



St Luke's Catholic Primary School

The Willows, Frodsham. WA6 7QP

Tel: 01244 981290

Website: www.stlukesfrodsham.org.uk

Headteacher: Miss E Murtagh, M Ed, BA (hons)

Following in the footsteps of Jesus, we learn, love and laugh together

St. Luke's Catholic Primary School

Tuesday 23rd July 2019

Dear Parents

The end of the academic year without doubt provides the opportunity to reflect. This has been a very busy year from start to finish. Again this has been a year when further changes have taken place and a lot has been achieved; all to provide the best possible outcomes for our children.

This year we have focused on promoting the love of reading. At the beginning of the academic year the pupils returned to school, only to find that each classroom door has been turned into a book cover, providing a taster of what they were about to experience. Each class teacher had selected a class book, to encourage and inspire a love of reading and consequently inspire quality writing. So it continued throughout the year. The books have ranged from 'Queen of the Falls' in year 6 to the 'Naughty Bus' in year 1. It is really important that our pupils experience quality texts to ensure that they are exposed to rich vocabulary and that their imaginations are filled with wide ranging possibilities.

It was also our ambition that each and every pupil had a membership to the local public library. Each class has had half termly visits to our local library; ensuring the opportunity to select books of interest and enjoyment. This will continue in the next academic year, however, we strongly encourage all our pupils to visit the library during the summer break and to take part in this summer's reading challenge. Why not take the opportunity to relax and share a book with your child. We look forward to seeing the result of this year's reading competition.

We are also very proud of the fact that we continue extend learning beyond the classroom. Not only does each class from year 2 to year 6 have the opportunity to attend one of the local residential centres; many educational visits have also been organised to support and extend learning. Examples being; our year five and six pupils experienced what it was like to be evacuated.

I have been fortunate enough to join year 6 again this year on their visit to the Houses of Parliament, and on their residential visit to Conway. I am very proud to say that on both these visits they demonstrated how knowledgeable they are, as well as being resilient, determined and respectful towards one another. All these attributes contribute towards good teamwork.

Enrichment has been a key focus again this year. Earlier this year all pupils in Key Stage one and two visited Chester Zoo. Followed up by a workshop on sustainable palm oil, it provided the opportunity to extend writing and develop Art skills. The high standard of work is on display in our corridor, and clearly reflects the interest and enthusiasm of our pupils.





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Most recently the Key Stage 2 pupils visited 'The Danny', again this visit was supported by workshops, with each child producing a piece of Art work. The pupils are very proud of the work created; now on display in the hall for all to see and enjoy.

Our school choir has gone from strength to strength; participating in events such as 'Young Voices, Amazing, and at the Royal Cheshire Show. Together with the wider opportunities programme; including performing with the Halle Orchestra, demonstrates that an increasing number of pupils are gaining enjoyment from the performing arts. I am sure you will agree following our recent year 6 performances that, our pupils set high standards for themselves and perform with confidence and enthusiasm.

During this summer term, we introduced 'Aspirations Week', where we invited our parents to come into school to talk about their professions. Thank you to the parents who volunteered their time to talk to the children. Pupils in all classes benefitted enormously from this process, and it is something we are keen to repeat again next year, as we feel it is important for our pupils to have aspirations to work towards.

We also introduced 'Pupil Presentations' this summer term. The teaching staff and I were extremely impressed by the standard of presentations, and the pupils' abilities to engage their audience. Although this may have been a daunting task for some, it was certainly clear that all children rose to the challenge. We feel it is important that all pupils are given the skills required to articulate their ideas with confidence, therefore we intend to continue this each year going forward.

This academic year the focus has been on developing the schools outdoor environment with the installation of the Adventure Play area, perimeter wall and Mindfulness Area. We have also purchased extra seating; as a result we feel these significant improvements have enhanced the quality of play and provision for all our pupils.

I would also like to thank FoSL for their continued financial support to the school. Their fund raising activities always bring a sense of enjoyment and community spirit. The summer fayre is a prime example. We thank everyone who helped in any way. This year our fund raising project was to provide a canopy for our Mindfulness Area. We are delighted to say that this has now been installed; we look forward to developing this area with plants, creating a sense of calm and wellbeing for our pupils.

Thank you also to all the people who volunteer their services to school on a weekly basis, whether it be reading, supporting on school trips it all makes a difference and we greatly appreciate your support. If you feel you may be able to offer support during the next academic year, we would be very happy to hear from you.

I would like to thank all members of staff for their hard work and dedication. They have worked extremely hard this year to challenge and inspire, whilst raising standards and expectations and providing enjoyment for all. They, along with the children should all be very proud of their achievements.





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The new term will bring a fresh start, our Year Six pupils will be heading off to their High schools and we will be welcoming our new Reception intake. As many of our Reception intake have just graduated from St. Luke's pre-school provision, we are confident that their transition into Key Stage One will be a positive experience for all.

Mrs Newsham will be leaving at the end of this term; we thank her for her hard work and dedication, and wish her well for the future. We look forward to welcoming Miss Palmer in the autumn term as our year five teacher.

The children will be returning to school on **Wednesday 4th of September**, may I remind all parents that the school day begins at **school day at 8.50 am.** I would like to re-emphasise the importance of punctuality as continued lateness has an impact on the learning experience of all children.

Can I take this opportunity on behalf of all the staff to wish you all a very happy and relaxing summer holiday. I would also like to thank everyone for the kind wishes and gifts of appreciation that have been sent in. We look forward to welcoming everyone back on **Wednesday 4th of September.**

Yours sincerely

E M Murtagh
Headteacher

