Headteacher's Welcome

Friday 23rd October 2026

Happy half term! Despite the autumn-term tiredness beginning to set in, pupils have continued to work hard this week - Hedgehogs class have written an assessment piece on the digestive system, whilst Muntjacs have been writing a narrative piece. All children enjoyed a storytelling session this week on the theme of kindness, with Squirrels class taking the opportunity to demonstrate the work they have put in to improving their sitting and listening skills this half term. Now, after a busy week - and a distinct change in weather! - we have reached a well-deserved week's break. Please encourage children to keep reading over the break, and a little practise of number facts or times tables is always beneficial! We wish you all a restful week, and we look forward to seeing children back in school on Monday 2nd November.

Don't forget, parent consultations will be held on Tuesday 3rd and Wednesday 4th November. Book via MCAS.

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

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

Attendance

Overall School Attendance: 96.1%

Class Champions: Muntjacs Class (98%)

A huge well done to all our pupils and families for another fantastic week! Overall school attendance is currently at 96.1% which is not too far off where we would like to be.

A special shout-out goes to **Muntjacs Class**, who took the top spot this week with an impressive 98% attendance rate!



End-of-Term Attendance Raffle Draw!

At the end of every half term, it's time for our exciting Attendance Raffle Draw!

Every week that a child achieves **100% attendance**, they earn a raffle ticket. The more weeks they attend every day, the more tickets they have entered into the big draw!

The lucky winners were chosen during our end of term assembly - well done to Eva, Ruby, Benjamin and Declan! 🥳

Thank you for your ongoing support in helping our children arrive at school on time, ready to learn, every single day!

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

Safeguarding

This week's guide is all about managing screen time for children - something that can be a much greater when they're at home during a school holiday.

The National College produce a range of different Parent and Educator Guides - if you have ideas / requests for a specific topic, please let one of the safeguarding leads know.

If you have concerns for a child over the holiday, you can contact the school on the email address below.

You can also contact Cambridgeshire County Council on 0345 045 5203 or contact the emergency out of hours team on 01733 234724.

Alternatively, you can complete a referral online: https://cambridgeshire-self.achieveservice.com/service/Childrens_Services_online_referral_form



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 - Tuesday 10th November.

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

Updates from the Office

Leavers Hoodies for Y6: the website is now ready and you can order your hoodie! There is an option to order the hoodie without the school logo, please make sure you select the correct one when ordering! These will be sent to the school free of charge. We would like you to order these before Monday 2nd November. https://stlukes.deco-apparel.com/

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).

Flu vaccinations: starting this year, opt-out letters are not sent by the school anymore. The vaccination team will contact you directly to gain your consent - please make sure it's sorted before the day. More reminders will be sent in due course.

New Menu: this is now available to pre-order from MCAS.

Instagram: keep following us on instagram to see more photos! Our username is: stlukes.school

To be continued...

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

Although the weather this week has not been the best (those hot summer days are now gone!), we have been blessed with a lovely rainbow!





PTFA: the PTA will soon have their own page in the newsletter, once the last details are finalised.
In the meantime, we'd like to thank them for organising Thursday's cake sale - we have raised almost £50 for the school!
A big thank you to all the pupils that volunteered too!







Reminders

Snacks and Water

As a healthy mid-morning snack, we encourage children to bring fruit (fresh or dried) or raw vegetables (no sweets, chewing gum or crisps please). Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 pupils are provided – free of charge – with a portion of fruit or vegetable each day.

For younger children, where parents wish to provide the mid-morning snack themselves, it is recommended that it is prepared for easy eating and stored in a small plastic container. Children are encouraged to drink water throughout the day.

Drinking water is available on tap in every classroom. It is recommended that every child brings in an individual, labelled water bottle.

Water bottles should only contain water.

https://luk.graceschools.org.uk/parents/school-meals

Our Uniform

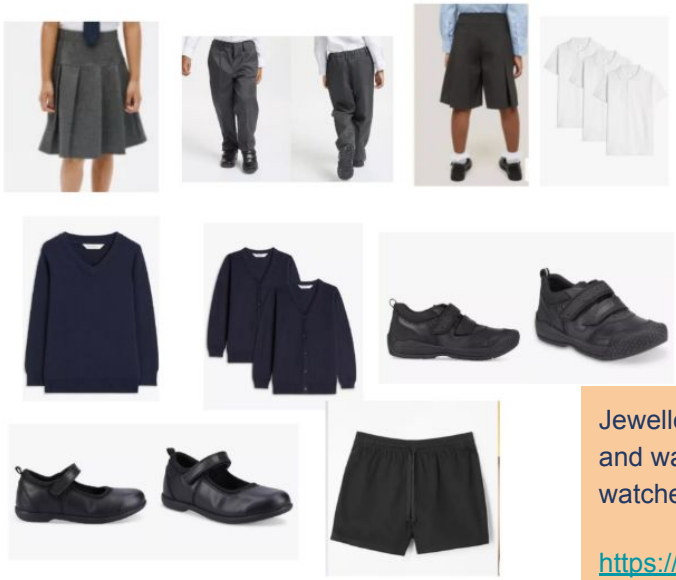
- White polo shirt*
- Grey/black/navy skirt, shorts or trousers*
- Navy blue sweatshirt, jumper or cardigan*
- White/grey/black/navy socks or tights
- Black low heeled shoes or plain black trainers
- Blue gingham check dress (summer)

PE Uniform

- White t-shirt
- Black or navy shorts
- Dark colour tracksuit (colder weather)
- Trainers

Acceptable Uniform

NB The list is not exhaustive but gives you a good idea.



Jewellery and make-up should not be worn, and watches should be traditional or “dumb” watches.

https://luk.graceschools.org.uk/parents/uniform

After School Club

Please ensure ASC is **pre-booked**. This should ideally be done no later than **10:00 on a Monday morning**. If not possible, then it should be booked no later than **12:00 pm on the day.**

In the event that you need an emergency booking, please contact the office. This will ensure we have the correct ratios for supervision and enough food for all children at the session.

Please note that ASC closes at **5.15pm**. In the event that you will be unavoidably late, please call the ASC number (on the leaflet) as early as you can. Any collections after this time will be charged at **£1** for every **2 minutes** in order to cover our overtime costs. Many thanks.

Alex, a former St Luke's pupil, has started volunteering in ASC. She will help pupil with sewing and crafting.

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



Pupil Page

Points...	Beach	City	Ocean	Meadow
This week:	19	14	30	11
This term:	163	162	166	165
This year:	163	162	166	165

At the end of every half term, we count up the total house points to find the winning house. This half term was the closest we've ever had, but congratulations go to **Ocean** house and their House Captains, **Bahoo** and **Benjamin**. House captains will inform their house about their chosen reward next half term.

House points can be received for a variety of reasons, including working hard, being a good friend or demonstrating the school values. This half term, our focus value has been **kindness** and staff have been on the lookout for children showing this around school. Whilst our focus on kindness will continue after half term, we shall also be looking at **confidence** and growing our understanding of what it means to be confident.

Pupil Page

Office entrance: Next time you are in the school lobby, take a look at our new display! Every child's handprint was used to help create this vibrant sunflower, visual representation of our school vision: "*Through God's love, we are the rich soil where roots grow and seeds flourish." Luke 8: 4 - 15.* A big **thank you** to Miss Alexandru and Miss Warner for their help on bringing this display to life!

In development...





... the finished product! 🌻

Muntjacs Class

This week, the children considered how cartographers represent hills and mountains on maps, and had a go at sketching contour lines for Castle Mound, Cambridge. In history lessons, they explored the golden age of Baghdad including the educational value of the House of Wisdom.

The short narratives about Rat and Mole (of The Wind in the Willows) are coming along well and the children have created striking descriptions of an icy wild wood. Also, they very much enjoyed a visit from story-teller, Victoria Goodman, during which they listened to and retold stories of hope, bringing these to life with a set of beautiful miniature props. We wish everyone a restful half-term break!

Hedgehogs Class

This week, Hedgehog class have developed skills in analytical reading. The children have been able to talk animatedly about Clive King's language choices and how they support the theme of friendship.

In maths, year 3 have been introduced to parallel and perpendicular lines, whilst year 4 have been identifying and describing equilateral, isosceles and scalene triangles.

The highlight of the week has been our storytelling visit in which the children listened and then collaborated in groups to create their own stories of kindness and finding light and hope even when things seem dark.







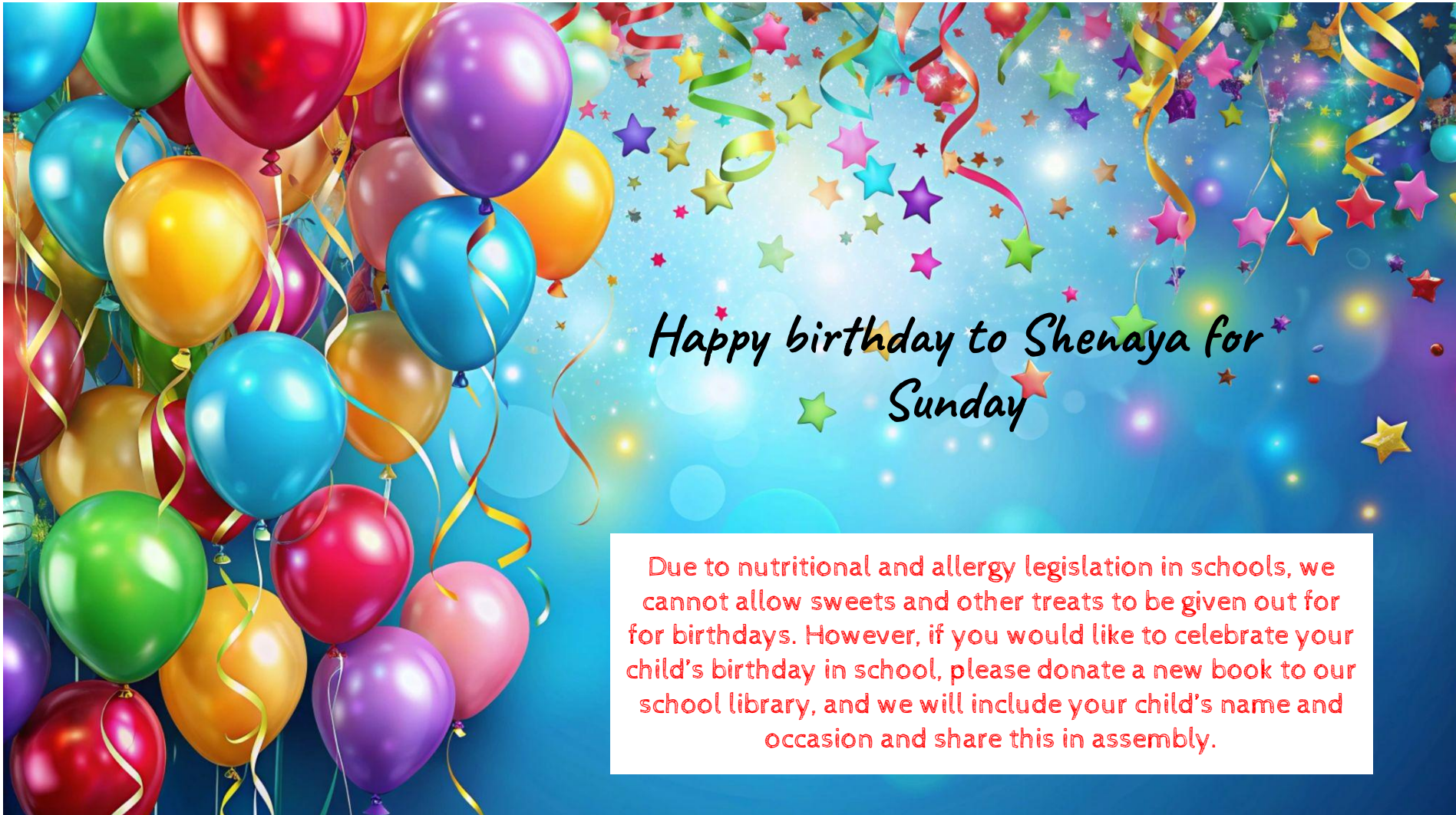


Squirrels Class

This week, Years 1 and 2 kicked off their new English book, Coming Home by Michael Morpurgo, following a robin's adventurous journey back home. In maths, they've been using manipulatives such as counters and bead strings to build their addition skills.

Reception have been learning about what a library is and have been trying out new books in our school library. The children have also chatted about special places and buildings, including places of worship around the world. They have also been exploring the season of autumn by making a big group tree collage with leaves and twigs from a nature walk.

The best part of the week for many in Squirrels class was a fantastic storytelling visit from Victoria Goodman! The children listened to stories beautifully, then teamed up to create their own stories about kindness, hope, and finding light in dark times.


Happy birthday to Shenaya for Sunday
Due to nutritional and allergy legislation in schools, we cannot allow sweets and other treats to be given out for 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

- 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 - Y5/6 Remembrance Event
- 11th - 18th - Scholastic Book Fair
- 19th - Measles vaccinations
- 26th - Christingle - *parents welcome* - more info to follow

December

- 1st December - GenR8 Assembly
- 3rd - Flu vaccinations (mop-up)
- 4th - PTA Winter Disco-Fair
- 7th - Grace Schools Carol Service
- 15th - Parent Coffee Morning
- 15th - Christmas service at St Luke's church - *parents welcome*
- 17th - Reception vision screening
- 18th - Last day of term

January 2027

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

FREE Half Term activity





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

Education Inclusion Family Advisor Team Countywide Online Workshop Offer

The EIFA team would like to present our workshops on a variety of parenting and family issues for November.

Please ensure you book onto each workshop individually by clicking on the link or scanning the QR code and completing the registration form. If you don't receive the booking link, please check your spam/junk folder. A reminder email will also be sent to you an hour before the workshop.

Managing Challenging Behaviour	Tuesday, 10 November 2026, 12:00-13:30	Book onto this workshop at: Managing Challenging Behaviour or
Supporting Your Child with Angry Feelings	Thursday, 12 November 2026, 12:00-13:30	Book onto this workshop at: Supporting with Angry Feelings or
Supporting Your Child with Sleep	Tuesday, 17 November 2026, 12:00-13:30	Book onto this workshop at: Supporting Your Child with Sleep or
Supporting Your Child with Feelings of Worry	Thursday, 19 November 2026, 12:00-13:30	Book onto this workshop at: Supporting with Feelings of Worry or
Managing Sibling Rivalry	Tuesday, 24 November 2026, 12:00-13:30	Book onto this workshop at: Managing Sibling Rivalry or
Supporting Your Child with Angry Feelings	Thursday 26 November 2026, 12:00-13:30	Book onto this workshop at: Supporting with Angry Feelings or

If you have any questions about our workshops, or the EIFA service in general, please contact earlyintervention@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Online workshops offered by our Education Inclusion Family Advisor (EIFA) team - support with family and parenting issues - in November & December.

Education Inclusion Family Advisor Team Countywide Online Workshop Offer

The EIFA team would like to present our workshops on a variety of parenting and family issues for December.

Please ensure you book onto each workshop individually by clicking on the link or scanning the QR code and completing the registration form. If you don't receive the booking link, please check your spam/junk folder. A reminder email will also be sent to you an hour before the workshop.

Supporting Your Child with Feelings of Worry	Tuesday, 1 December 2026, 12:00-13:30	Book onto this workshop at: Supporting Your Child with Feelings of Worry or
Managing Challenging Behaviour	Thursday, 3 December 2026, 12:00-13:30	Book onto this workshop at: Managing Challenging Behaviour or
Managing Sibling Rivalry	Tuesday, 8 December 2026, 12:00-13:30	Book onto this workshop at: Managing Sibling Rivalry or
Supporting Your Child with Angry Feelings	Thursday, 10 December 2026, 12:00-13:30	Book onto this workshop at: Supporting with Angry Feelings or

If you have any questions about our workshops, or the EIFA service in general, please contact earlyintervention@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

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