Jacket Potatoes with Baked Beans/Cheese or Tuna and sandwiches with either ham, cheese or tuna.

Monday: Margherita Pizza with Jacket Wedges

Vegetarian option – Rainbow Pizza with Jacket Wedges

Tuesday: Golden Coconut Chicken Curry with Rice

Vegetarian option – Classic Mac & Cheese

Wednesday: Roast of the Day with Roasties & Gravy

Vegetarian option – Sage and Onion Whirl with Roasties

Thursday: Homestyle Sausage Roll with Mash & Gravy

Vegetarian option – Plantastic Balls with Mash & Gravy

Friday: Fish Fingers or Salmon Fish Fingers with Chips

Vegetarian option – Crispy Garden Fingers with Chips

[School Meals w/c 23/03/2026 \(Week 2\) - End of Term Menu – Fill in form](#)

Betley Festival Weekend (Volunteers needed)

[Volunteering - Betley Show](#)

☀️ Can you help at Betley's Big Weekend 2026? ☀️

📅 Friday 31st July – Sunday 2nd August 2026

We're looking for volunteers to join us for an exciting weekend full of festival vibes 🎵 🎉

As a volunteer, you'll receive:

🌟 A wristband giving you access to all three events across the weekend

🍔 A £10 refreshment voucher to use at selected vendors

🤝 The chance to meet new people and be part of something special

📄 An opportunity to apply for funding for your organisation (subject to the event being successful)

Whether you've helped out before or this is your first time, we'd love to have you involved and give back to the community together ❤️

We're especially looking for help as:

🔧 Set Up & Dismantle crew

🚧 Entrance Team members

🐎 Horse Show Stewards

👉 Register here:

🔗 <https://www.betleyshow.com/volunteering/>

Important Dates	
Monday 16 th March 2026	Parental Meetings (invites sent out via compass)
Thursday 19 th March 2026	Outstanding Owls' Class Assembly 9am and 5pm and Cake Sale
Friday 20 th March 2026	Easter Egg Tombola in School
Friday 20th March 2026	Fantastic Foxes - Vikings Workshop
Friday 20 th March 2026	Odd Sock day – no donation needed World Down Syndrome Day
Thursday 26 th March 2025	Easter Service 1.30pm
Friday, 27 th March 2026	School closes at 3.10 p.m. for Easter Holidays
Monday, 30 th March 2026 to 10 th April 2026 Easter Holidays	
Thursday, 16 th April 2026	Photos - Class Groups, Leavers, Reception Individuals and Smylers Graduations
Thursday 22 nd April	Dazzling Dolphins' Class Assembly 9am and 5pm and Cake Sale
Thursday, 23 rd April 2026	PP – National Forest Adventure Farm
Thursday 30 th April	Performing Pandas' Class Assembly 9am and 5pm and Cake Sale
Friday, 8 th May 2026	Busy Bees - Florence Nightingale Workshop
Monday 11 th May 2026	SATS week
Monday 18 th May 2026	Residential for Key Stage 2
Monday, 1 st June 2026	INSET Day (school closed to pupils)
Tuesday, 2 nd June 2026	School Opens
Tuesday 16 th June	Sports Day 9am
Thursday 18 th June	Busy Bees' Class Assembly 9am and 5pm and Cake Sale
Thursday 18 th June 2026	Fathers' Day cakes and crafts 2.15pm
Tuesday 23 rd June 2026	Reserved Sports Day 9am
Thursday 25 th June 2026	Tiny Tigers' Class Assembly 9am and 5pm and Cake Sale
Wednesday 1st July and Thursday 2nd July	Thistley Hough Academy - Transition Days
Wednesday 8 th July 2026	Musical Celebration 1.30pm (All parents are welcome)
Thursday 9 th July 2026	Prom and Disco 3-4.30pm KS1 and 6-8pm for KS2
Friday 10 th July 2026	Reports out
Tuesday 14 th July 2026	1.30pm and 5pm Year 6 Play
Friday 17 th July 2026	Leavers' Assembly 1pm
Friday, 17 th July 2026	School closes for Summer Holidays
Monday, 20 th July 2026	INSET Day (School closed to pupils)