

Parent / Carer Bulletin



Care • Inspire • Succeed

Week Commencing 18th July 2022

Headteacher's Update

Dear All

A reminder about the heat this week and the need for sun cream, water, sensible behaviour in the sun and appropriate clothing.

I will be writing to you more fully next week with some thank you's, some information for September and some key items of information.

Mr Farrer
Headteacher

Collective Worship: Term 6 Theme - Sustainability

God, please help us,
Whether we have
Faith or no faith, to...

Gain the wisdom to care for the earth.
Help us to act now for the good of future generations.
Help us to become instruments of a new sustainable way of living.
May we see sustainability as a realistic goal within our community.
We hope that all the acts of kindness continue into the future.
Let us create real and long-lasting change for all our community.

In this week's Bulletin

- Bradford on Avon Foodbank holiday message
- **Read about the Summer Festival of Music and Drama**
- Did you go to Fitzmaurice Primary School – say “goodbye” to a retiring member of staff
- Keep your children safe on Snapchat and Summer Safety Messages

And lots more.....

Reporting a Student Absence: 01225 309501 or Email: attendance@st-laurence.com

WEEK a	CALENDAR
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monday 18th July 	<ul style="list-style-type: none">
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tuesday 19th July 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Y7 Clegg Associates Trip; Trowbridge – 1:00pm – 3:00pm (TEL/JMD/CGN)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wednesday 20th July 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Y7 – Y10 Chance to Dance Rehearsal/Showcase – 9:05am – 9:30pm Y9 Reports Issued
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Thursday 21st July 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Term 6 Ends – 1:20pm
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Friday 22nd July 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SCHOOL CLOSED TO STUDENTS



The Bradford on Avon Foodbank, a local charity affiliated to [Trussell Trust](#), has asked us to remind our parents and carers of their service to support families who may be in need of help during the summer holidays.

To access the service, please visit their website [Get Help | Bradford on Avon Foodbank](#) where you will find all the information needed to request three day's supply of store cupboard provisions.

On a temporary basis only, the foodbank is waiving the usual referral processes and you only need to let them know that you have been referred by St Laurence School.

Deliveries will be made by volunteers at The Hub from Friday 15th July.



Calling on Ex Fitzmaurice Primary School students/families –
A secret surprise!

Mrs Keating (TA to Year 6 students) is retiring after **30 years** this year and Fitzmaurice school are organising a memory book for her. Miss Williams (Year 6 teacher) is asking for memories/messages/good wishes from ex pupils to add to the book.

If students would like to do this, either drop a note in to the school F.A.O. Miss Williams or email the office directly on FPSoffice@PalladianAcademyTrust.com by Tuesday 19th July. Parents/Carers are welcome to add messages too.

Please make this farewell as special as you can for Mrs Keating (remember....it's a surprise!).
 Thank you
 Mrs Rhodes

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From: Mrs Barber – Assistant Headteacher/Online Safety Lead

Snapchat - Meet Up (New Feature)

When Snap Maps became a new feature a few years ago there was widespread outrage, particularly that it was turned on by default and users were not notified of this. Snapchat has now added another layer onto this feature called Meet Up which pairs with Apple Maps or Google Maps to give exact directions to a person, as long as they are Snapchat Friends.

For adults, even older teens, I can see that some would find this a very useful feature. However, I find this utterly frightening when it comes to children. Please check your children's snapchat privacy settings using the guide below, including Ghost Mode.

Snapchat



Snapchat is a social media platform used to share photos, messages and short videos. Users can configure how long their friends can see the images and videos they share. Content can be customised with filters, text and stickers. If the content is sent directly, it will disappear after it is viewed. Alternatively, if a user uploads content to their Story it will remain visible for 24 hours.

Stay safe on Snapchat using the instructions on **Privacy, Blocking & Reporting** below.

Privacy

Activate Ghost Mode on your Snapchat account:

- Open the app and tap on  in the bottom navigation bar.
- Tap on  in the top right corner.
- Swipe right on Ghost Mode. This is Ghost Mode now activated.

Block

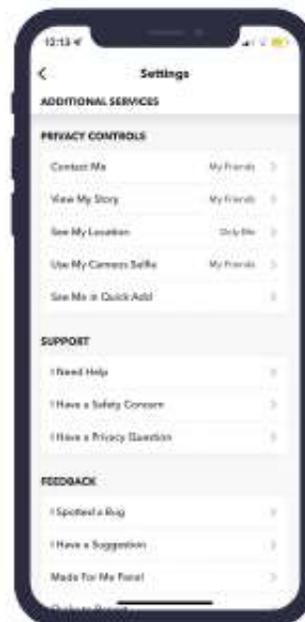
Block a user using these simple instructions:

- Swipe left once you open the app.
- Select the contact you want to block and the tap **...**
- Tap Manage Friendship and then Block.

Report

Report a user using these simple instructions:

- Swipe left once you open the app.
- Select on the contact you want to report and then tap **...**
- Tap Manage Friendship and then Report.



From: Mrs Howsam – Outdoor Education Coordinator

Finishing off the DofE Bronze Award - Year 10 students

Now that the expeditions have been completed, it is time for students in Year 10 to chase up the assessors reports for their skills, volunteering and physical sections so that they gain their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh's Award.

There are two main ways to get assessors reports:

1. To ask their assessor to fill in the report card (that was sent to their home address when they enrolled for the award), then they need to take a photo of this and upload it onto their eDofE account.
2. To give their assessor their 6-digit participant ID number (found when they log in to their eDofE account) and also the link to the assessors portal website: [Assessor's Report - The Duke of Edinburgh's Award \(dofe.org\)](https://www.dofe.org/assessor-report) . Their assessor can then fill in the online form which will upload automatically onto their eDofE account.

Certificates will be awarded next academic year in Term 1.

Parental encouragement to support students when finishing off the award and obtaining assessors reports will be greatly appreciated!

Volunteering Opportunity

Shine Bright Support, a local charity that supports the mental health of children diagnosed with cancer, and their families (Ashley House's House Charity) is looking for volunteers for the Nose to Trail family fun race at Hartley Farm in Winsley on **Sunday 24th July**.

Volunteers need to make themselves available at Hartley Farm from 8.30am until approximately 2pm. Volunteers can expect to take on different roles from supervision of the bouncy castle, serving food and drink and marshalling the route. In the past, volunteering has led to a part time job at the farm.

Volunteers will be given a Hartley Farm breakfast bap and a hot drink, as well as free merchandise from Shine Bright Support to say thank you.

Volunteers are invited to wear yellow on the day to 'SHINE BRIGHT' but this is not essential!

Volunteering will not only give students a warm and fuzzy feeling inside, but students will be representing the school within the community and this will look excellent on any job, college or university application.

The event can't happen without you! If parents would also like to volunteer – you are more than welcome!

To volunteer, please let Mrs Barber know asap – laubar@st-laurence.com

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From: Mrs Nash – Head of Drama

“You give a little love and it all comes back to you...” BUGSY MALONE at the Theatre Royal, Bath

A pleasant summer’s evening saw a group of very excited students from Years 7 -10 heading to Bath to see the first professional touring production of BUGSY MALONE. We were even more excited when we got to the theatre to discover that our tickets had been “upgraded” to seats in the Dress Circle so our views of the stage were superb!

The stage set for the show was brilliant and the costumes – especially those for Tallulah’s dancers - were just the right kind of 1920’s sparkle. The young performers were giving it their all.

For those of you who don’t know the show, it is taken from the 1976 Alan Parker film which uses all the tropes of the gangster movie. We find ourselves in a city full of mobsters, showgirls and dreamers. Rival gangster bosses Fat Sam and Dandy Dan are at loggerheads. The custard pies are flying and Dandy Dan’s gang has gotten the upper hand since obtaining the new-fangled “splurge” gun. Now, Fat Sam and his bumbling buffoons are in real trouble!

Enter Bugsy Malone, a penniless one-time boxer and all-round nice guy, thrust not-so-willingly into the gangster limelight when he becomes the last resort for Fat Sam’s hapless hoodlums.

The verdict from the St Laurence party was “It was amazing!” although we did miss the custard pie fights that make such an impact in the show, especially in the finale. Thank you to Mrs Warren for organising the trip, to Mrs Nash, Miss Watts and Mr Parker for accompanying and to all the students for being such excellent company.

The second half of the **Summer Festival** was the semi devised play ‘Brainstorm’. Originally created by the Company Three Youth Theatre, the play consists of a ‘blueprint’ with scripted lines which explain the workings of a teenager’s brain. The rest of the dialogue is devised by the performers themselves. The result was a highly entertaining and thought-provoking piece which, due to its relatable and personalised nature, had the audience gripped throughout. The 30 strong cast made up of students in Years 7-10 expertly controlled the emotions of their audience, making them laugh at the recognisable interactions and conversations that take place between parents and their offspring everywhere, before leaving them in tears with the overriding and highly emotive final message of the piece. The cast also dealt brilliantly with audience interaction – including a revealing game of ‘Never Have I Ever’! The play ends with the cast reading out unseen advice that the audience were asked to provide before the show and these, together with messages that the cast wanted to share with their parents, meant that there wasn’t a dry eye in the house by the curtain call.

It’s safe to say that those watching and all of us involved in the creation of the piece, have a far deeper understanding of our relationships as a result of watching this brave and talented cast perform such a powerful piece of theatre.

I would like to thank **Mrs Warren and Mr Parker** for all their help with the show – as well as **Miss Watts** who is always able to figure out those tricky movements where counting is involved! Thanks also to the dedicated crew of students who stage managed and worked on lights, sound and projection and to everyone who stayed to watch.

If you missed this performance there will be a link sent out in due course – it won’t be as good as seeing it live, but it’s better than missing out entirely!

It’s been a busy year in the Drama department – from the Year 9 production of ‘A Midsummer Night’s Dream’ way back in February, the Year 10 production of ‘When This is Over’, GCSE and A Level Devised and Scripted Assessments and the junior production of ‘Matilda’. Brainstorm was a brilliant end to the 2021/2022 season. The Drama department can’t wait to do it all again next year!

Catherine Nash; Head of Drama

From: Mr Chadwick - Director of English

Dear parents and carers of Y10 students

Students currently in Y10 have been asked to source a copy of Macbeth, by William Shakespeare, for English Literature in time for the start of Term 1 this September.

Details of this have been put on Class Charts for students, including information about different versions that are available.

Some students have already done this, and thanks to parents for your support here.

Students may wish to have a revision guide too - again, details of this are on students' Class Charts homework timeline.

If the school usually buys students a copy of English Literature texts, for example if they are identified as Pupil Premium, these have already been ordered, and will be given out in September.

If your child has not yet got a copy of Macbeth, we would appreciate it if parents could source one for them as soon as possible, so that all students have their own copy by the start of next academic year.

St Laurence Buy Sell Swap School Items / Uniform is a Facebook page where you may also be able to find /ask for copies of Macbeth.

Last Chance for Chance to Dance Tickets



Water safety for teenagers and young people

Being by water is a great place to spend time with friends, but it's important you know how to keep yourself, and your friends, safe.

This time of year, it is very tempting to cool off in your local river. Outdoor swimming has become extremely popular and has a benefit to Mental & Physical Health. Even though this can be refreshing there are underlying dangers;

There were 277 accidental drownings in the UK in 2021. 62% of these happened at inland waters and 83% of these were male.

- Low temperatures, which can cause the body to go into cold shock and even hypothermia, drawing the blood away from your muscles to protect your organs. This can lead to drowning
- Reeds and other plant life, which can get tangled around limbs and keep you in the water
- [Litter](#), like shopping trolleys, which can trap your feet as well as cause injury
- Depth perception - it could be much shallower than you expect it to be and cause serious harm if someone jumps in, as well as being much deeper than expected in other areas
- if it's polluted it could make you ill
- Waterborne diseases such as [Leptospirosis](#) (Weil's disease)
- it can be very difficult to get out (especially steep slimy banks)
- there are no lifeguards on duty.

Here at St Laurence School we are seeing increasing numbers of students attending the Medical Room suffering with nausea symptoms due to local river swimming.

From GOV.UK website

Open water swimming can increase the risk of gastrointestinal illnesses, or stomach bugs, which may cause diarrhoea and/or vomiting, as well as respiratory, skin, ear and eye infections. Most symptoms of these illnesses caused by micro-organisms such as norovirus, giardia and cryptosporidium, will generally be mild. However, there is also a risk of more severe infections caused by micro-organisms such as E.coli O157 which may cause severe gastrointestinal illness and leptospirosis (Weil's disease), which can cause liver and kidney problems.

For more information please check out these links:

[Swim healthy - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](http://www.gov.uk)

[Water safety for teenagers and young people | Canal & River Trust \(canalrivertrust.org.uk\)](http://canalrivertrust.org.uk)

[Leptospirosis \(Weil's disease\) - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](http://www.nhs.uk)

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**DORSET & WILTSHIRE
FIRE AND RESCUE**

Dorset & Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service want your child to have a fun and safe summer.

As many secondary age students become more independent, spending time with friends outdoors it is important they understand the risks and are able to make informed choices for their safety. Please take a few moments to discuss how they can stay safe:

- **Fire safety outdoors:** BBQs and campfires. Due to the high fire risk, BBQs and campfires are banned in many parts of Dorset. If you do have a BBQ further safety advice can be found here [Dorset & Wiltshire Fire Service | Barbecues \(dwfire.org.uk\)](http://Dorset & Wiltshire Fire Service | Barbecues (dwfire.org.uk)) If clothes catch fire: stop, drop and roll. If someone is burnt: cool, cover and call for help [Burns and scalds - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](http://Burns and scalds - NHS (www.nhs.uk))

Never play with matches or lighters or set deliberate fires which can easily get out of control, putting lives at risk.

- **Water safety:** If possible swim at a lifeguarded beach between the flags.

Jumping directly into water can cause cold water shock which will cause even the strongest swimmer to be in difficulty. If you get into trouble when in the water then float to live: lie on your back with your arms and legs out like a star until your breathing calms. If you see someone in trouble in the water, encourage them to float, do not enter the water yourself, if possible throw them something to hold on to and call 999 and ask for the coastguard if at the coast or fire and rescue service if inland.

Do not jump into unknown water, you do not know what hazards there are. Be aware of tides and currents and underwater hazards. Further safety information can be found here: [Know the risks \(rnli.org\)](http://Know the risks (rnli.org))

- **Road safety:** always wear a seatbelt when in a vehicle, take care and stay alert as a pedestrian and wear helmets when on bikes, scooters and skateboards. THINK! – Road safety
- If your child needs help in an emergency call 999. If they have a mobile phone ask them to download the what3words app which will help them give an accurate location. what3words /// The simplest way to talk about location Calling the emergency services as soon as possible will make sure help gets there as quickly as possible, but never call 999 as a joke or hoax call. [\(462\) Stern Hoax Call Message - YouTube](http://(462) Stern Hoax Call Message - YouTube)

The messages can be found on this video: [\(462\) Summer Safety Key Stage 3 and 4 - YouTube](http://(462) Summer Safety Key Stage 3 and 4 - YouTube)

Dorset & Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service wish you a happy and safe summer.



Wiltshire
Community
Foundation

AGED 14 - 24 AND NEED HELP WITH THE COST OF VOCATIONAL TRAINING?

Wiltshire Community Foundation is now open for applications for grants to help with the costs of a vocational training course, qualification or apprenticeship. You can apply for a grant if you:

- are under 25 at the time of application
- will be studying at school, college, sixth form or undertaking an apprenticeship
- have lived in Wiltshire or Swindon for at least two years
- your parents or guardians receive one means-tested benefit



What can you apply for a grant for?

- resources or equipment needed for your course, training or qualification
- course related study/field trips
- travel costs – in some circumstances
- IT equipment



Contact us for more information
www.wiltshirecf.org.uk
01380 729284
info@wiltshirecf.org.uk

Registered charity no. 1123126



Ever thought about volunteering?

Wiltshire's Independent Visitor Scheme is looking for people who can spare a couple of hours of their time every 3-4 weeks.

Volunteers are needed across Wiltshire to befriend children in care. Young people living away from their families often really value having a consistent independent person who can take a special interest in their lives.

Wiltshire Independent Visitor Scheme is looking to take on more independent visitors to fulfil this valuable and rewarding role. Volunteers are needed who can communicate well with young people, share in their interests and who have regular time to spare.

If you are interested in knowing more please contact the scheme on **07733 303124** or IVScheme@wiltshire.gov.uk

"My IV is awesome and lots of fun; he makes me happy."

Young Person

Wiltshire Council

WE ARE LOOKING FOR FOOTBALL LOVING GIRLS

Staverton Rangers FC is a locally based Football Team with a variety of teams playing across a wide number of different ages. We are currently looking for girls to join the following teams for next season:

U12 Girls - (Year 7 / Year 6 - Sept 2022)

U13 Girls - (Year 8 / Year 7 - Sept 2022)

U15 Girls - (Year 10 / Year 9 - Sept 2022)



Whether you love football, are interested in football or just want to give it a go please contact us for more information about coming along to a relaxed and informal training session.

Jamie (Manager U13) - 07468 717136

Lisa Finch (Admin & Football Mum U13) - 07929 584728

lisafinch@live.co.uk

