



**St Luke's High School**

**Monthly Newsletter**

**3<sup>rd</sup> September 2021**

Dear Parent/Carer,

It has been a successful first few weeks back and we are delighted that our young people have settled in so well and adapted to their new timetables, arrangements for entry and exit, intervals and lunchtimes and for moving around the school. A number of parents and carers have kindly commented about how much they appreciated our regular newsletters throughout lockdown. Therefore, we have decided to continue with them and will now send out a monthly newsletter. I hope that you will find these regular communications useful and helpful. We very much value our relationships with you and are very grateful to you for your on-going support of our school and young people.

We cannot praise our young people enough for how well they have settled back into the routines of school. They have been an absolute credit to themselves and their families. They have brought life and joy back to our school and have been outstanding in their approach to their learning.

### **Enjoying the great outdoors!**

It has been lovely to see pupils enjoying the fresh air at intervals and lunchtimes using the various outdoor spaces and picnic benches. There was much excitement this week when the astro pitch rota was announced with each year group having twice each week. Pupils and staff have also been enjoying the lovely weather when they undertake learning in the outdoors and our garden club were delighted with their bumper harvest of fresh produce! Thanks to everyone who helped to water the plants over the summer.

**St Luke's Language&Communication Faculty @SLHSLan...** - Aug 27 ...  
Miss Casey's National 5 class exploring their poetry through analysis questions - their communication and group work skills make us proud 🌞  
🌈 @StLukesHigh



Thanks to everyone who watered our seedlings in the school garden 🌱💧  
Look at the fantastic produce harvested this morning! #schoolgarden  
#TeamEffort



## Welcome to St Luke's - S1 2021

It has been an absolute joy to welcome our new S1 pupils to our school this week. They have been very busy getting to know our school and enjoying the wide variety of subjects on offer. All classes have been given tours of the school and have spent time with their Pupil Support Teachers and Year Group Head as we help them to settle into our school community. Their standards of uniform, effort, behaviour and engagement in learning have been impeccable. S1 have really impressed Mrs Pollock and their teachers with how quickly they have settled in and found their way around the school. They really are thriving and embracing high school!



**Kentigern House with Mr Cassie - PTPS**



**Columba House with Mr Toal - PTPS**



**Mirin House with Mr Farrell - PTPS**



**Ogilvie House with Mrs Thornton - PTPS**



## Update from the Faculty of Language and Communication

### Outdoor Learning

Since the return to school we have seen some lovely weather and this has meant we have been able to provide some excellent outdoor learning opportunities for our learners in the faculty. From recitals of Shakespeare's 'Romeo and Juliet' to outdoor RUAE and a Cluedo murder mystery, we have been so impressed to see so many of our learner dispositions on show alongside enhancing the health and wellbeing of all.



### Edinburgh International

#### Book Festival

Some of our Higher English pupils were able to visit the Edinburgh Book Festival this year- albeit virtually- to see a poetry reading by Carol Ann Duffy. Mrs McPherson's classes and Miss Dillon's class got the opportunity to hear Carol Ann Duffy read some of her poetry and talk about her inspiration behind them. This will be of great benefit to these classes as the year goes on as they are studying Carol Ann Duffy for the Scottish Text element of the Higher English course.



## Home Learning

All classes in both English and Modern Languages will now be receiving weekly home learning tasks from 30<sup>th</sup> August. Please keep an eye on Google Classrooms as every home learning task will be posted on this. Home learning will be issued on a Monday and due for submission on the Friday across the faculty. In English for S1-S3, home learning will contain audio clips from teachers taking learners through the weekly task. They should then upload their response to Google Classroom. In Modern Languages, home learning across S1-S3 will be predominantly in the form of Language Gym tasks. This can be accessed at <https://uk.language-gym.com/> and all learners will be aware of the login details that they need to complete their weekly tasks. Learners should message their teacher via Google Classrooms if they need help logging in.



## International Literacy Day

We will be celebrating International Literacy Day in school on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> September 2021! Your child will be taking part in a variety of literacy starters and tasks across the curriculum to highlight the importance of this skill in any walk of life throughout the world. You can help your child by discussing how they can use their literacy skills at home and in the community. Look out for the photos of all the celebrations to follow on Twitter!





## Recognising Wider Achievement

### S1/S2 Fresher's Fair

What a fantastic afternoon at last Friday's Fresher's Fair! Well done to all first & second year who signed up to so many extracurricular activities at lunch time or after school – we look forward to see you all there next week!! Thanks to Miss Gillan and the faculty of PE and Health for organising and to all our staff who are providing such a wide variety of opportunities to enhance the experience of our young people.



We are delighted to be able to move forward with our lunchtime and extracurricular clubs because we know how much our young people benefit from the experiences on offer and how much they value the opportunities on offer. Please encourage your child to sign up to some of these fantastic activities if they haven't already. If any young person in S1/2 was unable to attend the event, they can simply go along to any of the clubs or activities and sign up on the day.

Here is the timetable for all of the clubs and activities running throughout the week:

## Timetable

	Lunchtime	After school
Monday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Senior Netball</li> <li>Sign Language club</li> <li>Art/Anime Club</li> <li>Press club</li> <li>Sign Language club</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gymnastics</li> <li>Dance</li> </ul> 
Tuesday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Drama club</li> <li>Robotics club</li> </ul> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tennis</li> <li>Tegball / table tennis</li> </ul> 
Wednesday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Badminton</li> <li>Art/Anime Club</li> <li>Choir</li> <li>Language &amp; culture club</li> </ul>  	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Junior netball</li> <li>Trampolining</li> </ul> 
Thursday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reading corner</li> </ul> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Girls Football</li> <li>Boxing</li> <li>Cook Club</li> </ul> 
Friday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Creative writing club</li> <li>Tie dye club</li> <li>Film &amp; Photography club</li> <li>Science club</li> </ul> 	

• Faculty of Creative Arts •





Drama   Art   Music

**Lunchtime - Art**  
Monday/Wednesday – Art / Anime Club  
Friday – S1/2 Art / Tie Dye Club

**Lunchtime - Music**  
Wednesday – Choir

**Afterschool - Music**  
Thursday – Junior Ensemble

**Lunchtime - Drama**  
Tuesday – S1/2 Drama Club



After school clubs generally last for one hour after the end of the school day. Please encourage your child to come along and try something new or further develop their existing skills.

### **Recognising Wider Achievement**

Across the school we are delighted to be able to offer a wide variety of activities to encourage young people in all year groups to become involved. Wider achievement recognises the life and work skills that are gained from taking part in activities outside of the classroom. These achievements can come from learning within the school, home and wider community and can cover a wide variety of activities ranging from hobbies, volunteering to recognised award programmes. This helps develop skills for learning, life and work and can be invaluable for our young people as they grow up.

As a school, St Luke's seeks to recognise and celebrate the wider achievements of our young people and we aim to promote the importance of our young people having opportunities to take part in activities. A digital catalogue of all extra-curricular clubs available to BGE pupils can be found at this link:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1F4JacZsfeSLO1-ULiVJ3TeRwplL6x75Z/view?usp=sharing>

It contains information for 27 clubs (and counting!) on offer at St Luke's High School this session.

To help support your child you may wish to encourage them to tell their teachers about their achievements and activities. You may also wish to discuss the importance of their achievements and help them identify the skills that they have learned and used. We are encouraging all parents and carers to inform the school of their child's achievements you can do this by:

Emailing Miss Smith (PT Wider Achievement) at [schoolmail@st-lukes.e-renfrew.sch.uk](mailto:schoolmail@st-lukes.e-renfrew.sch.uk)

You can also tweet or DM on Twitter @SLHSWiderAch or @StLukesHigh

Make sure you are follow the Twitter accounts to help us celebrate the successes of our young people!

For more information on wider achievement please take a look at "Wider achievement in a nutshell" from the national parent forum of Scotland: [https://www.npfs.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/wider\\_achievement\\_1906\\_E2.pdf](https://www.npfs.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/wider_achievement_1906_E2.pdf)

### **Praise Cards**

As it is the end of the month, pupils who have been awarded a praise card should expect to receive these through the post in the next few days. Well done everyone who has worked so hard to achieve a praise card. These have been posted so look out for them dropping through letterboxes over the weekend.



## Hot Choc Friday

Mrs Downie was delighted to meet our Hot Choc Friday nominees this week and last week and present them with their certificates and goodie bags containing Hot Chocolate and goodies! What a great start you have all made to the new session in displaying our learner dispositions!



## Senior school office bearers

We are delighted to announce the results of our S6 Leadership Elections. Congratulations to all those who put themselves forward to be part of the extended senior leadership team.

The newly appointed office bearers are as follows:



Head Boy – Lee Edgar

Head Girl – Alliyah Love

Depute Head Boy – Arran Dailly

Depute Head Girl – Elise Kelly



## Pupil Voice

It is so lovely to see some of our brand new S1 pupils being recognised as part of Hot Choc Friday. They have settled in so well and are enjoying their new found freedom and variety of learning experiences. Here are some of the things they have said about their first few weeks at St Luke's!

I have enjoyed having the option to go outside for our lessons

I have enjoyed the independence and have already found my way around and learned my timetable!

I joined the choir as I have really missed singing!

Making coleslaw, I discovered I am an expert at chopping!

There is much more freedom at high school!

I think the food in the canteen is great.

P.E. is by far the best as I like running around.

I absolutely love all the clubs on offer! It's so much fun!

## New Staff

I am delighted to share with you that we have a number of new staff joining us this year.

Mrs Wight  
Miss Chambers  
Miss McCue  
Mr Collins  
Mr Doherty  
Miss Geddes  
Miss Christodoulides  
Miss Butler  
Miss Robertson

Faculty Head of Science  
Science (Chemistry)  
Language and Communication (English)  
Language and Communication (English)  
Language and Communication (French)  
Religious Education faculty  
Creative Arts (Art)  
Pupil support assistant  
Pupil support assistant

### **School Photographs**

The school photographer will be in school on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> September to take photographs of S1, S2 and S6 pupils. We will also use this opportunity to allow any pupils who have joined the school in the last year in year groups S3-S6 to have their photograph taken in their St Luke's uniform.



### **Face Coverings**

As you know, all young people and adults in secondary schools in Scotland must wear a face covering and many of our young people come to school with their own. Unfortunately we have noticed that there are still a large number of young people coming into school without a face covering. Whilst we are able to provide a disposable face covering, we do want to share with you that the school has to purchase disposable face coverings from the local authority and these cost us £50 for every box of 50. We are currently issuing around 100 face coverings per day over the last two weeks and so we would very much appreciate your support in ensuring your child brings their own face covering to school at all times. If your child has a condition that means they cannot wear a face covering, please contact their pupil support teacher to discuss this and ensure we have the most up to date information.

Thank you for your continued support in ensuring your child has a face covering with them at all times.

Finally, may I take this opportunity to wish you and your family a lovely weekend!

Kind Regards

Mrs Pollock  
Depute Head Teacher