



10<sup>th</sup> January 2022

## Headteacher's Update

Dear All

Happy New Year!

I hope you and your family had a restful Christmas and that you were not too affected by the impact of the new variant. You will be aware of the new guidance that came out just before our return and the confirmation that at this stage there are no new measures being put in place. All this has been communicated to you via email earlier in the week. Please take a moment to review the new guidance on self-isolation and also, may I appeal to you that unless your child is exempt, please can you ensure they have a mask for school. The school, to date, have not received any extra masks despite ordering more well before Christmas and despite it being stated in the press that all schools had been sent more. Since September, we have had to give out 7000 spare masks.

The school are also not yet in receipt of extra test kits but as soon as they are received, we will distribute these so you have them at home.

Whilst we are implementing the new guidance, we are also attempting to make school life as 'normal as possible' for students so you will see that some events are still taking place or being planned. These are potentially subject to change but I would rather have these in place than not at all.

We monitor infection rates of students and staff on a daily basis so we are able to make informed decisions as swiftly as possible. If your child does test positive, please let us know as soon as you can.

There are some key events taking place soon, Year 13 mocks, Year 11 subject evening and Year 9 Options. Information has already been shared about these or is about to come out but if you do have any questions, please make sure you ask.

	<b>Week B</b>
10/01	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Y11 Interviews for Sixth Form – 8:35 – 3:00 (15-minute slots)</li><li>• Y13 Study Leave starts</li><li>• Y13 Internal Written Exams start</li></ul>
11/01	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Y11 Interviews for Sixth Form – 8:35 – 3:00 (15-minute slots)</li><li>• DofE Expedition Parents Evening (online): 6:30pm – 7:30pm</li></ul>
12/01	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Y11 Interviews for Sixth Form – 8:35 – 3:00 (15-minute slots)</li></ul>
13/01	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Y11 Interviews for Sixth Form – 8:35 – 3:00 (15-minute slots)</li><li>• Y11 Subject Evening: 4:30pm – 7:30pm</li></ul>
14/01	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Y11 Interviews for Sixth Form – 8:35 – 3:00 (15-minute slots)</li><li>• Y13 Study Leave ends</li><li>• Y13 Internal Written Exams ends</li></ul>

### **Collective Worship – Term 3**

#### **Theme: Innovation and Initiative**

We hope more people become eager to create change for a better future.

May we have the power to take more initiative in our daily lives, we hope that St Laurence provides us with opportunities to do so.

Help us in leading the way for others to follow and we hope that the Community looks to our students as an example as a life well-lived.

Let us become a more courageous, empowered society. Help us use our initiative to act meaningfully.

We hope to use our innovation to aid our initiative.

May we create a new society with the youth guiding us to a more inclusive, supporting future.

### **From Mr Blowers – Director of Sixth Form**

#### **Information for Parents**

**Year 11 Interviews for St Laurence Sixth Form Applicants will take place Monday 10<sup>th</sup> – Friday 14<sup>th</sup> January with Mr Blowers and Mrs Chatfield**

Students who have applied to St Laurence Sixth Form will have the opportunity to discuss A levels and life as a student in Sixth Form during their appointment.

### **From Mrs Howsam: Teacher of Girl's PE/Outdoor Education Coordinator**

#### **Year 10 Bronze Duke of Edinburgh's Award**

- **Tuesday 11th January from 6.30pm to 7.30pm:**

I will hold a remote Parents' Information Meeting about the expedition section of the Duke of Edinburgh's Bronze Award. This meeting will take place using MS Teams. You need access to your son/daughter's Teams account and click on the Year 10 tab in order to gain access to this meeting. A calendar invitation will also be sent via student's school email addresses

- **Monday 17<sup>th</sup> January from 3.15pm to 5.15pm:**

Wild Country Consultants will be coming into school to brief Year 10 students who are participating in the DofE Bronze Award about the expedition. All students participating in the Award are expected to attend this briefing.

Further information about these two dates will follow shortly.

### **From Mrs Nash- Head of Drama**

Letters have been sent home regarding the junior production of 'Matilda'.

If you haven't yet done so, please return the reply slip at the bottom of the letter to Mrs Nash.

Rehearsals begin after school this Friday 7th January.



## **Working at St Laurence School**

St Laurence School currently has the following vacancies. Please click here for more Information: [Staff Vacancies | St Laurence School \(st-laurence.com\)](https://st-laurence.com/Staff-Vacancies)

If you would like to visit us informally prior to making an application, you are very welcome to contact Sally Hackett: [salhac@st-laurence.com](mailto:salhac@st-laurence.com) to arrange a suitable time.

<b>EXTERNAL VACANCIES</b>	<b>Closing Date</b>	<b>Interview Date</b>
<b>Family Support Advisor</b> 15 hours per week (flexible), 39 weeks pa. To start in February (or ASAP after appointment)	12pm on Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> January 2022	TBC
<b>Cover / Supply Teachers</b> Flexible hours (between 13-19.5 hours per week over 2-3 days, preferable Weds – Fri). Permanent	Ongoing	TBC
<b>Site Supervisor</b> Full time (37 hours per week, 52 weeks pa). Alternate weekly shift pattern and 6.5 hours over alternate weekends (paid as overtime), Permanent. To start ASAP or by 31 <sup>st</sup> December 2021	Ongoing	TBC
<b>Exam Invigilators</b> Casual contracts, Hours and days will vary according to need, but availability between 08.00am/08.30am-3.30pm up to 5 days per week in May and June is desirable	Ongoing	TBC

## **On behalf of Wiltshire Council: School Admissions Consultation**

Wiltshire Council is consulting on the proposed admissions criteria and admission arrangements for its Community & Voluntary Controlled Schools for the 2023/24 academic year. It is also consulting on the proposed schemes for co-ordination of admissions to all maintained schools and academies for the 2023/24 academic year.

**The consultation began on Friday 3 December 2021 and it ends on Friday 21 January 2022.**

The consultation documents can be accessed by clicking on the link below:

[www.wiltshire.gov.uk/schools-learning-admissions-consultation](http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/schools-learning-admissions-consultation)

Parents 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](mailto:admissions@wiltshire.gov.uk) or you can write to:

School Admissions Team  
Wiltshire Council  
Bythesea Road  
Trowbridge  
Wiltshire  
BA14 8JN

**The following email was sent out on Thursday with this content:**

**We have received an email from the School Age Immunisation Team and they have asked for us to send you the following information:**

You will be aware that your child aged 12-15 are now eligible to receive two doses of the Covid-19 vaccination. If your child needs a first dose you can still book an appointment through the national booking service. Second dose appointments are also now available and this appointment needs to be 12 weeks after the first vaccine or 12 weeks after a positive Covid-19 test. The school aged immunisation service will be attending most schools between February and April to vaccinate eligible children, where we have a positive consent and will be offering first and second doses. However, in the meantime if your child is due a first dose or is already eligible and you would like to access their 2nd dose vaccine via your local vaccine centres, they currently have plenty of capacity outside of school hours, this can be booked via the National Booking System now by following this link <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/coronavirus-vaccination/book-coronavirus-vaccination/> or by calling 119, alternatively all centres are offering a walk in service when their centres are open, including weekends.

The School Aged Immunisation Programme will also be continuing to offer Immunisations for HPV, DTP, MenACWY and Flu alongside providing Covid-19 vaccinations. The programme is changing to meet requests from NHS England and to meet local need. We will be in touch with details of sessions at your child's school throughout the academic year.

Best wishes

School Age Immunisation Team, HCRGcaregroup

**t:** 0300 247 0082 (Monday – Friday, 9am - 4.30pm); **e:** [vcl.immunisations@nhs.net](mailto:vcl.immunisations@nhs.net)

**w:** [www.virgincare.co.uk](http://www.virgincare.co.uk)