



Week Commencing Monday 29th April 2024

Headteacher's Update

Dear Parents and Carers

This has been another busy week with preparations for the mocks, public exams, rehearsals for upcoming productions and performances and lots of training for fixtures including a swimming gala and athletics. It has been lovely to see how well students are supporting each other and also visiting our Primary Schools to support Leadership Development through sport.

I must offer my thanks to our SLSA (St Laurence School Association). A small but brilliant group of parents/ex-parents who have been selling second hand uniform in town and organising other events. Through this they provide real support to parents with uniform costs and have just informed me that amongst other things, they will be funding mental health training for 6th Form students so they can support others in the school. This is so generous and will have a massive impact on students. More details will follow as to what they have funded but also how you might be able to support. Please do look out for it.

You may remember that last term I shared some updates from the police regarding county lines incidents in Wiltshire and the police's growing concerns around the impact on young people. I found out today that only this week, **six people, suspected to be running a county line from London to Wiltshire, have been charged with drug offences.** It comes after officers carried out a series of warrants in London, Wiltshire and the Avon and Somerset area.

The police have again asked for our help. 'We need you to be our eyes and ears in your community and let us know if something is not right.' I take a zero-tolerance approach to drugs and the school will continue to work with the police and other agencies to ensure that children are safe from them here at school. If you have any concerns, then please do contact the police. A good source of information should you wish is: [County lines | Wiltshire Police](#)

Finally, can I ask please that when dropping your child off at school, you do not park in the yellow strip area marked 'coaches only'. Whether there are buses there or not, this area is not for cars.

Mr Farrer

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

We hope for peace to prevail in our streets and for harmony within the world. We ask for guidance for our community leaders, that they may make decisions that are just and fair for all members of our community. Help them to govern with wisdom and compassion, always seeking the common good. We also lift those who are struggling and in need in our community. May we, as a community, come together to support and uplift those who are facing challenges and hardships.



WEEK B	CALENDAR - TERM 5
Monday 29 th April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Y10 and Y12 Written Exams Begin • Y12 Study Leave Begins • Y11 Art Exam 8:35am – 3:00pm • Y13 Graphics Exam 8:35am – 3:00pm
Tuesday 30 th April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Y11 Art Exam 8:35am – 3:00pm • Y13 Graphics Exam 8:35am – 3:00pm
Wednesday 1 st May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Y11 German Speaking Exam 8:35am – 2:00pm • Y13 Graphics Exam 8:35am – 3:00pm • Y7 – Y10 PE Leaders (Christchurch School) 8:35am – 3:30pm
Thursday 2 nd May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Y13 Photography Exam 8:35am – 3:00pm • A Level MFL Speaking Exams 11:30am – 3:00pm
Friday 3 rd May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Y13 Photography Exam 8:35am – 3:00pm • Y12 Written Exams and Study Leave Ends

The SLSA wish to thank you for all your support and donations at the pop-up shop.

The Shop will be now closing on:

Saturday 27th April at 2:00pm

so please use this opportunity to pay them a visit to buy or donate pre-loved uniform.

St Laurence School Second Hand Uniform Pop Up Shop

Hand Crafted Mirrors, Lamb Yard, Bradford on Avon

19 April - 28 April inclusive

(12-5pm each week days / 10-2pm weekends)



Donations can be dropped off at school reception or pop up shop.

Cash and cards accepted



From: Mrs Rhodes - Director of Learning and Progress KS3

Year 8 Subject Consultation Meetings

The Year 8 Subject Consultation Meetings will take place virtually via SchoolCloud on:

Thursday 9th May 2:30pm – 7:30pm

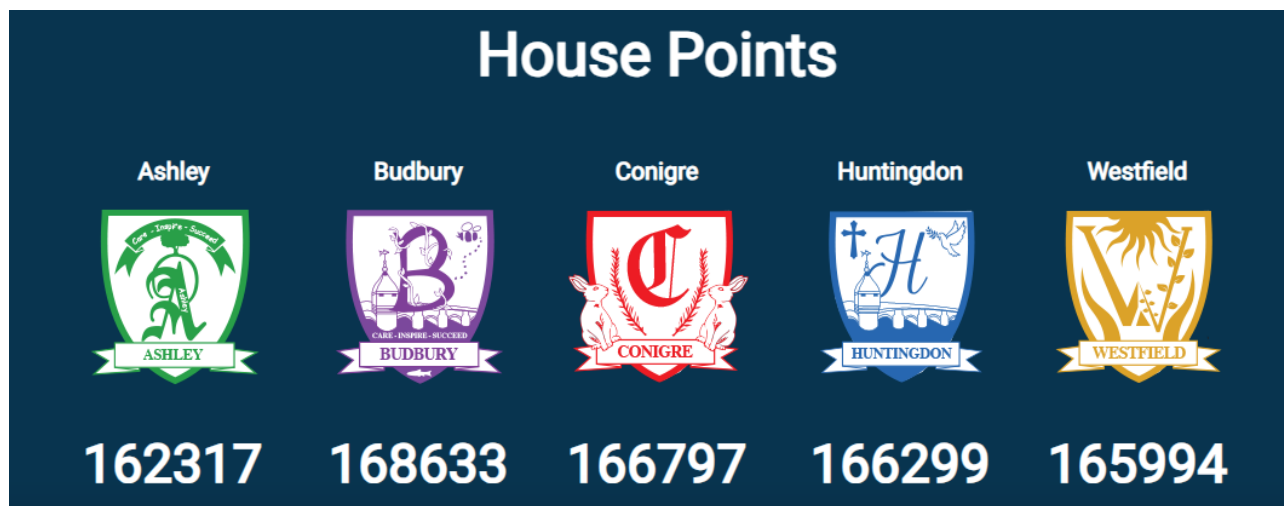
*** Bookings open on Friday 26th April***

A letter has been sent home with information on how the system works.

Appointment slots get filled up quickly so please book your appointments as early as possible.

There is an expectation that **all** parents/carers will attend this virtual event. If there is an unavoidable reason why you cannot attend, please email progressteam@st-laurence.com so one of the team can follow this up with you.

Reminder: The school day finishes at 1:20pm on this day. There is no lunch break but an enhanced provision in the restaurant at break time so students are able to eat then. We ensure that the food offer is in line with the lunch offer.



The graphic features a dark blue background with the title "House Points" in white. Below the title are five house crests, each with its name above and a number below. The crests are: Ashley (green shield with a tree and the motto "Care - Inspire - Succeed"), Budbury (purple shield with a large letter 'B' and the motto "Care - Inspire - Succeed"), Conigre (red shield with a large letter 'C' and two rabbits), Huntingdon (blue shield with a large letter 'H' and a cross), and Westfield (gold shield with a large letter 'W' and a sun). The numbers below the crests are 162317, 168633, 166797, 166299, and 165994 respectively.

House	Points
Ashley	162317
Budbury	168633
Conigre	166797
Huntingdon	166299
Westfield	165994

From: Mr Blowers – Director 6th Form

Year 12 Summer Exams

Written Exams will run from **Monday 29th April – Friday 3rd May.**

Year 12 Students will be on study leave for the duration of these exams and should only be in school for their timetabled exams.

Thank you for your support, Mr Blowers.

From: The Food Room

Year 7 students have started their Food Technology lessons and demonstrated their fantastic knife and chopping skills. The colours are fantastic and the food room smelt amazing.



From: The English Department

The Importance of Reading

When we study subjects at school, we learn more effectively with a good understanding of the language of those subjects. When we study Biology, we are not just studying plants and animals: we are studying *language about* plants and animals.

Students who read widely, and for pleasure, tend to learn more and perform better in school subjects than those who do not. Reading increases our knowledge about the world, improves our vocabulary, and opens our minds to a great range of ideas about how we live. In short, reading makes you cleverer; being a good, fluent reader helps students across school – and in their whole life. The feeling of getting immersed in a good book is simply one of the most calming, rewarding, and enjoyable there is.

All students study whole literary texts in English lessons. They can choose reading books from the ILC and are encouraged to always have a book on the go – whether this is the latest novel in a series they have been reading, a biography of a sporting hero, or a collection of short stories. We believe that there is “a book for everyone” and actively encourage students to explore a range of books. We want to challenge students to develop their own reading journeys, experiment with what they read and in doing so increase their insight, empathy and understanding of the wider world.

The ILC Team have an exceptional knowledge of the kinds of books students will enjoy! The ILC runs competitions and events throughout the year, and these are particularly good at suggesting next steps or new challenges for reading.

“St Laurence Reads” is a weekly tutorial activity where the whole school reads and discusses the same book - underlining how important we think reading is at St Laurence.

Together with the ILC Team we have produced reading lists that complement the schemes of learning that Years 7, 8 and 9 are following at this point in the academic year.

English Wider Reading at St Laurence

Year 7
Term 5 and 6
Heroes and Villains

ALEX RIDER
ANTHONY HOROWITZ

PERCY JACKSON
RICK RIORDAN

RICK RIORDAN

THE RECRUIT
ROBERT MUCHAMORE

Nevermoor

ARTEMIS FOWL
EINOI COLFER

ROBIN HOOD
ROBERT MUCHAMORE

SKULLDUGGERY PLEASANT
DEREK LANDY

HARRY POTTER
JK ROWLING

H.I.V.E. - MARK WALDEN

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
Skulduggery Pleasant – Derek Landy
H.I.V.E. - Mark Walden

English Wider Reading at St Laurence

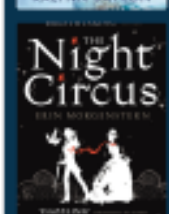
Year 8
Term 5 and 6
Myth and Magic



- 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
- Deeplight – 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 Sedgewick
Uglies – Scott Westerfeld
How I Live Now – Meg Rosoff
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





PE Clubs – Term 5



Day	Club	Location	Staff Member
Monday			
Tuesday	SLS Leadership Academy	Gym / Winsley	Mr Carter/Mr Little
	Softball	Field	Mr Walker
	Rounders	Field	Mr Burrows
Wednesday			
Thursday	Athletics	Gym / Field	Mr Burrows, Mr Carter, Mrs Voutt, Mr Woodburn, Mr Walker, Miss Rose
	SLS Leadership Academy	Christchurch	Mr Little
Friday			

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about SHOPPING PLATFORMS

For people looking to make purchases on their phones, several shopping apps – such as Temu – allow users to buy goods at reduced prices. Others, like Vinted and Depop, let you sell items you no longer want. As internet shopping continues to grow, however, so does the risk of scammers, hackers and breaches of privacy.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

MISSING ITEMS

Users of Vinted, Depop and Temu have reported not receiving their products despite payment being taken. Users can initially contact the seller to query a missing item, and they have between two and five days (depending on the app) to tell the company what has happened. However, once the money has reached the supposed 'seller', it can be quite difficult to get back.

SCAMMERS AND PHISHING

Scammers are always on the lookout for unsuspecting buyers or sellers. Common tactics include cancelling shipment of an item once the payment has been processed or asking to conclude the chat and payment outside of the app, where the victim is no longer protected by the buyer protection plan. This should, naturally, be avoided at all costs.

DATA MISUSE

Apps of all kinds frequently collect our data, often asking for more information than is necessary to set up an account. Data gathered in this way is then usually sold on to third parties for marketing purposes. Lately, certain apps have been under scrutiny for using spyware to track their members' activities – but all too often, the user's consent to this practice has been hidden away in the terms and conditions.

FAKES OR REPLICAS

It's certainly not unheard of for poor-quality products to be falsely marketed as luxury items, using misleading pictures or clever wording. These devious sales are sometimes aided by suspiciously low price tags, but this isn't always the case. For children and young people especially, there's a risk that the promise of bagging a high- and item for a fraction of its usual price will outshine any suspicions they may have.

SLOW REFUNDS

While all apps offer a refund if the product is damaged or doesn't match the description, it can take up to a month to be compensated for this. For many people (especially during a cost-of-living crisis) that can be a long time to be without both the product you bought and the hard-earned cash you spent on it.

MISLEADING DESCRIPTION

Some people will be able to notice when, say, a product's photo and its description don't seem to match, this isn't a reliable means of picking up on misleading marketing, however – especially not for children and young people, many of whom may not yet realise that such practices even exist. While it's legal to advertise one thing and sell another, plenty of shady traders use clever wording and omissions to get around this.

Advice for Parents & Educators

ALWAYS STAY ON THE APP

It's vital that users pay for any goods through the same app on which they found them, to ensure they are covered by buyer protection. This means users can access support if the item arrives damaged, isn't as described, or doesn't arrive at all – allowing them to seek compensation for the loss. Such regulations can't protect you, however, if you didn't do the deal through the app in question.

BE WARY OF PHISHING ATTEMPTS

Scammers frequently send messages within these apps to steal personal and financial information from other users. Don't respond to these messages – and under no circumstances should you follow any links they contain. Check for spelling errors, as well as inspecting the name of the sender. Report any suspected phishing emails to the app's help centre – and notify your bank if you think your financial information has been compromised.

CHECK REVIEWS

Take time to read the reviews and comments left by other users – not just of products, but of sellers and buyers, to ensure they're legitimate and reliable. Before buying an item online, check the reviews for comments about the product's quality, the seller's communication and the delivery time. If you're selling, check the reviews of your buyer for red flags such as frequent requests for refunds or claims of 'missing' items.

KEEP SAFE AS A SELLER

Sellers can be exploited just as much as buyers. Some users may purchase an item, for example, then pretend it didn't arrive to secure a refund. Always take photos of the shipping label, along with a picture of you posting the item. Send the package's tracking number to the buyer and keep a copy for yourself, letting you investigate any false claims that it never arrived. When taking photos of items you're selling, ensure nothing personal is in the background.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant at 8CyberAware, who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety workshops and policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviours of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

Source: See full reference on full on guide page at nationalcollege.com/guides/shopping-apps



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

Menu for Week Commencing Monday 29th April 2024

Lunch week 3

All our ingredients are locally sourced and delivered fresh by local suppliers. Our eggs are free-range and Red Lion stamped, our fish is sustainably sourced and MSC approved and our meat is British Red Tractor accredited wherever possible.

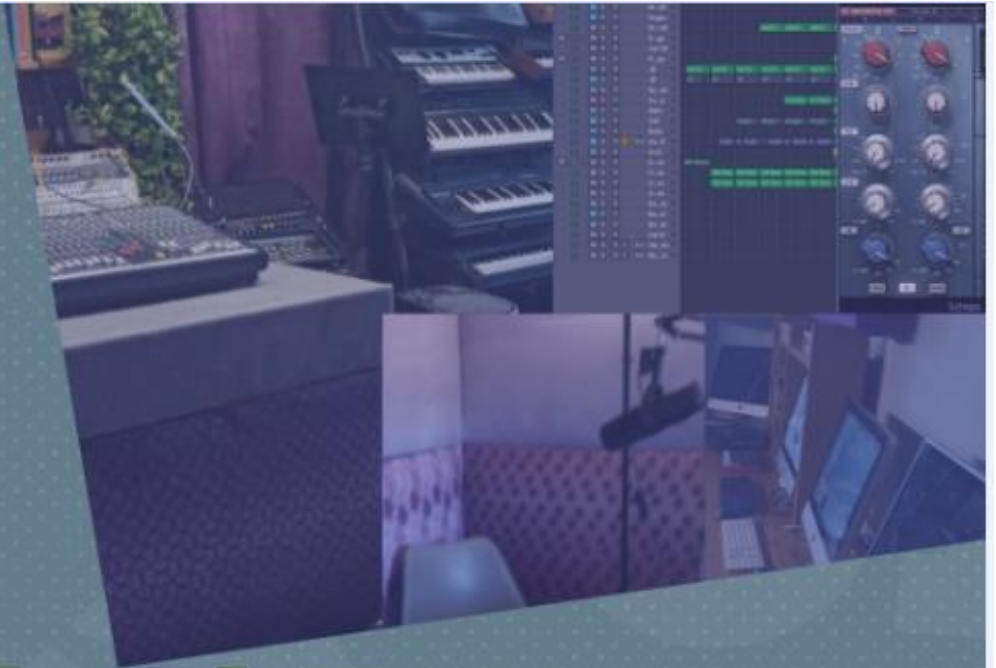
	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
MAIN MEAL	Mexican Vegetable Quesadillas Served With Cajun Wedges And Salad	Sausage & Mash Served With Onion Gravy And Vegetables	Beef Lasagna Served With New Potatoes, Vegetables And Garlic Bread	Meat Feast Pasta Bake Served With Mixed Salad	Battered Fish Served With Chips, Beans And Tartare Sauce
PLANT BASED	Cheesy Potato Patty Cake, Served With Cajun Wedges And Salad	Vegetable Sausage & Mash Served With Onion Gravy And Vegetables	Vegetable Lasagna Served With New Potatoes, Vegetables And Garlic Bread	Quorn Cobbler Served With Mixed Salad	Vegan Roll Served With Chips, Beans
STREET FOOD	Pizza Of The Day	Grilled Pesto Chicken Panini	Vegetable Curry Served With A Naan	Spicy Meatball Sub	Cheesy Chips
TAKEAWAY TUBS	Vegetable Chilli Burrito	Macaroni Cheese	Chilli And Rice Bowl Served With Salsa And Sour Cream	Stir Fried Vegetable Noodles	Chicken Nuggets Served With Salad
JACKETS	TRY OUR DELICIOUS FILLINGS FOR 70P EACH.				
DESSERTS	Berry Cake Served With Strawberry Sauce	Chocolate Orange Jaffa Pudding	Apple Turnover	Banoffee Cake	Chocolate Cheesecake

Meal Deal

Main Meal With Vegetables And Dessert



All Of Our Main Meals and Desserts Are Freshly Made On Site Every Day



Musical Futures

**6 FREE STUDIO SESSIONS
FOR YOUNG PRODUCERS, DJ'S, BANDS & VOCALISTS.
THURSDAYS IN MAY/ JUNE.**

**PURPLE NOISE MUSIC STUDIO @ WESTWOOD SOCIAL CLUB
OPEN TO ALL GENDERS: AGED 11-18**

🎵 Unlock Your Musical Potential with Purple Noise 🎵

Whether you're a solo singer, a laptop music creator, just starting out with your band or dreaming of joining one, a DJ, or perhaps want to be part of the technicians/organising team, there's an opportunity for everyone to take their music to the next level!

**Further details and to register please visit
www.mightygirls.co.uk**

Working in partnership with

Wiltshire Council

**PURPLE
NOISE**

