

Parent / Carer Bulletin



Care • Inspire • Succeed

Week Commencing Monday 8th July 2024

Headteacher's Update

Dear Parents and Carers,




Another extremely busy week with our sixth form induction where we saw a record number of external students attend, alongside all our own year 11s. We also had our first year 6 induction day on Thursday and it was lovely to welcome them to St Laurence.

Next week we have Charlie and the Chocolate Factory and there are a small number of tickets available so if you are thinking of coming, be quick!

We also have Sports day next week although the weather does not look promising, so please keep an eye out for any rearrangements should they be necessary.

Mr Farrer

WEEK A	CALENDAR - TERM 6
MONDAY 8 th July	•
TUESDAY 9 th July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Y5 Open morning 9.00am – 9.45am • Y7 Careers workshop 1pm -3pm Lecture theatre • 'Charlie and the Choc' Rehearsal/Performance 3pm – 9pm
WEDNESDAY 10 th July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sports Day • Y12 Sports Day 10.05am – 11.05am
THURSDAY 11 th July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Y6 Induction Day 2 • Y10 Photography Walk 11.40am – 12.20pm • 'Charlie and the Choc' Rehearsal/Performance 3pm – 9pm
FRIDAY 12 th July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Y7 Boys Cricket Competition Trowbridge 8.35am-3pm • 'Charlie and the Choc' Rehearsal/Performance 11.30am – 3.00pm • 'Charlie and the Choc' Rehearsal/Performance 3pm – 9pm

House Points				
 Ashley	 Budbury	 Conigre	 Huntingdon	 Westfield
197930	203119	200893	203011	202360

To report a student absence please ring the Attendance Line by 8:30am on 01225 309501

From Mrs Barber – Assistant Headteacher – Online Safety

Snapchat Updated Safety Features

At the end of June Snapchat updated the app with further safety features, including updates to account blocking functionality and enhanced friending safeguards.

- Block new friend requests sent from bad actors who were already blocked by the user, but sent from a different account from the same device.
- More frequent reminders about which friends they share their location with on Snap Maps.
- Further pop-up warnings if users add a friend who doesn't share mutual friends or is not a part of their contacts.

Further details can be found here: [Snapchat introduces new safety features to limit bad actors from contacting users | TechCrunch](#)

Lost Property

Each term, we have a large amount of lost property left at Student Reception, which often goes unclaimed.

To help us to reunite lost property with their owners please ensure that **ALL** belongings have your child's name in them – if we can identify an owner the item will be placed in the Tutor Tray, collected each morning, and returned to students during their Tutorial time. ***Remember to also put names in any items bought throughout the year.***

At the end of each term unclaimed belongings are disposed of and can no longer be collected. Please remind students that they are only allowed to look for lost property after **3:00pm** each day. Phones and items of value are stored at the main Reception desk if they have been handed in.

The last day for collection will be 17th of July between 3-4pm

From: Mr Carter – Head of PE

A reminder that this coming **Wednesday 10th July** is our **sports day event** where students will be competing and supporting the efforts of their houses. Below you will find key arrangements for the day as well as advice.

- **Uniform for the day** - Whether your child is spectating or participating, they need to come to school in their PE kit.
- **Making the most of the day** - We really want to encourage support for your child's house. As a result, if they want to paint their face before attending school they can. However, we ask that this is done in an appropriate manner for a school setting and shows support for their house.
- With the weather being so unpredictable this summer so far, please can students attend school prepared. This will include suitable amounts of water, food, and sun protection (including hat).

From: Mrs Baldwin

Year 10 DofE: drop-in session and certificates

If your child is struggling to get their assessor reports completed for the physical/skill or volunteering sections, please encourage them to come to the drop-in session in the ILC Middle during tutor on Wednesday 10th. Certificates will be awarded in October. To make sure they can collect their certificate with peers, students need to get **all** their sections signed off. Please support your child with this where possible. If they don't have access to edofe, please email helbal@st-laurence.com and I will reset their password.

To report a student absence please ring the Attendance Line by 8:30am on 01225 309501

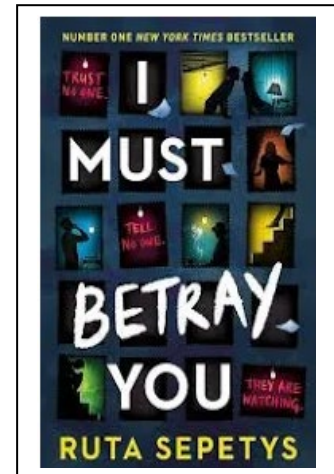
From: Mr Chadwick – Head of English

St Laurence Reads 2023-2024

Students have been reading *I Must Betray You* by Ruta Sepetys in Tutorial during academic year 2023-24, a story about the revolution in Romania in 1989, which many parents will likely remember.

We are delighted that Ruta, who is American-Lithuanian and lives in the Tennessee hills, has made a video especially for our students, answering some questions that they asked her about the events in the novel and her motivation for telling this story. All tutor groups will see the video in Tutorial before the end of term.

Ruta is one of the best-selling and best-known young adult authors in the world, and we are privileged that she has made time for this in her busy schedule. Her enthusiasm for her work, and for children becoming readers and writers is infectious.



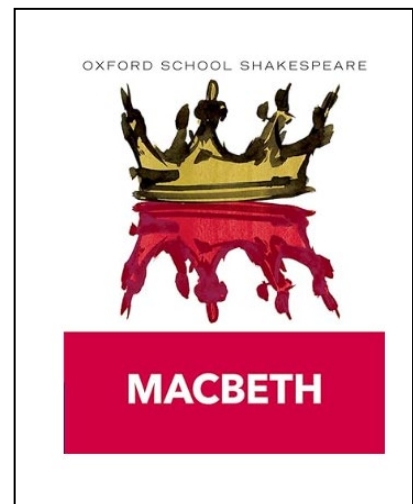
Current year 10 students' final set text for their GCSE English Literature course is *Macbeth* by William Shakespeare.

As usual, we are asking parents/carers to buy students their own copy of this set text, so that they can make it their own, with personal notes and annotations etc etc.

In lessons, teachers will usually work out of the Oxford Schools Shakespeare edition of *Macbeth*, so you might want to buy your child the same; but there are many editions of the play available, and all are generally fine. As with previous set texts we have studied, there are 'dyslexia-friendly' editions that you might like to look at; these usually have more white space for notes, and the font size is large.

You can buy the play online (new or second hand), or at Ex Libris in BoA, or at Waterstones in Trowbridge or Bath. You may also like to buy your child a York Notes GCSE revision guide for *Macbeth*.

SOME students who are in receipt of the Pupil Premium will have their copy of the play and a York Notes revision guide bought for them by the school. Teachers will tell eligible students about this arrangement.



We are asking students to bring their named individual copy of the play into school before the end of term 6, so that teachers can keep it safe over the summer holiday. We start studying this brilliant play in September.

From Mrs Nash – Head of Drama

Charlie and the Chocolate Factory

Tickets are selling well for our summer production of 'Charlie' - do book these through parent pay to save money on 'on the door' prices and to prevent disappointment - last year's 'Bugsy' was a sell out! Performances are at 7pm on Tuesday 9th, Thursday 11th and Friday 12th July.

Cast and crew are reminded of the whole day rehearsal on **Saturday 6th July from 10am until 4pm.** This will be a very important day where the technical elements start to come together and last minutes changes are made so we do expect everyone there. Students should remember to bring plenty of food/drink and to wear cool, comfortable clothes if the weather looks to be hot. All involved will also be off timetable for dress rehearsals on Monday 8th July and are performing to 300 primary school pupils at a Friday matinee!

Most of the costume have been provided but we are asking students to provide their own footwear if possible and some parts have a few specific requirements. Those involved should know about these so please do check that your child has what they need if they are involved in the show.

We are looking forward to seeing you there!



English Wider Reading at St Laurence

Year 7
Term 5 and 6
Heroes and Villains



Stormbreaker (and others in Alex Rider series) – Anthony Horowitz
 CHERUB: The Recruit – Robert Muchamore
 Robin Hood - Robert Muchamore
 Harry Potter series – JK Rowling
 Percy Jackson series – Rick Riordan
 Heroes of Olympus series – Rick Riordan
 The Haven – Simon Lelic
 Loki: A bad God's guide to being good – Louie Stowell
 Nevermoor – Jessica Townsend
 Artemis Fowl – Eoin Colfer
 Skullduggery Pleasant – Derek Landy
 H.I.V.E. - Mark Walden

More of a challenge

Frankenstein – Mary Shelley
 The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde – Robert Louis Stevenson



English Wider Reading at St Laurence

Year 8
Term 5 and 6
Myth and Magic

The Knife of Never Letting Go – Patrick Ness
 Beowulf – Michael Morpurgo
 Sir Gawain and the Green Knight - Michael Morpurgo
 Greyhound of a Girl – Roddy Doyle
 The Midnight Zoo – Sonya Hartnett
 Watership Down – Richard Adams
 Percy Jackson – Rick Riordan
 Harry Potter – JK Rowling
 Midwinterblood – Marcus Sedgwick
 The Night Circus – Erin Morgenstern
 Cinderella is Dead – Kalynn Bayron
 The Sin Eater's Daughter – Melinda Salisbury
 Deepflight – Frances Hardinge
 The Thief who Sang Storms – Sophie Anderson
 The House with Chicken Legs – Sophie Anderson
 The Shark Caller – Zillah Bethell
 Shadow and Bone – Leigh Bardugo
 Storm Keeper's Island – Catherine Doyle
 Who let the God's out? – Maz Evans
 Everdark – Abi Elphinstone
 A Pinch of Magic – Michelle Harrison
 The Gilded Ones – Namina Forma
 The Mab – Matt Brown and Eloise Williams
 Amari and the Night Brothers – B B Alston
 Lore – Alexandra Bracken
 The Way Past Winter – Karen Millwood Hargrave
 The Magical Detectives – Brian Keaney

More of a challenge

Northern Lights – Phillip Pullman
 The Subtle Knife – Phillip Pullman
 The Hobbit – JRR Tolkien
 Lord of the Rings – JRR Tolkien
 Neverwhere – Neil Gaiman
 Stardust – Neil Gaiman



English Wider Reading at St Laurence

Year 9
Term 5 and 6
New Worlds



The Hunger Games, Suzanne Collins
 Balzac and the Little Chinese Seamstress – Dai Sijie
 The Day of the Triffids – John Wyndham
 The Chrysalids – John Wyndham
 Brave New World – Aldous Huxley
 Midwinterblood – Marcus Sedgwick
 Uglies – Scott Westerfeld
 How I Live Now – Meg Rosof
 Bloodtide – Melvin Burgess
 Matched – Ally Condie
 The Blue Book of Nebo – Manon Steffan Ros
 The Outlaws Scarlett and Browne – Jonathan Stroud
 Green Rising – Lauren James
 Fake – Ele Fountain
 Shades of Grey – Jasper Fforde
 Bearmouth – Liz Hyder
 Railhead – Philip Reeve
 This Mortal Coil – Emily Suvada
 Scythe – Neal Shusterman

More of a challenge

1984, George Orwell
 Animal Farm, George Orwell
 Lord of the Flies – William Golding
 Neuromancer – William Gibson



Price & Buckland
 SCHOOLWEAR SINCE 1989

ORDER BEFORE THE 1ST AUGUST



Price & Buckland politely request that all school uniform orders are placed by the **1st August**.

This is to ensure delivery before the start of the new school year.

**ST LAURENCE SCHOOL
ASSOCIATION (PTA)**



DONATE 1 HOUR & MAKE AN IMPACT

We are aware that everyone works and having teenagers is a busy time. But a few hours of your time (regularly or adhoc) will make a huge difference. Scan the QR code and let us know how you can help.

WE NEED:

People's time
Skills
Ideas
Cash donations
Uniform donations

admin@st-laurence.com



The focus of the SLSA is to support well-being (mental, physical and financial) across the school community. To do this we need great people and great ideas to make the fundraising possible

At The National College, our **WakeUpWednesday** guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about

ONLINE TROLLING

The term "trolling" refers to sending hurtful or provocative comments – often done anonymously online – to provoke a reaction or cause emotional distress. Anonymity can embolden people into saying things they wouldn't dare say in person. Euro 2024 and other tournaments tend to put an emphasis on this, with the abuse of both players and fans often increasing during such events.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

ESCALATION

Many trolls begin with silly, banal comments before moving on to a broader pattern of offensive messages and posts. They can also turn their attention very quickly to a new target. If they grow bored with an existing one, which makes engaging with one fruitless at best – and potentially dangerous at worst.

HIDING BEHIND A SCREEN

Because trolls tend to use anonymous profiles, they enjoy a lack of accountability. This also means they'll often have multiple profiles, potentially switching between them regularly or posting across several of them at the same time, making a target feel as though there's no escape. After all, once you block one account, what's to stop them reappearing elsewhere?

24/7 CONTACT

The internet has given us the ability to remain in contact at any time, from almost anywhere in the world. A troll having the ability to reach you whenever they want can leave you feeling like their abuse is unavoidable. While they don't see you in real life, they can message you at any time, reach out to your peers online and even try to discover your personal information to scare you.

HATE SPEECH

Sadly, many trolls resort to spewing racial slurs, homophobic attacks and awful stereotypes, as these often stand the best chance of causing emotional harm. This can add a hefty degree of weight to their attacks, moving from what might charitably be described as "teasing" into a genuine hate crime. After Euro 2020, three England footballers were racially abused, resulting in several prison sentences.

IMPACT ON VICTIMS

It's not uncommon for the victims of trolls to shut down their accounts, disappear from public life and try to stay out of the crosshairs for a time – with some even leaving social media forever. This can have a severe impact on children and young people's connections to friends and the world at large, and may not even actually stop the troll. The victims' families, for example, may have online profiles that trolls can still access.

NORMALISATION OF TROLLING

It is, regrettably, inevitable that some people will go too far in their criticisms or comments, both online and in the real world. This can lead so many people seeing trolls and their abuse as part and parcel of social media – an inherent risk of interacting with others online. This doesn't mean, however, that it should be considered "normal" or even tolerated.

Advice for Parents & Educators

USE PARENTAL CONTROLS

While social media platforms (where most trolling tends to happen) aren't always helpful when responding to abusive behaviour, parents can set up screen time limits, so children only get to use certain apps at certain times. There's always the potential for trolling to occur anyway – such as friends showing screenshots to one another – but this would minimise the likelihood of children seeing it.

DON'T ENGAGE WITH ABUSE

A well-known adage on social media is "don't feed the trolls". Fundamentally, if a child identifies a potential troll online, it's best not to engage with that individual directly. Instead, consider setting up a log to gather evidence for reporting them later on, including screenshots and quotes where possible.

ENCOURAGE EMPATHY

While every professional athlete aspires to maintain high standards, it's important to separate the player from the person. A player's performance doesn't make them worthy of abuse, and that can often be forgotten by younger children who simply see the colour of the shirt without considering the person wearing it. For all the rivalries between teams, it's essential children understand that players are still human beings, with families and lives outside of sport.

BLOCK AND REPORT

While anonymous accounts make it difficult to block trolls permanently – or even for very long – it's still good practice to help children learn to control who can engage with them online. It's not worth "feeding the trolls", and it's more helpful to block them, report them, and try to move on. Blocking and reporting is an anonymous process, too, so there'll be no indication of who specifically blew the whistle.

Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is the Editor in Chief of GGRacon, and has been working in the gaming and tech industry for five years. A long-time fan of Arsenal, he's a parent who understands the importance of online safety. He's also a tech and fitness writer whose work has been published on sites including IGN, TechRadar and many more.



Source: See full reference list on guide page @ nationalcollege.com/guides/online-trolling

@wake_up_weds

/www.thenationalcollege

@wake.up.wednesday

@wake.up.weds

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 03.07.2024



St Laurence School

has joined the following SOCIAL MEDIA platforms to keep you informed of some of the great work your children are doing at school.

We will post news and photos from school trips, dance and drama performances, STEM events and lots more. Follow us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter and “like” and “share” our stories.

FOLLOW

LIKE 

& SHARE



facebook.com/StLaurenceSch



instagram.com/stlaurencesch/



twitter.com/stlaurencesch

www.st-laurence.com

Restaurant Menu for Week Commencing Monday 8th July 2024

WEEK 5

WEEK COMMENCING
15/04/2024 06/05/2024 27/05/2024 17/06/2024 08/07/2024

(V) - VEGETARIAN
(VE) - VEGAN

CLASSIC HOT & HEARTY

CLASSIC MAIN MEALS	VEGETARIAN MAIN MEALS
MONDAY Kung Pao Chicken, Wholegrain & White Egg Fried Rice	MONDAY Sweet & Sour Vegetables with Wholegrain & White Egg Fried Rice (V)
TUESDAY Beef & Tomato Ragout with Wholegrain Pasta & House Salad	TUESDAY Plant Based Ragout with Wholegrain Pasta & House Salad (VE)
WEDNESDAY Roast Shoulder of Pork, Crisp Roasties, Seasonal Vegetables & House Gravy	WEDNESDAY Crunchy Topped Macaroni Cheese with House Salad or Seasonal Vegetables (V)
THURSDAY Chicken Bhuna with Pilau Rice & Homemade Raita	THURSDAY Paneer & Chickpea Korma with Pilau Rice & Homemade Raita (V)
FRIDAY Chip Shop "Fryday" Fish, Pizza or Fishcake & Chips with Peas and Tartare Sauce	FRIDAY Jamaican Squash Pasty with Sweet Chilli Sauce and Chunky Chips (V)

MONDAY
Chinese Style Vegan Noodles (VE)

TUESDAY
Chipotle Chicken Chimichanga

WEDNESDAY
Loaded Mediterranean Street Cart Wedges

THURSDAY
Thai Fried Rice

FRIDAY
Manager's Street Vibes Special

NATURally

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Fork Friendly Falafel Kebab (V)	Smoked Tofu & Caponata Burger (V)	Seeded Vegan Sausage Roll (VE)	Onion Bhaji Skewer with Bombay Potatoes (VE)	Manager's Special

TRATTORIA

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Tomato & Basil Pasta	Creamy Pesto Pasta	Mozzarella & Tomato or Pepperoni Cheese & Tomato Pizza	Pasta in Cheese Sauce	Mozzarella & Tomato or BBQ Chicken, Cheese & Tomato Pizza

DESSERTS

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Pineapple Upside Down Cake	Warm Blueberry Sponge	Dropped Pancake Bar	Apple & Mixed Berry Crumble with Vanilla Sauce	Manager's Special

Fruit & Yoghurt Pots Available Daily

HOMEMADE SOUP & FRESHLY BAKED BREAD Available Daily

JACKET POTATOES Topped with a Choice of: Cheese, Tuna or Beans Available Daily

Our Vegetarian and Vegan recipes are approved by the Vegetarian Society.

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