

Headteacher's Welcome

Friday 9th October 2026



On Tuesday, Miss Burnes and I met with other Headteachers and Maths subject leaders from across our trust, looking at how we develop problem solving behaviours in our children. As we got stuck into trying to solve a range of fractions problems, I noticed the joy in the room as grown adults (and experienced teachers!) spotted patterns and explored whether there was more than one possible solution to the problem. It is this joy and enthusiasm that I also love to see in our own pupils, not just in maths, but across the whole of our broad, knowledge-rich curriculum. A particular highlight this week has been introducing pupils in year 1 and 2 to 'protagonists' and 'antagonists' - see if they can tell you which is which!

*This week, you can find out about our football team and the new markings on the back playground. We also hear from some of our new pupils, as well as finding out what each class has been up to recently. Also this week, the weather has started to feel much more autumnal! Please make sure your child has an appropriate jacket / coat for the weather - **naming** it significantly increases the chances of your child coming home with the right coat!*

Sarah Barnes - Headteacher - head@luk.graceschools.org.uk

Website: <https://luk.graceschools.org.uk/>



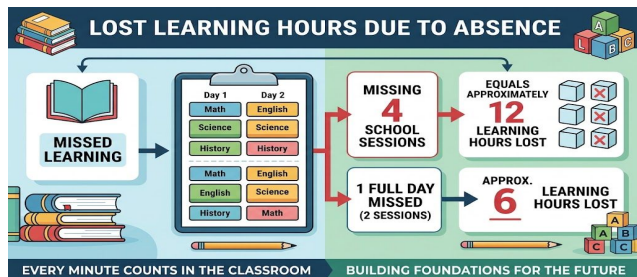
Attendance

This week, attendance at St Luke's is currently **96.5%**. This is just under our schools expected percentage of 97%! Just a small push away from where we aim to be!

When reporting an absence, please call as soon as possible via the office telephone number and leave a message through attendance option or by emailing attendance@luk.graceschools.org.uk

If your child needs time off for a medical appointment, please provide an appointment card or confirmation for our records. Although sometimes unavoidable, please try to book appointments outside of school hours.

Punctuality: The gate opens at 8.35 and closes at 8.45. Any parents dropping their children after this point should bring their child through the office so we can ensure they are registered safely and get to their classroom smoothly.



Emma Warner - Attendance Assistant - attendance@luk.graceschools.org.uk

Safeguarding

Safeguarding means protecting children's health, well-being, and human rights so they can grow up safely and reach their full potential. Safeguarding is **everyone's** responsibility, but the Designated Safeguarding Leads coordinate this.

Our safeguarding responsibilities include:

- **Protection:** Keeping children safe from abuse, neglect, and physical or emotional harm.
- **Prevention:** Taking proactive steps to stop harm before it happens and creating secure environments.
- **Support:** Promoting children's health and development alongside early help for families when challenges arise.

Each week, we will share information about a particular topic that we think is important or may be of interest to some of our families.

If you have any questions or suggestions for topics you would like to see covered, please let one of us know.



Sarah Barnes & Micol Alexandru - Designated Safeguarding Leads - safeguarding@luk.graceschools.org.uk

Inclusion



We are inviting parents to our coffee mornings starting this new school academic year. A chance for parents to come into the school and discuss any concerns, have a coffee/ tea and catch up, and to meet other parents within our school community to share any advice or experiences. We would like to be able to offer support to one another as a whole school community.

We can also offer targeted support through Speech & Language, The Early Help team, Our Family Liaison officer, Amanda Gilbert, and our Educational Psychologist for Cambridgeshire, Caroline Sivasundaram.

I look forward to meeting you at our first coffee morning after half term. Dates will be shared shortly.

Jenny Maginnis - SENCo- sendco@luk.graceschools.org.uk

Updates from the Office

Starting Wednesday 14th October, Alexandra, a former pupil now attending 6th Form, will volunteer in the **After School Club**. She will be with us every Wednesday, for the whole school year. She likes sewing, crafting, crocheting and anything textile related.

The cost for this will be the same as always, £10.50 or £5.50 if you are entitled to PP funding (this means targeted FSM).

Help us improve our **ASC** - complete our Wraparound care feedback: <https://forms.gle/JCY1okAJM2Lgcju79>

We are working on the **Leavers Hoodies for Y6** . Once a colour has been agreed, these will be available for you to order.

Parental Consents: we have added some new consents on MCAS (for Y5/6 walk home alone after ASC & mobile permissions, and we split Class and Individual Photos for everyone). Please make sure that you check those.

Balances: please make sure that any debt is cleared as soon as possible (lunches or ASC).

We do have a couple of cases of head lice in school. Please check your child's hair carefully and treat accordingly. This page gives you further information on what they are and how to treat them: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/head-lice-and-nits/>

Micol Alexandru & Emma Warner - Office Coordinator & Attendance Assistant - office@luk.graceschools.org.uk

Pupil Page

Points...	Beach	City	Ocean	Meadow
This week:	21	22	27	27
This term:	144	148	136	154
This year:	144	148	136	154

Grace schools football tournament: A number of our year 5 & 6 children took part in the annual Grace Schools tournament which brings together primary schools from across the Trust to compete, showcase their skills and demonstrate positive sporting values. A big shout-out to Caylen who won one of just two individual medals available for children at the tournament who had shown resilience and teamwork as well as excellent footballing skills!



Pupil Voice

Eva Y6: Eva joined us in September and this is what she says “moving schools is a big change but you can easily settle down at St Luke’s thanks to the nice teachers and nice pupils”.

Ayla Y5: Ayla joined us in September and volunteered straight away to help us in the library (with Adeline and Ariya Y5), this is what she says “helping in the library is fun and the teachers at St Luke’s are great”.



Pupil Page

Playground markings: We have recently updated our playground with some colourful new thermoplastic designs including an active trail, a teaching clock and noughts and crosses. The children are certainly enjoying these and it has sparked some imaginative play as well as being educational.



Muntjacs Class

This week, children in year 5 and 6 have been busy with English and maths assessments, which they approached with great aplomb. They have also found the time to explore the city of Baghdad in history lessons and figured out scale maps in geography - calculating precise distances between Cambridge landmarks. Our current art topic is style and we are looking forward to creating abstract paintings on canvas.

We are delighted to announce that our school council representatives are Adam, Eva and Alice and house captains are Willow and Jannat (Beach), Kanishk and Ruby (City), Stella and Leyla (Meadow) and Benjamin and Bahoo (Ocean).

Hedgehogs Class

This week, in year 3 and 4, the children have been strengthening their knowledge of complex sentences in English and deepening their understanding of place value in maths. When asked what the children have most enjoyed this week, their answer was DT. They have all felt happy and proud of their journey of researching, designing and making appealing and functional keychains.

The class have elected their school council representatives for the year ahead: Malone (Y4), Jude (Y4) and Rebecca (Y3) and Ellie (Y3).



Squirrels Class

This week in Squirrels class, we welcomed two new members, Darcie and Kinley, and have been recapping the values and ethos of St Luke's to help them settle in. We also warmly welcomed Ms Venter, a Higher Level Teaching Assistant who will be regularly supporting Squirrel class going forward.

In English, Year 1 and Year 2 have been focusing on the story of Hansel and Gretel, with the children writing their own versions of the story throughout the week. In maths, we have just completed our unit on shapes and are starting to learn about addition.

Reception children have been thinking about their community and who helps us, particularly in an emergency.

Also, thank you and congratulations to our newly elected school council representatives, Shenaya and Oscar. They will be representing the class in discussions and decisions about the school, helping shape St Luke's to be a wonderful place to learn and grow.





*We will use this page to celebrate
birthdays....*

Due to nutritional and allergy legislation in schools, we cannot allow sweets and other treats to be given out for birthdays. However, if you would like to celebrate your child's birthday in school, please donate a new book to our school library, and we will include your child's name and occasion and share this in assembly.

Important Dates

October

- 7th - Individual photos
- 16th - Deadline to return Christmas Cards
- 22nd - PTA Welcome Coffee and Cake event
- 23rd - PD Day (3)
- 26th - 30th - Half term
- 31st - National Deadline for Secondary School Applications

November

- 3rd & 4th - Parents Evening
- Every Friday in November - Open events for Reception 2027
- 10th - Parent Coffee Morning
- 11th - Flu vaccinations
- 11th - 18th - Scholastic Book Fair

December

- 3rd - Flu vaccinations (mop-up)
- 4th - PTA Winter Disco-Fair
- 7th - Grace Schools Carol Service
- 15th - Parent Coffee Morning
- 17th - Reception vision screening
- 18th - Last day of term

January 2027

- 4th - PD Day (4)
- 5th - Term starts
- 18th - Young Voices (KS2 Choir)

FREE Storytime



FREE Storytime with Lou Carter at Cambridge Central Library

Mon 26 Oct 2026 | 2:30pm - 3:15pm

Come along to this special library story time with bestselling author Lou Carter.

But just so you are prepared, there is absolutely NO DRAGON in this story. As hard as he might try to join! All the other fairytale characters just don't want him. Not Hansel and Gretel, nor the Frog Prince or Goldilocks. But poor dragon just wants a chance to be the HERO.

Lou Carter is the author of many funny fairytale books such as *There Is No Dragon in This Story*, and *There Is No Big Bad Wolf in This Story*. Join Lou for this brilliantly fun interactive story time!

To [book a place, visit the Cambridge Central Library's event page](#).

Perfect for children 4-7 years.

Venue: Cambridge Central Library

Duration: 45 mins

