

Parent / Carer Bulletin



Care • Inspire • Succeed

Week Commencing Monday 15th April 2024

Headteacher's Update

Dear Parents and Carers

As Term 4 comes to a close I wish you all a very happy and peaceful Easter.

Mr Farrer

WEEK B	CALENDAR - TERM 5
Monday 15 th April	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• TERM 5 BEGINS AT 8:35AM
Tuesday 16 th April	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Y10 Art Trip 8:45am – 3:00pm• Y13 Briefing 12:30pm – 1:30pm
Wednesday 17 th April	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Y11 Graphics Exam 8:35am – 3:00pm• Y8 HPV & Y9 MENACWY Immunisations Catch-Up Session• Y6 Parents/Carers Welcome Meeting 5:30pm – 7:30pm
Thursday 18 th April	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Y12 UCAS Convention 7:45am – 2:45pm• Y7 Subject Consultation Meeting 2:30pm – 7:30pm• SCHOOL CLOSSES AT 1:30PM
Friday 19 th April	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Y11 Graphics Exam 8:25am – 3:00pm;

From: Mrs Martin – Medical Administrator

Y8 HPV & Y9 MENACWY and DTP Immunisations Catch-Up Session

The School Immunisations Team from HRCG will be attending the school on Wednesday 17th April to administer vaccinations to students in Years 8 and 9 who were unable to have them during their last visit.

Parents and carers **MUST** give permission via the portal (see ParentMail message for link) for their student to be included.

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

House Points

Ashley



150047

Budbury



156882

Conigre



152413

Huntingdon



151831

Westfield



153090

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.

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From: Ms Barber – Assistant Headteacher

Sextortion – A guide for parents

With incidents of sextortion significantly on the increase around the world it's important that both professionals and parents know the signs and how to help and support their children.

Although anybody can be targeted, the surge appears to be boys aged 14+ and the motivation is usually financial. In the past, offenders would often threaten to share the victim's intimate images with friends and family but that very rarely happened, however we are now starting to see this happen more frequently, including threats of physical violence and more.

You can learn about the issue of sextortion and how it might impact your child and get advice on keeping them safe in this parent guide:

[What is sextortion? Guidance for parents | Internet Matters](#)

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about CLICKBAIT

Clickbait is a controversial online marketing strategy which uses sensationalist (and frequently misleading) headlines to encourage engagement with an article, image or video – often playing on users' emotions and curiosity, while much of the actual content is of questionable accuracy. Clickbait is also sometimes used to disguise scams, phishing sites and malware.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

HARMFUL MISINFORMATION

Clickbait tends to play fast and loose with the truth, opting for eye-catching content over objectivity. This is particularly dangerous for younger internet users, who are generally more susceptible to that type of material. A child could be presented with fake news, misleading articles and – in some cases – outright lies without fully understanding what they're viewing and why it's harmful.

PRIVACY PROBLEMS

Some clickbait leads to sites which could coax a child into volunteering their personal data – using pop-ups to ask them for their email address and phone number, for example, in exchange for accessing additional content or subscribing to various services. Normally, this harvested information is then sold to third parties, who often utilise it for targeted adverts and other sales schemes.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Due to the misleading nature of many examples of clickbait, what may seem to be innocuous and child-friendly could actually contain age-inappropriate material such as extremist, political views or violent, pornographic or sexually explicit content. This is clearly a hazard for young people, who could be upset, disturbed or influenced by exposure to such subject matter.

A DRAINING DISTRACTION

Clickbait encourages spiralling consumption of online content, which could easily result in a young person spending hours scrolling aimlessly instead of doing something productive or interacting with family and friends. This can leave them tired, social and lacking focus – and, in the long term, can negatively impact their social skills, education and mental wellbeing.

HIDDEN MALWARE

While most clickbait is simply trying to promote engagement to earn companies additional revenue, some of it does redirect to dubious sites with the potential to infect devices with viruses or malware. This could put a child's sensitive data – such as their name, their location and their date of birth – at risk of being accessed and exploited by malicious hackers.

IMPACT ON BEHAVIOUR

Depending on the type of clickbait a child is interacting with, you might notice negative changes in their behaviour. Weight loss scams, for example, are common among clickbait and have the potential to influence eating habits and body image – while deliberately inflammatory 'rage bait' articles can leave impressionable young people feeling irritable, restless or argumentative.

Advice for Parents & Educators

START A CONVERSATION

The sheer volume of clickbait can make protecting children against it quite challenging. It's vital to talk to young people regularly about the types of content they encounter online, so that they understand the risks of engaging with clickbait. If you're still concerned, it may also be wise to keep an eye on children's online activity to ensure they're not being tempted by clickbait headlines.

PROMOTE CRITICAL THINKING

Encouraging children to question the legitimacy of sensational headlines and too-good-to-be-true promises will help them to become savvy online – and far less likely to be drawn in by clickbait content. These critical thinking skills will also serve to protect them in other areas of the digital world where misinformation is becoming increasingly common.

SPOT THE TELLTALE SIGNS

There are certain common elements in clickbait, including headlines and images that use shock and outrage to grab people's attention – as well as numbered lists, such as "3 Facts You Won't Believe Are True". Some clickbait combines several of these tactics to snag users' interest. Learn to recognise these techniques for yourself so you can teach children to notice them as well.

TAKE CONTROL

Many parents opt to place limits on how long their children can spend online each day, which obviously reduces the chance of exposure to clickbait. Alternatively, most internet-enabled devices have built-in controls that allow parents to manage what sort of online content their child can access – including filtering by age, which can screen out a percentage of inappropriate material.

Meet Our Expert

Carly Page is an experienced technology writer with more than 10 years in the industry. Previously the editor of tech tabloid The Inquirer, she is now a freelance technology journalist, editor and consultant who writes for Forbes, TechRadar and Wired, among others.






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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

New Spring Menu for Week Commencing Monday 15th April 2024

Lunch week 1

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	Leek & Potato Tart Served With Salad	Beef Meatball Pasta Bake Served With Vegetables	Pulled Chicken Wrap Served With Roast Potatoes And Vegetables	Chilli Con Carne Served With Rice And Mixed Vegetables	Battered Fish Served With Chips, Beans And Tartare Sauce
PLANT BASED	Cauliflower, Broccoli Bake Served With Salad	Mixed Vegetable Pasta Bake Served With Vegetables	Roasted Vegetable Wrap Served With Roast Potatoes And Vegetables	Vegetable Chilli Con Carne Served With Rice And Mixed Vegetables	Vegetable Fingers Served With Chips, Beans
STREET FOOD	Falafel Salad Bowl	Loaded Nachos	Tex Mex Chicken Wrap	Burger Of The Day	BBQ Chicken Slice
TAKEAWAY TUBS	Vegetable Egg Noodles	Chicken Curry Served With Naan	Cheesy Tomato Pasta	Cheesy Bean Slice	Vegetarian Quiche Served With Mixed Salad
JACKETS	TRY OUR DELICIOUS FILLINGS FOR 70P EACH.				
DESSERTS	Syrup Sponge	Pineapple Upside Down Cake	Apple Crumble Cake	Chocolate Concrete	Toffee Cheesecake

Meal Deal

Main Meal With Vegetables And Dessert



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

Charity no. 1191823



YOUTH WORK AUCTION FUNDRAISER

*COME ALONG TO A FANTASTIC NIGHT AND BID ON A RANGE
OF EXCITING ITEMS FOR AN AMAZING CAUSE!*



LOTS INCLUDE...

***LUXURY HAMPERS
HOT AIR BALLOON RIDE
PROFESSIONAL DANCE LESSONS
CASTLE COOMBE RACE TICKETS
BRISTOL CITY FC TICKETS
CANAL BOAT HIRE***

FRIDAY 19 APRIL

7:30PM

**@ JOHN OF GAUNT
SCHOOL HALL,
TROWBRIDGE**

Further info:

wiltshire.yfc.co.uk/auction

**Book your ticket:
shorturl.at/GKNR2**



Feel confident to help your child



Learn

Supporting My Teen With Wellbeing

- ✓ Understand the changes in a teenage brain
- ✓ Learn techniques to promote wellbeing
- ✓ Explore positive psychology

Our courses are **free**, if you are 19+ years old, and a resident in the UK/EU for over three years (some immigration status exempt), and have a Wiltshire postcode and meet **any** of the following criteria:

- have less than 5 GCSEs grades C/4
- are in receipt of benefits
- are a military family
- have a child with additional needs (no diagnosis necessary)
- are unemployed and looking for work

To find out more and to book a place email: familyandcommunitylearning@wiltshire.gov.uk or call the team on 01225 770478

Supporting My Teen With Wellbeing

Online Course
Thursday 18 April
10am - 12pm

**Booking closes
Thursday 11 April**



Wiltshire Council