# Parent / Carer Bulletin

# Care • Inspire • Succeed

#### Week Commencing Monday 18th November 2024

### Headteacher's Update

**Dear Parents and Carers** 

I hope that if you attended the tutor review for students in years 7, 10 and 12, that it was useful. If there is any feedback then please do send it through. I'd also like to remind you of the Year 13 subject evening that is coming up this week. It will be the last formal occasion where you can meet all the subject teachers before both the mock exams in January and the real thing next summer.

Also, a well done to everyone in school for the non-uniform day for Children in Need that has raised well over £1000 for the charity.

Thank you, Mr Farrer

WEEK A	CALENDAR - TERM 2
Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> November	•
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> November	Y10 Reading Challenge Meeting
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> November	Y8 Boys Rugby Tournament (Hardenhuish School)
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> November	Y13 Subject Evening
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> November	Y11 Mock Exams end

WEEK B		
Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> November	Y11 GCSE Mock Practical Exams Begin (see timetable for details)	
Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup> November	Y7 Reading Challenge Meeting	
Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> November		
Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> November	Y8/9 U14 Girls County Cup Football	
	• Y12/13 English Trip 'A Streetcar named Desire	
Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> November		

#### In this week's bulletin:

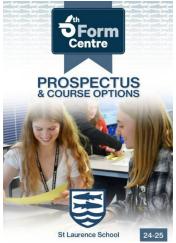
- Governor vacancy letter and application form
- 6<sup>th</sup> Form Applications closing date
- Planning for the flu vaccinations
- Year 7 and their knowledge organisers
- The story of the farm visit Y7 student shares her day with us

#### .... And lots more!

# From: Mr Blowers – Director of 6<sup>th</sup> Form

#### Year 11 Applications for St Laurence 6<sup>th</sup> Form

Dear Parents/Carers and Students,



Students applying for St Laurence 6<sup>th</sup> Form are reminded that the deadline for applications is:

#### Friday 29<sup>th</sup> November

Applications are made via the electronic form here: <u>St Laurence School | Wiltshire</u>

A reminder of a few key points:

Students should opt for 3 subjects – Only one subject per option block
 The option blocks can be found in the Prospectus that all students have received and also online here: <u>6th Form Prospectus | St Laurence School</u>

3. Students should opt for what they enjoy and think they can attain well in4. We encourage the majority of the year group to apply, as they have the ability to cope with 3 x A levels

5. Remember, you can apply to several schools/colleges – so be sure to add us

We look forward to Year 11 students joining our 6<sup>th</sup> Form which was the **"Strongest attaining State 6<sup>th</sup> Form in Wiltshire"** again this year.

If you have any questions, do not hesitate to ask us.

Mr Blowers & 6<sup>th</sup> Form Team

### **Reminder of Nasal Flu Vaccinations:**

# Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December and Monday 9<sup>th</sup> December

**For parents of Y7 – Y11** students who have given consent for their children to be given the vaccination (please refer to previous emails for instructions on how to consent/not consent for this).

The vaccinations will take place in Trinity Hall & students will be informed when to attend closer to the time.

**Please note:** due to mock exams **Year 11** students will be scheduled to have their vaccinations on Monday 9<sup>th</sup>December.

# From: Mrs Butterworth - Head of Psychology and Sociology

Dear Parents of Year 7

#### **Knowledge Organisers**

Just to remind you that our SLS knowledge organisers for Term 2 are on the school website here: <u>PowerPoint</u> <u>Presentation</u>.

Knowlegde organisers give our Year 7 students access to the key information for each subject this term. Your son/daughter will have a physical copy too and they should be using it in school and for homework on occasion.

Any queries please email nicbut@st-laurence.com.

# From: Mr Hainsworth - Assistant Headteacher

#### We need your input – please complete the survey

We are in the process of planning the KS4 options evening for January 2025 for the current Y9 and we would like to gather some feedback on how we have run the evening for the past two years.

If you have a child in Y10 or Y11 who you attended the options evening with and you would like to offer your thoughts, please can you complete this survey: <u>https://forms.office.com/e/cizGY91YNs</u>

# From: Mrs Nash – Head of Drama

Last week 27 Y8 /9 pupils travelled to the Merlin Theatre in Frome to take part in the Shakespeare Schools Festival (SSF).



This is the fourth time the school has participated in the national celebration of the works of Shakespeare, this time performing 'Macbeth'.

Despite only 6 weeks of rehearsals the cast managed a brilliant performance that impressed the audience, and they should be very proud of what they achieved. The feedback from the SSF staff was overwhelmingly positive - they praised the creativity of the students as well as their professional attitude towards working in a 'real' theatre.

As well as the 26 actors, one Year 9 student took on the role of Lighting Designer and technician, running the lights from inside the tech booth - a really special opportunity.

It was a fantastic experience for all staff and students involved and we hope to be part of it again in the future.

Mrs Nash and Mr Farrer, who directed the piece, would like to thank the cast for all their hard work, Mr Evans for his technical support and all the family and friends who came out to support us. It was much appreciated.

Next up for the Drama department is participation in the National Theatre Connections Festival. Our Year 10 GCSE Drama students will perform a new play, 'You 2.0' by Alys Metcalf, in school on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> March and at the Weston Studios, Bristol Old Vic on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> April.

More details will be sent home in due course.

# From: Miss Hancock – Head of Music

#### Year 7 Performance - Carol Service, Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> December

**<u>Reminder</u>**: Any Year 7 students who wish to take part in the Christmas Carol Service performance at Holy Trinity, please return the reply slips as soon as possible. Thank you.

# What's on the Menu?



Click the link to our Catering page for information on all the different ways our students can enjoy healthy and nutritious meals at school:

Catering | St Laurence School (st-laurence.com)

# From: Mrs Baldwin – Outdoor Education Coordinator

#### Year 7 Farm Trip Feedback

After another successful year at the farm, we would like feedback regarding your child's experience of the trip. Please complete the short questionnaire: <u>https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=PDGYhH1FF0aVVn0XJ5MMZue-</u> <u>wT8hfyVFsk6ICu2ZPDxUNFY4TURRMTc4QUpLNDUxVTI3TDU5UzIZVy4u</u>

#### Year 10 DofE

Sessions to log into eDofE for those signed up for Bronze commence week beginning 25<sup>th</sup> November. If your child has submitted their programme planner, please can you make sure that you have paid the deposit by no later than Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> to enable their accounts to be set up on time.

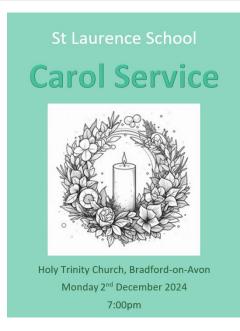
If you have any questions, please contact me on <u>helbal@st-laurence.com</u>

# From: Mrs Woodley

#### St Laurence Christmas Fair: Thursday 12th December 2024 1:00pm – 4:00pm

Our Christmas Fair offers our students the chance to sell their creations to their peers and teachers, and to make a bit of money ahead of Christmas, joining external stallholders.

If your child/ you/ a contact would like to sign up for a stall, please complete the form so that we can see your interest: <u>https://forms.office.com/e/CS0nzyWAXe</u>



# From: PE Team



We are currently seeking donations of studded boots for our school's PE lessons, particularly for outdoor activities and sports like football and rugby.

These boots are essential for ensuring our students have the proper footwear to participate safely and comfortably.

If you have any spare or outgrown pairs that could be put to good use, we would greatly appreciate your support.

Students can leave any donated pairs of boots in the boot box on the slope.

Your donation will make a positive difference in the experience of our students!

Thank you.

#### **Sporting Results and Upcoming Fixtures**

#### **Results**

#### Netball:

St Laurence 20 – 0 Melksham Oak (Year 9 Girls) St Laurence 14 – 4 Melksham Oak (Year 10 Girls)

Football:

St Laurence 4 – 1 Swindon Academy (u12 Girls County Cup)

Congratulations to all students involved.

#### **Upcoming Fixtures**

Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> November Y9 Netball vs St. A's (H) Y10a Netball vs St. A's (A) Return around 5:15pm Y11a Netball vs St. A's (A) Return around 5:15pm U16 Girls Football County Cup vs Wellington Academy (A) Return around 5pm

Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> November Y8 Rugby Waterfall at HH/Sheldon School Return around 5pm

Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> November Y9 Rugby Waterfall at KGA Return around 5:45pm Y7 Rugby vs St. A's (H)

# The Adventures of Year 7 Students in Term 1 – as told by Winnie Spiers, Y7

#### Year 7 Farm Day

We started the day with a task to plan the walk to the farm. We all drew out the same route! Then we started the 40-minute walk to Campwell Farm.

When we got there, we sat in the Roundhouse and met Marley, the dog! Then we started the challenges and the first thing our group did was farm Olympics! We did welly-wanging, build a pen and lambs and ewes.

There was more to build a pen than meets the eye. First, we had to figure out how to build a sheep pen and then get into the pen wearing at least one item of fancy dress!

Then we had to tackle sheepherding where we had to usher the sheep through different obstacles and each one is worth a different number of points.

After lunch we had to build a den which had to have at least one special feature - ours was a gym! We even had weights and dumbbells! Water was poured on top of our den to see if we would stay dry in a rainstorm. We stayed mostly dry...

We were all sad to leave the farm because we had all really enjoyed ourselves and didn't want the fun to be over!

I really enjoyed my first school trip of Year 7!!!

You can read Winnie's full account of her day at Campwell Farm in Connect Term 2 at the end of term.

# **Christmas Shoebox Appeal**

6<sup>th</sup> Form students are launching their Christmas shoebox appeal!

Donations of unwrapped gifts can be left in student's tutor group, to be donated to the Salvation Army who will distribute them to the members of our community who need them most.

Here are some suggestions for age appropriate gift ideas:

- 0-3 years: dolls, teddy bears, cot mobiles, baby clothes, bath toys, puzzles
- **3-5years:** dolls and action figures, cars, lorries, colouring sets, pencils, crayons, books, puzzles
- **5-9 years:** educational games & toys, stationery (colouring sets, pencils, crayons, school sets), books, puzzles, wordsearch, crosswords
- 9-12 years: games and toys, stationery, books, t-shirts, hair accessories, gloves, scarves, hats
- **13-16 years:** books, make-up and toiletries (please try to ensure non-allergic ingredients if possible), gloves, scarves, hats, t-shirts, hair accessories and gift vouchers

**Please note:** We cannot take preloved items so please make sure your donations are new. The deadline for this appeal is Friday 13th of December.

Thank you for your support - Evie and Tom, Head Students

Timetab	Timetable of Y11 Mock Written Examinations in Sports Hall (11-22 November 2024)	inatio	ns in S	sports H	all (11-22 November 2024)
Mon, 11 Nov Week B				Early Lunch	Session 2 Exam
Line up under main quad canopy by 8:35	German Listening – 1h05m (Lecture Theatre) French Reading - 1h30m			12.30 – 1.00 Line up under main quad canopy by 1.00	Geography UK Paper 2 - 1h30m
Tue, 12 Nov				Early Lunch	Session 2 Exam
Line up under main quad canopy by 8:35	Maths Paper 1 (non-calculator) - 1h			12.30 – 1.00 Line up under main quad canopy by 1.00	Combined Science Biology - 1h15m Separate Science Biology - 1h45m
Wed, 13 Nov				Early Lunch	
Line up under main quad canopy by 8:35	RE Ethics – 1h30m			12.30 – 1.00 Line up under main quad canopy by 1.00	Business - 1h45m
Thu, 14 Nov	Session 1 Exam	Late Break	Lesson 3	Early Lunch	Session 2 Exam
Line up under main quad canopy by 8:35	History Paper 1 - 2h	11.05 - 11.30	Normal lesson	12.30 – 1.00 Line up under main quad canopy by 1.00	English Language – 1h45m
Fri, 15 Nov	Session 1 Exam	Late Break	Lesson 3	Early Lunch	Session 2 Exam
Line up under main quad canopy by 8:35	Computer Science paper 1 - 1h30m Design Technology - 2h Food - 1h45m Sociology - 1h45m Music - 1h45m (Lecture Theatre)	11.05 - 11.30	Normal lesson	12.30 – 1.00 Line up under main quad canopy by 1.00	French Listening – 1h05m (Lecture Theatre) German Reading - 1h30m
Mon, 18 Nov	Session 1 Exam	Late Break	Lesson 3	Early Lunch	Session 2 Exam
Line up under main quad canopy by 8:35	Maths Paper 2 (calculator) - 1h	11.05 - 11.30	Normal lesson	12.30 – 1.00 Line up under main quad canopy by 1.00	Combined Science Chemistry - 1h15m Separate Science Chemistry – 1h45m
Tue, 19 Nov	Session 1 Exam	Late Break	Lesson 3	Early Lunch	Session 2 Exam
Line up under main quad canopy by 8:35	English Literature - 1h	11.05 - 11.25	Normal lesson	12.30 – 1.00 Line up under main quad canopy by 1.00	Computer Science paper 2 - 1h30m Dance - 1h30m Drama - 1h45m PE - 1h15m
Wed, 20 Nov	Session 1 Exam	Late Break	Lesson 3	Early Lunch	Session 2 Exam
Line up under main quad canopy by 8:35	History Paper 2 - 1h	11.05 - 11.25	Normal lesson	12.30 – 1.00 Line up under main quad canopy by 1.00	Combined Science Physics - 1h15m Separate Science Physics- 1h45m
Thu, 21 Nov	Session 1 Exam	Late Break	Lesson 3	Early Lunch	Session 2 Exam
Line up under main quad canopy by 8:35	Maths Paper 3 (calculator) - 1h	11.05 - 11.25	Normal lesson	12.30 – 1.00 Line up under main quad canopy by 1.00	German Writing – 1h40m French Writing - 1h40m
Fri, 22 Nov	Session 1 Exam	Late Break	Lesson 3	Early Lunch	Session 2 Exam
Line up under main quad canopy by 8:35	<b>Geography</b> Global Paper 1 - 1h	11.05 - 11.25	Normal lesson	12.30 – 1.00 Line up under main quad canopy by 1.00	Catch-Up
Y11 Mock Timetab	Y11 Mock Timetable Winter 2024 (General)	-		-	T

**Governing Body** 

November 2024

Dear Parents / Carers,

#### **ELECTION OF PARENT GOVERNOR & NOMINATION OF ACADEMY TRUST APPOINTED GOVERNORS**

There are a number of opportunities for a parent and others to serve on the governing body of this school. We are very keen to encourage parents (or people with parental responsibility) of current students to nominate themselves to fill these places. Details of what you will need to do to be nominated are given below.

Parent governors are elected by parents and from parents and are vital to our governing body. They share equally with other governors the responsibility for carrying out the governing body's wide range of responsibilities. Governors do not run the school day to day, as their role is at the strategic or policy-making level in the school. You do not have to be an expert on education to be a school governor, your role would be as a typical parent bringing a parent's perspective to the running of the school. We value the experience that all governors bring to the role. There is one vacancy for an elected parent.

Academy Trust appointed governors are recommended by the Governing Body and approved by the Academy Trust Members. Parents can fill these positions but so can other interested persons. There are two vacancies for these positions.

If you have formal, financial management / accountancy skills, we would especially like to hear from you. Whilst we employ financial expertise It is the Academy Trust's desire to have a qualified person on the Board to give financial insight when required.

If you join our governing body, ideally you will serve for a 4-year term and as a parent governor you can continue to the end of the term of office even if your child/children leave the school. Being a governor does take up time. There are 4 full governing body meetings each year, and governors also serve on a committee which meets every other term, so 3 more. These meetings are usually from 5pm. You will need to set aside time to be able to be an effective governor: time to prepare for meetings, for visiting the school, undertaking training and updating.

If you wish to find out more about what being a governor at this school is like, please contact the Chair of Governors, Kieran Kilgallen who will be very willing to answer any questions. Further information and contact details are available via the school website: <u>Governors | St Laurence School (st-laurence.com)</u>

If you would like to take the opportunity to put yourself forward as a parent candidate, you may do so on an official form. Please read the information overleaf, and complete and return the attached form to School Reception (in an envelope marked for the attention of the Clerk to Governors) by **Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2024**. If it is necessary to hold an election, we will contact you to inform you of the arrangements.

If you would be interested in joining us as a non-parent governor please contact the Chair of Governors, as above. Yours sincerely,

Kieran Kilgallen, Chair of Governors

Tim Farrer, Headteacher

#### Who can be a parent governor?

All those who have parental responsibility and are over the age of 18 are eligible to stand for election, including parents who work at the school provided that they work for less than 500 hours per year when they are elected.

"Parent" is defined as including "any individual who has or has had parental responsibility for, or cares or has cared for, a child or young person under the age of 18". It includes a person who the child lives with and who looks after the child, irrespective of what their relationship is with the child. This must be someone involved in the full-time care of the child on a settled basis.

There are some circumstances that disqualify an individual from serving as a school governor, please read the list of disqualifications (second page of form PG/2).

#### How to nominate yourself

If you would like to put your name forward for a governor role, complete the nomination form and write a brief personal statement (150 words maximum) to support your nomination.

Please ask someone to support your nomination and indicate whether you would wish to be elected as a parent governor or nominated as an Academy Trust governor.

The statements of all candidates will be presented in a standard format and circulated to all parents.

- If there is one nomination for the parent governor vacancy, that candidate will be elected unopposed.
- If there are more, an election will take place.
- This election will be via an online system.

For the Academy Trust nominations, the Governing Body will contact nominees for further information.

NOMINATION FORM Election for a parent governor for St Laurence School Academy Trust AND Appointment by the Academy Trust Board to the Governing Body											
						Name:					
Address:											
Email:											
Children in Year(s) (if parent governor)											
Why I would like to be a parent governor:											
I have read the list of disqualifications (overleaf) and am willing and eligible to stand for election as a parent											
governor at St Laurence School Academy Trust											
OR											
I wish to be nominated as an Academy Trust governor											
(please delete as appropriate)											
Full name:	Signed:										
Date:											
Supporting person											
I support the nomination of the above as a parent											
governor / Academy Trust nominated governor											
Full name:											
Signed:											
Date:											

#### QUALIFICATIONS AND DISQUALIFICATIONS

Schedule 4 (regulation 17) of the Constitution Regulations covers the qualifications and disqualifications of governors. A governor must be aged 18 or over at the time of his or her election or appointment and cannot be a registered pupil at the school. A person cannot hold more than one governorship at the same school.

A person is disqualified from holding or continuing to hold office as a governor of a school if, in summary, that person:

- is the subject of a bankruptcy restrictions order; an interim bankruptcy restrictions order; debt relief
  restrictions order; an interim debt relief restrictions order; or their estate has been sequestrated and the
  sequestration has not been discharged, annulled or reduced;
- is subject to a disqualification order or disqualification undertaking under the Company Directors
  Disqualification Act 1986; a disqualification order under the Companies (Northern Ireland) Order 2002; a
  disqualification undertaking accepted under the Company Directors Disqualification (Northern Ireland) Order
  2002; or an order made under section 429(2)(b) of the Insolvency Act 1986 (failure to pay under county court
  administration order)
- has been removed from the office of trustee for a charity by an order made by the Charity Commission or Commissioners or High Court on grounds of any misconduct or mismanagement in the administration of the charity, or under section 34 of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 from being concerned in the management or control of any body
- is included in the list of people considered by the Secretary of State as unsuitable to work with children or young people
- is barred from any regulated activity relating to children
- is subject to a direction of the Secretary of State under section 142 of the Education Act 2002 or section 128 of the Education and Skills Act 2008
- is disqualified from working with children or from registering for child-minding or providing day care
- is disqualified from being an independent school proprietor, teacher or employee by the Secretary of State
- subject to certain exceptions for overseas offences that do not correlate with a UK offence, has been sentenced to three months or more in prison (without the option of a fine) in the five years ending with the date preceding the date of appointment/election as a governor or since becoming a governor
- subject to certain exceptions for overseas offences that do not correlate with a UK offence, has received a
  prison sentence of two and a half years or more in the 20 years ending with the date preceding the date of
  appointment/election as a governor
- subject to certain exceptions for overseas offences that do not correlate with a UK offence, has at any time received a prison sentence of five years or more
- has been convicted and fined for causing a nuisance or disturbance on school or educational premises during the five years ending with the date immediately preceding appointment/election or since appointment or election as a governor
- refuses a request by the clerk to make an application to the Disclosure And Barring Service for a criminal records certificate.
- has been removed as an elected governor from the governing body during their term of office; they are disqualified from serving or continuing to serve as a school governor for five years from the date of their removal – not just at the school they have been removed from, but any school\*.

\* From 1st May 2017 any person who was elected as a parent or staff governor and was removed during their term of office will be disqualified from becoming or continuing to serve as a governor for five years from the date of their removal.

# Anyone serving as a governor who is disqualified for one of these reasons must notify the clerk to the governing body.



# **Community News**



Local schools joined together for the annual wreath laying ceremony on Monday  ${\rm 11}^{\rm th}$  November



\*Please take note of the online live webinar sessions that <u>MUST</u> be attended to complete this full time 6 week course, and the ESFA's (Education Skills Funding Agency) eligibility criteria.



