***Children are at the heart of everything we do and Christ is the light that guides us.***

***John 8:12***

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| **Weekly Message**  It was so lovely to see so many parents in school this week for our parent-teacher meetings. We really appreciate you coming and working with us to support your child with their learning. Thank you as always for your continued support.  **Phonics Meeting for Parents – Reception and Year 1**  On **Tuesday 14th November**, we will be having a Reception and Year 1 parent meeting regarding how to support your child in early reading at home. We will be sharing example lessons, resources and giving support on the correct pronunciation of sounds. There will be a meeting at **2:45pm** and **4:30pm**; these sessions are for parents only. Please email [admin@lostockgralam.cheshire.sch.uk](mailto:admin@lostockgralam.cheshire.sch.uk) by **Friday 10th November** to let us know whether you will be attending so we have an idea of numbers. Thank you for your support with this.  **Dogs**  Please can we kindly remind families that dogs are not allowed on school grounds, and this includes the school car park. We are always happy to bring your child to you at the end of the day if you wish to walk your dog at this time. Just let the office know please.  **Remembrance Day**  To celebrate Remembrance Day this year, we’d like to make a poppy out of red and green reused plastic milk bottle lids. Please send any that you have into your child’s class teacher and together, we’ll make a school poppy to commemorate this special national event.    **Something lovely we’d like to share…THE HUG BUTTON**  It is very common for children to struggle with separating from a parent or carer, as often they represent the child’s safe base. This can be particularly difficult when the situation feels new, unfamiliar, or a change from the usual routine.  Try this technique to help your child to stay feeling connected to you and to allow them to explore the world with confidence when you are apart.   1. Draw a heart on the palm of your hand and one on the palm of your child’s hand. This is a ‘hug button’. 2. ‘Charge’ the hug button by holding hands on the way to school. 3. Let your child know that anytime they are missing you, they can press the button to give you a hug. 4. After school, let them know about all the hugs that you sent and that you loved the hugs that they sent to you.   *Top Tip: Draw a spare button somewhere on your child where it will not get rubbed or washed off!*  0D97D0FE-70B3-4A41-A810-B2893F932B31.PNG**PTA News**  Thank you to everyone who has already bought pumpkins to support our PTA event. Just a reminder that children can bring them back to school onFriday 20th October for judging. There will be a winner in each class. Get involved! 🎃 This event has been very kindly sponsored by Richie Clayton (parent in Starlings) of M2M Data Connect - THANK YOU! We will then be sending all these special pumpkins home for you to enjoy!  **Lost Property**  We have already gathered a lot of lost jumpers and hoodies since the start of term which have no names in them. Please can you have a look on the bench outside the entrance to KS2 if your child has lost their jumper or hoody to see if we can return any of them to their owners!  Thank you for your support with this!  **Message from Public Health**  Below is a link offering advice to parents from the UK Heath Security team. It’s explaining how things we can do to help slow the spread of seasonal illnesses and avoid unnecessary absences. The article covers the role of healthy hygiene habits, vaccination, spotting the symptoms of common illnesses, and how to make informed decisions on whether a sick child is well enough to attend school.  Read the post here: <https://ukhsa.blog.gov.uk/2023/09/08/a-parents-guide-to-keeping-kids-healthy-this-school-year/>  **Very Green Grocery Northwich**  **(formally the Cheshire Food Hub)**  Click [here](https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100088398463051) to follow on Facebook – it really is worth it as they offer an incredible service!  Here’s some more information about what they offer:  *We’re a not for profit organisation with****the primary aim of reducing food waste.***  *Supermarkets and shops donate food that is just passed its best, but hasn’t yet reached its use by date. The supermarkets can no longer sell it and it would otherwise go to landfill. It’s still in great condition and absolutely fine to eat.*  *There is always a fantastic selection from each supermarket section – tinned foods, pasta, vegetables, fruit, salad, potatoes, meat, dairy, cereals, eggs, pastries, bread, toiletries.*  *Regular food donations from Waitrose, Asda, Morrisons, Tesco, Aldi, Greggs, Lidl, Co-op. All of the money taken on the door goes straight back into the grocery. This means we can buy items in bulk****. Open to absolutely everybody, regardless of where you live or your financial situation.****So you can help save the planet at the same time as saving yourself some money. Just turn up on the day with £4 and your shopping bags.*  **Courses for Parents**      **Online Safety**  To help keep your children as safe as possible online, please click [here](https://assets.thekeysupport.com/company/demos/elearning-parental-controls-on-devices-20-21/index.html#/) to access an interactive guide. It gives you practical instructions on how to set parental controls on the most common devices children use. |

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| **Diary Dates**  *This will be added to each week!*   |  |  | | --- | --- | | **30th October** | Owls worship in Church led by Vicar Andrew – parents welcome to join | | **6th November** | Years 5 & 6 worship in Church led by Vicar Andrew – parents welcome to join | | **13th November** | Years 3 & 4 worship in Church led by Vicar Andrew – parents welcome to join | | **15th November** | Robins trip to Beeston Castle | | **20th November** | Years 1 & 2 worship in Church led by Vicar Andrew – parents welcome to join | | **21st November** | Skylarks trip to Lion Salt Works | | **22nd November** | Swallows trip to Titanic Museum | | **28th November** | KS1 Christmas play – 9:30am and 2pm | | **29th November** | KS1 Christmas Play – 2pm | | **1st December** | Christmas jumper day for St Luke’s | | **6th December** | KS2 play – 1:30pm and 5pm | | **7th December** | KS2 play – 5pm | | **8th December** | Christingle | | **12th December** | PTA non uniform day for a donation for Xmas Fair, chocolate KS1 and bottles KS2. | | **13th December** | Panto & PTA Christmas Fair | | **14th December** | Christmas Carol concert & Christmas Lunch | | **10th January** | Toucans trip to the Imperial War Museum | | **17th January 2024** | Goldfinches trip to Chester Grosvenor Museum | | **12th March 2024** | Swallows Trip to Fox Howl Centre, Delamere | | **8th May 2024** | Skylarks Trip to Tatton Park | | **3-5th June 2024** | Toucans Residential Petty Pool Centre | |

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| **Worship**  We have spent time reflecting on the worships that we have shared together this half term based on the Christian Value of Courage.  **“Even though I am not right there with you, I am with you in spirit.”**  **1 Corinthians 5**  Y1 - “I like to hold the little cross in my classroom if I feel scared about anything, I feel God is with me.”  Y3 - “When Vicar Andrew lights the candles, he reminds me that God is near us.”  Y6 - “I will use God’s love and courage when I go to high school.” |

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| **Praise children for fantastic work** | | |
| **Owls (Reception)** | Nate | For sharing your kindness in our classroom, you have followed our school rules beautifully and worked so hard this week. Well done superstar! |
| **Starlings (Y1)** | Thomas | For letting his light shine in so many ways. Thomas is the first to offer to help and show kindness to all. Well done Thomas! |
| **Swallows (Y2)** | Jayden B | For his calm and dedicated approach to learning and the friendship that he shows to others. |
| **Robins (Y3)** | Ruo Tian | For showing perseverance and courage to complete all his activities in class! A lovely positive attitude! Well done Ruo Tian! |
| **Goldfinches (Y4)** | Jayden B | For showing kindness, courage and friendship in everything you have done this week. You have let your light shine beautifully. |
| **Skylarks (Y5)** | Alexa | For letting her gentleness and kindness shine this week. Thank you for being a super role model, Alexa! |
| **Toucans (Y6)** | Connor | For letting your light shine through the confidence you are showing in all of your lessons. You are a wonderful role model Connor. |

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| **‘Top Table’ children for wonderful manners at lunchtime** | |  | **Before & After school clubs – Autumn Term**   |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | **Name** | **Day/Time** | **Key Stage** | | Dodgeball | Monday 8-9am | Years 1-6 | | Girls Football | Monday 3.15-4.15pm | KS2 | | Hockey/Basketball | Wednesday 8-9am | Years 1-6 | | Football | Wednesday 3.15-4.15pm | Years 1,2,3 | | Gardening | Thursday 3.20-4pm until Oct half term | Years 5-6 | | Athletics/Benchball | Friday 8-9am | Years 1-6 | | Football | Friday 3.15-4.15pm | Years 4,5,6 | |
| **Owls (Reception)** | Mia and El |
| **Starlings (Y1)** | Tri and Damon |
| **Swallows (Y2)** | Logan and Jayden H |
| **Robins (Y3)** | Ezrae and Millie |
| **Goldfinches (Y4)** | Anya and Amelia |
| **Skylarks (Y5)** | Matthew and Jacob H |
| **Toucans (Y6)** | Thomas and Taylor |



Happy Birthday!

To Skyler in Owls, Parker in Robins, Owen in Goldfinches, Callum in Skylarks, and Yara in Toucans. A very special happy birthday to Mrs Barker who celebrates her birthday this week!

**Lunch Menu – Week 2**

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| **Monday** | **Tuesday** | **Wednesday** | **Thursday** | **Friday** |
| Sausages served with mashed potato & seasonal vegetables & gravy | Pasta Bolognese served with garlic bread and seasonal vegetables | Roast Chicken with roast/mashed potato served with seasonal vegetables & gravy | Chinese chicken curry served with rice, naan bread seasonal vegetables | Battered Fish served with Chips & Peas or Baked Beans |
| Jacket Potato with a Selection of Fillings Served with a Side Salad | Jacket Potato with a Selection of Fillings Served with a Side Salad | Jacket Potato with a Selection of Fillings Served with a Side Salad | Jacket Potato with a Selection of Fillings Served with a Side Salad | Jacket Potato with a Selection of Fillings Served with a Side Salad |
| Deli Choice of Breads with a filling choice of ham, cheese or tuna Served with a Side Salad | Deli Choice of Breads with a filling choice of cheese, ham or tuna Served with a Side Salad | Deli Choice of Breads with a filling choice of ham, cheese or tuna Served with a Side Salad | Deli Choice of Breads with a filling choice of ham, cheese or tuna Served with a Side Salad | Deli Choice of Breads with a filling choice of cheese or tuna Served with a Side Salad |
| Peach crumble slice & custard | Chocolate Shortbread finger | Fresh Fruit salad | Lemon Drizzle Cake | Melting Moment |

**TERM DATES September 2023/August 2024**

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|  | **Date of Closing** | **Date of Re-Opening** |
| **Summer 2023** | Thursday 20th July – school finishes at 1 pm no Fun Foxes | Tuesday 5th September |
| **Autumn Half-Term 2023** | Friday 20th October | Monday 30th October |
| **Christmas 2023/2024** | Friday 15th December school finishes at 1 pm – No Fun Foxes | Tuesday 2nd January |
| **Spring Half-Term 2024** | Friday 16th February | Monday 26th February |
| **Spring Break 2024** | Wednesday 27th March | Monday 15th April |
| **May Day Weekend 2024** | Friday 3rd May | Tuesday 7th May |
| **Summer Half-Term 2024** | Friday 24th May | Monday 3rd June |
| **Summer break 2024** | Friday 19th July school finishes at 1 pm – No Fun Foxes | Monday 2nd September |

**INSET DAYS (Teacher Training) – 5 in total for 2023/24**

Thursday 28th March 2024

Monday 22nd July 2024

Tuesday 23rd July 2024

Wednesday 24 July 2024

# **HOLIDAYS IN TERM TIME**

Pupils are discouraged from taking holidays in term time unless there are exceptional circumstances. It is very rare that any holiday would be authorised. Good attendance is key to pupils making good progress and taking time out to go on holiday can significantly hamper progress. Where a holiday is unauthorised the LA is informed. A Fixed Penalty Notice will then be issued in accordance with section 444 of the Education Act 1996. The current rates payable by parents are £60 where the amount is paid within 21 days and £120 where the amount is paid within 28 days. The charge is per parent/carer per child. If the Fixed Penalty Notice remains unpaid this could lead to prosecution in the Magistrate’s Court.

For the DfE statutory guidance on school attendance please click on the following link:

<https://www.gov.uk/school-attendance-absence>

**Attendance**

Attendance is crucial for all children in order that they will achieve and is monitored closely by school. We are always happy to help any families who are struggling for any reason. Emily Leather our family support worker is in school Monday, Tuesday and Friday and is always keen to help.

“Central to raising standards in education and ensuring all pupils can fulfil their potential is an assumption so widely understood that it is insufficiently stated – pupils need to attend school regularly to benefit from their education. Missing out on lessons leaves children vulnerable to falling behind. Children with poor attendance tend to achieve less in both primary and secondary school.” School Attendance DfE May 2022

**If your child is ever unwell, please do let us know the reason for the absence by 8:45am on 01606 668270 (a message can be left on the school answer phone).**