

Parent / Carer Bulletin



Care • Inspire • Succeed

Week Commencing 12th September 2022

Headteacher's Update

Dear parent/carers

I would like to begin this edition with a warm welcome to all of our new parents and carers. Our first few days seem to have gone well with students happy at the end of the day and lots of praise and positive feedback from their teachers. It is always an anxious time starting at a new school so please do stay in touch if there is something we can do to help.

I must also make sure I congratulate those who collected examination results this summer. Our A level results were phenomenal with 41.4% getting A* or A which is both higher than in previous years and also bucking the national trend which has seen this percentage fall. Our GCSE results were equally as strong with all students, no matter what their starting point, making more than expected progress. This achievement is even more impressive when you consider what this cohort of students had to deal with. They have shown courage, resilience and determination and we are proud of every single one of them. A full breakdown of results will be posted on the website once they have been 'validated' (a process undertaken nationally).

As well as making sure we continue to support students achieving well, we have lots of plans for this year. A much fuller programme of extra-curricular opportunity, enhancing our provision to support personal development and student wellbeing as well as some building development plans. You will be aware of the challenges facing a large number of families with increasing costs and I have also asked for the uniform to be looked at to see how we might be able to offer that at a lower cost. It is lower than other schools currently but we may still be able to support. We are also sending out the application form to apply for free school meals. It may be that some situations have changed and you are therefore now eligible.

Our commitment to Care, Inspire, Succeed has not changed, nor has our desire to work with parents in partnership to ensure the best academic and personal outcomes for our students. Please do stay in touch with us and attend the range of events that we hold

I am sure you will be as shocked as I am following the news on Thursday evening. Although inevitable, it came with great sadness. The school joins the country as it mourns the loss of the Queen and will be marking this in a number of ways. If students wish to wear a black armband as a mark of respect they are welcome to do so

I look forward to seeing you through the year.

Mr Farrer

*Gracious God, we give thanks for the life of your servant **Queen Elizabeth**, her faith and her dedication to duty.*

Bless our nation as we mourn her death and may her example continue to inspire us;

through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



Her Majesty The Queen, Elizabeth II, Portrait commissioned by the Royal Mint

WEEK B	CALENDAR
Monday 12 th September	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Y7 Activity Day Student Briefing (Lecture Theatre); 8:35am – 9:05am (Huntingdon & Budbury)
Tuesday 13 th September	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Y7 Activity Day Student Briefing (Lecture Theatre); 8:35am – 9:05am (Ashley)
Wednesday 14 th September	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Y7 Activity Day Student Briefing (Lecture Theatre); 8:35am – 9:05am (Conigre & Westfield)• Y7 Activity Days Information for Parents/Carers (Online)– 6:00pm – 6:30pm
Thursday 15 th September	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Y11 Parent Information Evening (Online), time TBC
Friday 16 th September	

School Communications

Our main form of communication is via Parent Mail. We use this to send out urgent information such as emergency school closures, details of school trips and other activities.

We send news and updates through our weekly Parent/Carer Bulletin (also posted on our website).

Please be sure to add the school email address to your contacts so that mail doesn't go in to your junk box. Remember to let us know if your email address changes at any time.

If you wish to speak to a member of staff our phone lines are open from 8:15am – 4:00pm (Monday to Thursday) and 8:15am – 3:30pm (Friday). We will do our best to deal with your queries promptly but please be aware some queries may take longer to respond to and allow 48 hours before contacting us again.

Student Absence

We have a dedicated phone number and email address for reporting student absence:

Phone: 01225 309501 Email: attendance@st-laurence.com

These are on the front page of our website, as well as at the bottom of every page in the Parent/Carer Bulletin.

Medical Information

St Laurence School has many staff trained in First Aid, EpiPen, Diabetes and Heart Defibrillation etc. We can offer sufficient first aid skills to treat minor injuries however, please note we do not employ a school nurse.

We are not allowed to issue paracetamol unless it has been supplied by parents and carers for a specific student, along with a fully completed Medical Administration Form (also found on the website under Information):

<https://st-laurence.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/05/Administration-of-Medicines.pdf>

IT'S OFFICIAL – YOU ARE AMAZING!!

We have been overwhelmed by the generosity of our school community who have so kindly donated outgrown uniforms and PE kits, text books and much more.

Following the success of our recent uniform sale, we are planning to hold a pre-loved uniform sale at the school very soon.

This will be manned entirely by volunteers and if you feel you could spare a couple of hours (possibly on a Saturday morning) to help run it please email Mrs Wilson marwil@st-laurence.com

All proceeds from the sale is used to enhance the experience for our students, as well as keeping costs down for parents and carers, so please think of donating your outgrown uniforms, PE kit, school coats etc. to the school.

With special thanks to all for their continued support.

From: Mrs Barber – Assistant Headteacher and Online Safety Lead

Snapchat safety: a how to guide for parents

The minimum age to use Snapchat is **13 years old**. We wouldn't expect anyone in year 7 to have Snapchat on their personal device.

Snapchat is a popular messaging app that allows you to send and receive pictures and videos (called a Snap) to users. It was initially a private photo-sharing app, but since then has grown to include short videos, games, video chat, messaging, a place to store photos, and more. Each Snap shared with your followers is temporary and is available for 24 hours – or unless you delete it and you can set the Snaps between a 1-10 limit or not limit at all. You can also add different filters, lenses, emojis, and text to your Snap.

Apart from the usual reporting, blocking, and disabling location features, Snapchat also has introduced the following:

- **Here for You** – a mental health feature that provides proactive in-app support to Snapchatters who may be experiencing mental health or emotional crisis, or who may be curious to learn more about these issues and how they can help friends dealing with them
- **Safety Snapshot** – a digital literacy program by Snapchat aimed at educating Snapchatters about data, privacy, security, and online safety issues
- **Updated privacy for under 18s** – There are no browsable public profiles for Snapchatters under 18
- **Default chat functions** – By default, you cannot Chat or contact someone directly unless you have both added each other as friends

Snapchat Family Centre launched

Snapchat has introduced its Family Centre feature to help parents engage with their teens in their digital world. The feature allows parents to easily view new friends their teens have added however it will not show the content of conversations, protecting their teen's privacy. According to Snap, this will, "reflect the way that parents engage with their teens in the real world where parents usually know who their teens are friends with and when they are hanging out."

Using Snapchat Family Centre parents will be able to report accounts that may be concerning directly to Snapchat's Trust and Safety teams. Teens will also be able to notify parents when they have reported an account or a piece of content on the platform.

What Snapchat Family Centre allow parents to do

- See which Snapchat friends their teens have sent messages, photos, or videos to in the last seven days, in a way that still protects the teens' privacy by not revealing the actual contents of their conversations (Snaps and messages)
- See a complete list of their teens' existing friends.
- Allow parents to easily view new friends their teens have added, making it easy to start conversations about who their new contacts are
- Easily and confidentially report any accounts parents may be concerned about directly to our 24/7 Trust and Safety teams to investigate

- Access key explainers about how to use these tools; resources for important conversation starters with their teens; and additional tips for using
- Snapchat safely Teens who have opted-in to Family Center will also be able to see what their parents see, with a mirrored view of features.

For the full article and additional videos, please visit the following link : [Is Snapchat safe: A how to guide for parents | Internet Matters](#)

There is also additional information about privacy settings and parental controls here: [Snapchat Parental Controls | Internet Matters - Is Snapchat Safe](#)

From: Mrs Hancock – Head of Music

Instrumental/Singing lessons start w/c 12th September in the Wiltshire Music Centre (WMC).

Teachers will notify students of the date and time of their first lesson. Students must remember to sign out at Student Reception when they go to their Music lesson - and remember to sign in again when they come back to the main school.

Students are welcome to leave instruments in the spaces outside the Music classrooms, but please ensure they are in cases and have names clearly marked on them.

Any questions, please contact Miss Hancock.

From: Mr Moody – Director of Maths & Computing

For Maths lessons students will need to bring the following specialist Maths equipment, available to buy from ParentPay:

- Scientific Calculator suitable for Years 7-11 - FX83GT-X Cost = £9.20
- Scientific Calculator needed for A-Level Maths - FX991EX Cost =£20.85
- Geometry Set, including compasses and protractor - GEOOXF Cost = £1.85.

From: Mrs Butterworth – Head of Psychology & Sociology

Thursday November 10th Brain dissection for Y13/12 psychology students and Y13 Biology students in T7.

A letter is going out shortly to gain a free space.

We are limited to 30 spaces.

Watch this space.

From: Social Sciences Department

As part of our enrichment program in psychology, sociology and criminology we offer students the opportunity to listen to key speakers that work in a relevant field.

And we need your help!

If you know someone that works in police, prisons, probation, courts, social services, educational psychology, clinical psychology, forensics, health psychology, speech and language, victim support and other support agencies, we would welcome the opportunity to invite you in to talk to our Social Science students.

If you can help us in anyway over the next academic year please contact Mrs Nicky Butterworth at school.

We would value any contribution.

Thank you from the Social Science Department

From: Mrs Howsam – Outdoor Education Coordinator

Finishing off Bronze DofE- Year 11:

I will be holding a drop-in session for students who would like some guidance about how to upload assessors reports and finish off their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh's Award.

The session will be after school on **Wednesday 14th September from 3.15pm to 4.15pm in T13.**

Certificates will be awarded at the end of Term 1 to students who have completed the award.

Year 7 Activity Days

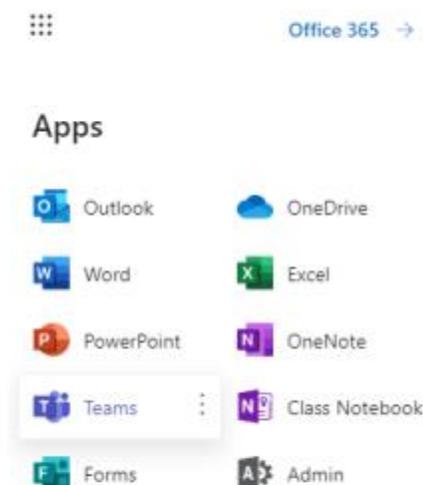
We are excited to launch the Activity Days for Year 7 students.

Letters have been emailed home via ParentMail and students have also been given paper copies.

Parents are invited to join an information presentation online, via MS Teams, at 6:00pm on Wednesday 14th September about this trip.

Please see the guidance below about joining MS Teams:

- Log into your school email via the [school website](#)
- In the top left of the screen select the 9 dots icon, then Teams



3. Once logged in the Teams you are a member of are listed.
4. Select the Team to enter it.

Thank you, Mrs Howsam

From: Mrs Nash – Head of Drama

The Drama department are pleased to announce a number of exciting opportunities for students this year.

Firstly, after the success of last's year's production of 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' for the Shakespeare's School Festival, Mr Farrer and Mrs Warren will be directing 'As You Like It' with Year 8 & 9 which will take place at The Tobacco Factory in January 2023.

In addition, we are delighted to have secured one of only 300 places to take part in the National Theatre Connections Festival. Year 8/9 and Year 10 GCSE students will perform a brand-new play both at St Laurence and at the Salisbury Playhouse in March 2023.

There will be a workshop for pupils in Years 8 & 9 who are interested in being involved in one of these productions at 3.15pm - 4.30pm on Wednesday 14th September with auditions the following Wednesday 21st September. More details have been sent out via tutors and more information is available from the Drama department.

There will also be a Drama Club for Year 7 which will be on Thursdays from 22nd September.

GCSE Textbooks

If any current Year 12's who took GCSE Drama last year have a Drama textbook which they no longer want, please could these be donated to the Drama department.

SPORTS NEWS:

FIRST XV RUGBY VS HARDENHUIISH

Date: Thursday 15th September

Venue: Hardenhuish School

Kick Off: 3:30pm

Finish time: return to St Laurence by approx. 6pm

Team Bath Netball Trials

A number of our students are participating in the Team Bath Netball Trials over the course of the week.

We wish them all the best for their sessions.

Week commencing 12th September

WEEK 2 Menu

SIDE DISHES: A seasonal selection of fresh vegetables and potatoes.
**Homemade soup of the day personalised with a selection of toppings.
 **Jackets available "naked" or "rubbed" with a choice of chilli oil, garlic
 oil or Indian spice.*

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
MAIN COURSE				
Savoury Mince Beef Lasagne with Fresh Salad & Garlic Bread	Toad in the Hole Premium Sausages in a Crispy Batter with Potatoes and Broccoli	Hand Carved Honey Roast Ham with Roast Potatoes, Seasonal Vegetables & Gravy	Tandoori Chicken A Lightly Spiced Chicken Curry served with Turmeric Infused Rice	Crispy Fillet of fish served with Oven Baked Fries and Peas
MAIN COURSE (MEAT FREE)				
Savoury Vegetable Lasagne with Fresh Salad & Garlic Bread	Cheese & BBQ Bean Bake with Creamy Mashed Potato and Broccoli	Vegetable Chow Mein Egg Noodles & Chinese Vegetables served with Black Bean Sauce	Vegetarian Tandoori A Lightly Spiced Vegetable Curry served with Turmeric Infused Rice	Penne Provençal Penne Pasta in a Rich Tomato Sauce Topped with Grated Mature Cheddar Cheese & served with Garlic Bread
TUBS & BOWLS				
Chicken Katsu Curry Crumbed Chicken with a Japanese Curry Sauce with Fragrant Rice	Pasta Carbonara Pasta Spirals bound in a Cheesy Sauce & Topped with or without Crispy Bacon Pieces	Chicken Chow Mein Chicken, Egg Noodles & Chinese Vegetables served with Black Bean Sauce	Pork Tagine Moroccan Spiced Pork served with a Vegetable Couscous	Meatball Penne Provençal Penne Pasta in a Rich Tomato Sauce served with Spicy Pork Meatballs & Garlic Bread
HAND HELD				
Mushroom & Pepper French Bread Pizza	Mexican Chilli Beef Taco with Tomato Salsa	Jumbo Hotdog with Cheese	Three Cheese Pizza Supreme	Chinese Kaathi in a Folded Naan Bread



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

Week commencing 19th September

WEEK 3 Menu

SIDE DISHES: A seasonal selection of fresh vegetables and potatoes.
**Homemade soup of the day personalised with a selection of toppings.*
***Jackets available "naked" or "rubbed" with a choice of chilli oil, garlic oil or Indian spice.*



MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
MAIN COURSE				
Pasta Bolognese Savoury Mince Beef Pasta with Garden Salad or Steamed Broccoli	Chicken and Leek Pie Creamy Chicken & Leek Pie Topped with Shortcrust Pastry, Jacket Wedges & Seasonal Vegetables	Hand Carved Roast Turkey with Roast Potatoes and Seasonal Vegetables Homemade Gravy	Chicken Tikka Masala Curry A Lightly Spiced Chicken Curry served with Turmeric Infused Rice & Poppadum	Crispy Fried Fillet of Fish Flaky Fish Fillet served with Oven Baked Fries and Baked Beans
MAIN COURSE (MEAT FREE)				
Vegetable Pasta Bolognese Pasta Spirals in a rich Italian Sauce with Garden Salad or Steamed Broccoli	Mushroom and Sweetcorn Calzone A folded pizza filled with Mushroom, Sweetcorn & Mozzarella with Wedges	Roasted Quorn Fillet with Roast Potatoes and Seasonal Vegetables Homemade Gravy	Vegetable Masala Curry A Lightly Spiced Vegetable Curry with Turmeric Infused Rice	Spicy Veggie Supreme Pizza With Oven Baked Fries and Peas
TUBS & BOWLS				
Jamaican Chicken Jamaican Spiced Chicken & traditionally served with rice & peas	Fiery Pasta Spirals Pasta Spirals bound in a Spicy Tomato Sauce with Grated Cheese & Garlic Bread	Macaroni Cheese Bake Mixed Vegetables and Pasta bound in a Cheese sauce served with Garlic Bread	Singapore Rice Noodles Stir-Fried Vermicelli, Vegetables & Seasoned with Curry Powder	Nacho Beef Chilli Mexican Spiced Beef with Nachos served with Jalapenos & Sour Cream
HAND HELD				
Naan Bread Pizza With Sweetcorn & Mushroom	Pulled Pork Bap Homemade Pulled Pork with Crispy Coleslaw served in a Toasted Bap	Southern Style Chicken Bap Southern Spiced Coated in a Bap with Tossed Salad	Jumbo Hotdog With Cheese and Bacon	Cajun Salmon Wrap Cajun Spiced Flaked Salmon pieces with Mixed Salad & folded in a flour Tortilla



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

SHARE  **Repair**

CIO reg no. 1189015

Bradford on Avon's Repair Cafe

**Saturday 17th September
1045 - 1300**

**Bring your broken stuff:
Mend it, don't end it!**

Around the back of our new larger premises at
The Masonic Hall ~ Wallington Hall
Church Street, Bradford on Avon

**Sewing, Electrical Repairs,
Knife Sharpening
& General Household / Garden Items**

Refreshments available

Repairs are free, but please give a donation to cover costs. Repairs are limited to 2 items per person due to high demand

General enquires: boa@shareandrepair.org.uk

For specific questions about what can be repaired phone: 07963 878319

