Parent / Carer Bulletin

Care • Inspire • Succeed

Week Commencing Monday 25th November 2024

Headteacher's Update

Dear Parents and Carers

We have certainly seen a turn in the weather with sub-zero temperatures, frosted cars and warm coats. If your child arrives at school early and wants to sit somewhere warm, we do have breakfast club in the restaurant and the ILC is open too.

If you attended the tutor evening last week, I hope you found it useful but please do pass back any information or questions if you have them. We also had the Year 13 subject evening this week and again, I hope you were able to attend and that it has helped focus the students in what is actually their last six months of school.

Thank you, Mr Farrer

WEEK B	CALENDAR - TERM 2
Monday 25 th November	Y11 Mock Practical Exams Begin
	Y11 Music Mock Exam
Tuesday 26 th November	Y7 Reading Challenge Meeting
	Y11 Drama Mock Exam
Wednesday 27 th November	• 11B Graphics Exam
	Y11 Food Mock Exam
Thursday 28 th November	• 11D Graphics Exam
	Y12 Glass Workshop
	 Y12/13 English Trip 'A Streetcar named Desire'
Friday 29 th November	Y11 Food Mock Exam
	Y11 PE Practice Moderation
	Y11 Mock Practical Exams End

WEEK A	
Monday 2 nd December	Y7 Carol Service Rehearsal & Performance
	Y11 French Speaking Mock Exam
Tuesday 3 rd December	Nasal Flu Immunisations
	Y11 French Speaking Mock Exam
	Y11 Football Practical Moderation
Wednesday 4 th December	Y7 Boys Rugby Waterfall Tournament
	U18 Boys County Cup
Thursday 5 th December	Y11 German Mock Speaking Exam
	Y13 Mock Interviews
	Y9 Glass Workshops
Friday 6 th December	Y11 Photography Exam

In this week's bulletin:

- Launch of Winter FUEL Programme and Hub Help
- Y7 Cognitive Abilities Tests (CAT)
- Invitation to St Laurence School Carol Service
- Short Story Competition
- A Letter from Wiltshire Council
- Sports News Results and Fixtures
- Community News Free courses for parents and carers

.... And lots more!

From: Mr Hainsworth - Assistant Headteacher

Food Parcels for Christmas from The Hub, Bradford on Avon

The Hub have asked us to publicise that they are again sorting food parcels for families who may need them for the Christmas period.

If you or your family need support with food over the Christmas period, please complete this short survey to request a parcel. Requests will need to be made **by Monday 2nd December** to allow The Hub time to create them and distribute them for the Christmas holiday.

If you would prefer to remain anonymous, we understand that but would encourage you to speak directly with The Hub about your food parcel. They can be contacted via the details on their website here: <u>Contact — Bradford on Avon Hub</u>

The survey should take no longer than 3 or 4 minutes. https://forms.office.com/e/w3qf6cxmBj

Wiltshire Council Winter FUEL Programme

Bookings are now open for the Winter FUEL programme that has run successfully in the past. Further details about this programme can be found in the links below. If you / your child would benefit from this support, please follow the links to find out more. <u>FUEL Programme - Wiltshire Council</u>

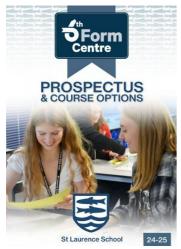
Activities will run on 30th, 31st December and 2nd, 3rd January in a range of locations across the county. The programme is mostly open to children who are eligible for benefit related Free School Meals as well as Children in Care, Refugees, Young Carers. Bookings can be made by visiting this page via the Wiltshire Citizen ID system. Bookings will remain open until **15th December**. FUEL Programme applications



From: Mr Blowers – Director of 6th Form

Year 11 Applications for St Laurence 6th Form

Dear Parents/Carers and Students,



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

Friday 29th November

Applications are made via the electronic form here: <u>St Laurence School</u> <u>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>
 Students should opt for what they enjoy and think they can attain well in

4. 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 6th Form which was the **"Strongest attaining State 6th Form in Wiltshire"** again this year.

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

Mr Blowers & 6th Form Team

From: Mrs Baldwin – Outdoor Education Coordinator

Bronze DofE

Students who have signed up to do their Bronze Award will be asked to register for eDofE during tutorial time as follows:

Monday - Westfield Wednesday - Ashley and Conigre Thursday - Budbury Friday - Huntingdon

Please encourage your child to attend in order to be registered on eDofE. 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)

Y7 Cognitive Abilities Tests (CAT)

Just a reminder that Y7 will be sitting their Cognitive Abilities Tests (CATs) on allocated days w/b 25th November (Week B) and w/b 2nd December (Week A).

The Year 7 students will be sitting three CATs instead of their timetabled lessons as shown in the plan below.

The tests will take place in computer rooms. The timetabled class teacher and an invigilator will be setting up and invigilating the tests in exam conditions. Each test has sample questions to begin, to ensure the students understand the format and this allows for any questions.

7LG1	Date	Ρ	Teacher	Subject	Rm
Test 1	Tue, 26/11	P2	Ms Davies	Literacy Extra	ILC Lower
Test 2	Thu, 28/11	P1	Miss Bryer	PSHE	T16 to T13
Test 3	Mon, 2/12	P3	Mr Peters	Info Technology	T14

7LG2	Date	Ρ	Teacher	Subject	Rm
Test 1	Thu, 28/11	P3	Miss Rose	PSHE	T15 to T13
Test 2	Fri, 29/11	P3	Ms Stradling	Literacy Extra	ILC Lower
Test 3	Tue, 3/12	P1	Mr Peters	Info Technology	T14

7LG3	Date	Р	Teacher	Subject	Rm
Test 1	Thu, 28/11	P5	Mr Peters	Info Technology	T14
Test 2	Fri, 29/11	P1	Mrs Rhodes	PSHE	T15 to F22
Test 3	Mon, 2 Dec	P4	Mrs Curtis	Literacy Extra	ILC Lower

7LG4	Date	Ρ	Teacher	Subject	Rm
Test 1	Fri, 29/11	P5	Mrs White	Literacy Extra	ILC Lower
Test 2	Thu, 5/12	P1	Dr Barclay	Info Technology	T13
Test 3	Fri, 6/12	P3	Miss Rose	PSHE	S3 to T13

7LG5	Date	Р	Teacher	Subject	Rm
Test 1	Mon, 25/11	P1	Miss Bryer	PSHE	T16 to T14
Test 2	Wed, 27/11	P3	Dr Barclay	Info Technology	T13
Test 3	Wed, 4/12	P3	Ms James	Literacy Extra	ILC Lower

7LG6	Date	Р	Teacher	Subject	Rm
Test 1	Mon, 2/12	P2	Ms Davies	Literacy Extra	ILC Lower
Test 2	Tue, 3/12	P4	Mr Peters	Info Technology	T14
Test 3	Wed, 4/12	P1	Mrs Rhodes	PSHE	T15 to T13

7LG7	Date	Р	Teacher	Subject	Rm
Test 1	Mon, 25/11	P4	Mr Allen	PSHE	A1 to T14
Test 2	Wed, 27/11	P1	Mr Peters	Info Technology	T14
Test 3	Thu, 28/11	P2	Mr Pinfield	Literacy Extra	ILC Lower

7LG8	Date	Р	Teacher	Subject	Rm
Test 1	Mon, 25/11	P2	Mr Abrahams	PSHE	A3 to T14
Test 2	Wed, 27/11	P5	Mr Peters	Info Technology	ILC Lower
Test 3	Thu, 5/12	P5	Mr Westley	Literacy Extra	ILC Lower

There is no revision or preparation for these tests. CATs are not testing student's knowledge and understanding, they are designed to assess a student's ability through three different areas: verbal (thinking with words); quantitative (thinking with numbers) and non-verbal (thinking with shapes and space). CATs provide information on a student's potential, what they could achieve and how they learn best.

St Laurence School Carol Service



Holy Trinity Church, Bradford-on-Avon Monday 2nd December 2024 7:00pm

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: Ms James – English Teacher

SHORT STORY COMPETITION 2024

Our short story competition this term not only offers opportunities for success in the school, but best entries will also be entered into national competitions, some with cash prizes.

Students can enter stories in any or all of three different categories:

- 1) A short story with the theme or title of **Wonderful Water**, maximum number of words, 550.
- 2) A short story (or possibly a letter) with the theme or title **Dreams of London**, maximum number of words, 500
- 3) A short story ('mini saga') with the theme or title of **<u>Fight or Flight</u>**, maximum number of words, 100.

There will be prizes for student in different age groups.

All entries must be written on a Word document with student's name, tutor group and date of birth at the top and emailed to Ms James (<u>madjam@st-laurence.com</u>) by Friday, 13th December.

Students can contact Ms James for more details.



Lost Property

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

At the end of each term, unnamed and unclaimed belongings are disposed of and can no longer be collected. Lost property can be collected between 3:00pm – 4:00pm each day

This term the deadline for collection from Student Reception is: Monday 16th December between 3:00pm – 4:00pm only

Lost property remaining unclaimed by this date will be donated to the St Laurence School Association or a local charity.

From: PE Team

West Wiltshire Cross Country Championships - Individual results

The following students finished in the top 10 of the West Wiltshire Cross Country Championships and will now go on to complete in the Wiltshire County Championships.

Year 7 boys

Toby R (West Wiltshire boys champion) Freddie M (7th)

Year 7 girls

Florence J (10th)

Year 8 and 9 boys

Ben R (3rd) Gilbert J (5th)

Year 8 and 9 girls

Amelia M (2nd) Leah B-F (5th) Tess B (8th)

Year 10 and 11 boys

Marc G (2nd) Noah R (10th)

Year 10 and 11 girls

Lilou G (6th) Freya N (7th)

Sporting Results and Upcoming Fixtures

<u>Results</u>

Year 10 Netball:

St Augustine's 16 - 24 St Laurence

Football:

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

Congratulations to all students involved.

Upcoming Fixtures

Tuesday 26th November

U14 Girls 8-a-side Football Tournament at JOG School (A) Return around 5:30pm

Wednesday 27th November

Year 9a Netball vs Clarendon (A) Return to St Laurence around 5:15pm Year 10a Netball vs Clarendon (A) Return to St Laurence around 5:15pm Year 10b Netball vs Clarendon (A) Return to St Laurence around 5:15pm Year 11 a Netball vs Clarendon (A) Return to St Laurence around 5:15pm

Thursday 28th November

U14 Girls Football County Cup vs Wellington Academy (A) Return around 5:00pm



PE Clubs – Term 2

Day	Club	Location	Staff Member
Monday	Trampolining (Invite only)	Sports Hall	Mrs Voutt
Tuesday	SLS Leadership Academy	Gym	Mr Carter
	Girls Football	Field	Mr Burrows, Mr Restorick, Mr Povoas, Mr Gregory, Mr Abrahams
	U14 Boys Football (Invite Only)	Field	Mr Woodburn
	Hockey	Astro	Mrs Voutt
Wednesday	KS4 Badminton (Week A Only)	Sports Hall	Mr Woodburn
Thursday	Netball (All Years)	Astro/Courts	Mr Carter, Miss Rose, Miss Bryer, Mr Westley, Mr Povoas
	KS3 Rugby	Field	Mr Oaten, Mr Burrows, Mr Restorick Mr Quantrill
	Table Tennis (All Years)	Gym	
Friday	KS3 Badminton	Sports Hall	Mr Oaten

Sent on behalf of Wiltshire Council

Dear Parent/Carer,

Wiltshire Council is consulting on the proposed admissions criteria and admission arrangements for its Community & Voluntary Controlled Schools for the 2026/27 academic year. It is also consulting on the proposed schemes for co-ordination of admissions to all maintained schools and academies for the 2026/27 academic year.

The consultation began on Friday 15 November 2024 and it ends on Friday 10 January 2025. The consultation documents can be accessed by clicking on the link below.

www.wiltshire.gov.uk/schools-learning-admissions-consultation

Parents/carers are encouraged to email any comments to the Local Authority so that any returns give an accurate reflection of the views of all school communities.

To respond to this consultation please send your comments by email to admissions@wiltshire.gov.uk or you can write to: School Admissions Team Wiltshire Council Bythesea Road Trowbridge Wiltshire BA14 8JN **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 2nd 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,

I holgo

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 Acad AND Appointment by the Academy Trust Board to the Governin	
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 wil	ling 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.

Online Safety



Evidence shows that children's spending habits begin to form as early as seven years old. With primary schools in England not required to teach financial literacy, many young people are reaching adulthood without knowing the basics of budgeting. This guide explains how to teach young people about money in a practical way, giving them the understanding to become savvy spenders and savers.

PROVIDE POCKET

Geving children money – even a mate amount can help them learn to make their own budgeting decisions about how to spend or save it. Research shows that youngsters who receive pocket money are more likely to become adults with strong financial skills and significantly less debt.

USE A PREPAID CARD

Being oblis to poy by card is essential these days, with some retailers not accepting cash since the pandemic, Prepoid debit cards are available for children from the age of six, allowing them to get used to spending like they will as adults with no risk of dipping into an overdraft. Learning about money is like learning to swim - you need to get in the pool and have a got

3 PRACTISE BORROWING

Atthough official borrowing is only available to over 18s, this need to understand how data and interest works before they become adults and are exposed to credit cards or buy new, pay later's shemes. For a late means of teaching them about this, parents could offer them estra pocket money but explain that it needs to be paid back by a cartain date, plus on estra events of neuros as interest.

ENCOURAGE OPEN

Chatting about money and how much things coat will beach chaltere that finance is a part of everyday IIIe and not some "scory adult thing". Parents can involve them in budgeting for the weekly shop, for example, working together to get everything on the list while keeping the total below a certain number, letting young ones make spending docisions in a tarfe space can build up their confidence regarding money.

5 DISCUSS THE PRESSURE TO SPEND

Whether it's YouTube adds or a hint of ency at a friend's recent purchase, apending triggers are everywhere. Encourage children to notice how clever shop design (like placing sweets at the checkout) and overs such as 2 for 5 deals while us to spend more. Challenge them to resist impulse buys by getting them to sleep on it before deciding to spend.

Meet Our Expert

Dottenry is a prepaid debit card and financial education app with a mission to make every young person smart with manoy. Co-lounder and CEO Louise Hill is a passionate compaigner for better financial fileracy among school children and strongly believes that money management is a crucial life skill.

ource: See full reference list on guide page at: https://nationaicollege.com/gr

6 TELLING 'NEED' FROM 'WANT'

Important life skill: the difference between Ille's essentiate and "nice to haves" is key to budgeting if children pester you for treats while shopping. It is the perfect time to say "That's a want. We re gatting our needs first." You could show how you budget for first, was child show how you budget for first, electricity and so on before buying fun things.

7 ENCOURAGE SAVING

Getting children saving early can set them up with a useful habit for their aduit life. Suggest that they set something aide every time they receive money and help them set a target for how much to put away, as they feel methodiate continue. For example, encouraging them to save for a triand's birthday gift can get children much more invested in what they bay.

8 SPARK INTEREST

Motivate children by teiling them about interest; you can discribe it as a reward for seving money. Esptain how everything they put away will grow over time. As an exciting example, esptain that 1g doubled every day tar a month would amount to approximately (20 million. Some prepaid cards for young people also after interest; parents and carers could also add a little to supplement what their child saves and show how it works.

9 PAYING FOR CHORES

This is a complex debate with no right or wrong answer, it depends on what works for each individual family. However, it can be one of the best ways to teach children that maney nods to be earned and helps to cheate more mindful spenders. If parents aren't lien on paying for everyday chores, they could ask the children to suggest their awn ideas for earning of little extra-

10 PROTECT CHILDREN FROM SCAMS

Scams are a tert fyingly easy way to lote maney and children are generally mare likely to be taken in due to a lock of experience with these financial criminals. As a minimum, make sure they're aware of the most common scars they cauld be exposed to - by test, email and phone, for instance, Young papele should roll or trusted adult about any unexpected message or call and never give out their personal information.

> The National College

ohenry

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

Community News

Free Talk for parents of KS3 students

Dr Susie Davies, founder of PAPAYA, and author of the book The Healthy Selfie, is delivering a free workshop for parents helping their teens navigating growing up in the digital age.

Susie has given hundreds of free talks to parents in every region across Britain. She is a mother to teens, a GP and a passionate advocate for teen mental health.

This interactive webinar is suitable for young people, parents and educators and will explore the impact of screen time on mental health, advice for achieving a healthy balance and ways to improve teen self-esteem.

Weds 27th November 8:00pm – 9:30pm, Microsoft Virtual Events Powered by Teams





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