



Week Commencing Monday 25th March 2024

Headteacher's Update

Dear Parents and Carers

This term seems to have flown by; it feels a very short time ago that I was saying Happy New Year! However, we are now in the final week of term and as previously mentioned, we finish this week on Wednesday to allow staff to complete some training on our new information system Bromcom.

As parents, you will be getting further details sent out to you separately about the system and how you can access information.

I must congratulate all the students who were involved in the Chance to Dance and Replica, our entry into the National Theatre Connections festival, last week. It was a real pleasure watching them perform.

We also wish good luck to those who are performing our production of The Taming of the Shrew on Monday in Bristol.

Have a very happy Easter.

Mr Farrer

WEEK A	CALENDAR - TERM 4
Monday 25 th March	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Y11 Food Exam 8:35am – 3:00pm• Y8 & Y9 Shakespeare Trip 9:00am – 10:00pm (Bristol)• Y7 Girls Rugby Tournament 9:00am – 3:00pm; (Trowbridge)• Y8 Normandy Trip Information Evening 6:00pm – 6:45pm
Tuesday 26 th March	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Y11 Food Exam 8:35am – 3:00pm
Wednesday 27 th March	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• GCSE Dance Exams 8:35am – 3:30pm• Y13 Reports Issued• 6th Form Active Golf Lesson 3:30pm – 4:45pm• TERM ENDS AT 3:00PM

For the parents and carers of students using the SL1 bus service:

Due to the closure of the road at Hilperton during week commencing 25th March, the SL1 Beeline bus will not be able to collect students from:

- Trowbridge Road, Hilperton
- Church Street, Hilperton
- Hill Street, Hilperton

Students that usually catch the bus from these stops will need to catch the bus from Horse Road (at 7:24am), Marsh Road (at 7:25am) or Paxcroft Mead Leap Gate (at 7:20am).

Collective Worship at St Laurence

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

- Be still in our busy day
- Connect with our school's Christian vision and values
- Consider turning points
- Take an opportunity for prayer or reflection

Care - Inspire - Succeed



From: Mr Daniels – Head of House, Huntingdon

Prizes for the Family Attendance Raffle

Thank you all for the effort that has been put in from students and parents and carers over the past term to encourage good attendance.

Below is the list of prizes that will be drawn next week:

- 4 X Easter Egg Family Bundle
- A family swim pass for Bradford on Avon Pool
- £20 Amazon Voucher
- £10 Mr B's Voucher (Book shop in Bath)

We will be back with another raffle for Term 5 and, as before, previous attendance will not play a part.

Good Luck, Mr Daniels

House Points

Ashley	Budbury	Conigre	Huntingdon	Westfield
				
135704	141103	138582	133608	137969

From: Mrs Nash – Head of Drama

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

Year 13 A Level Drama Assessments

Assessment season is well underway and last week was the turn of the Year 13 A Level Drama students to perform their scripted extracts to an external examiner. This year we had 3 actors performing a monologue and a duologue from Sarah Kane's hard-hitting play '4:48 Psychosis', in the style of Katie Mitchell. We also had a student choose to be assessed as a director.

We won't know how the students have done until the results come out in the summer, but the students are to be congratulated on their hard work and assured performances.

Thank you to everyone who came to watch and support them.

From: Ms Barber – Assistant Headteacher

Supporting Children and Young People with SEND Online

The website below has a range of expert guides providing advice on the main activities that children do online, specifically to help children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND). The main goal is to help them have a safer and more positive time online.

While every child and young person's experience of the online world is unique to them, based on research, there are some online risks that children with SEND may be more likely to experience. In the guides, you'll find practical tips on how to approach conversations about these potential risks to stop them from turning into harm. They also provided links to other expert resources that can help and tools that are available to create a safer digital space for children to explore and interact.

[Supporting children and young with SEND online | Internet Matters](#)



The students of Conigre House invite you to join their Charity Fundraiser in aid of Wiltshire Treehouse - supporting children and young people through bereavement.

16 of our most "talented" staff bravely agreed to be videoed whilst singing and dancing for your entertainment – and of course, to help Conigre House students raise much needed funds for the young people of Wiltshire affected by loss.

Come along and see if you can put a name to the performer!

When?

Tuesday 26th March

Where?

Wiltshire Music Centre

Time?

The show starts at 3:00pm and ends at 4:30pm

How?

Buy your tickets from ParentPay for just **£3.00 each**

From: The Easter Baking Club

Easter Bunny Biscuits

50g Sugar
100g butter/margarine
150g Plain flour
100g Icing sugar

Mini Eggs and icing if wanted

- Place butter and sugar in a large mixing bowl
- Cream together using a wooden spoon until light and fluffy
- Add sieved flour and flavourings. Mix well to form a soft dough
- On a floured surface, roll out your dough to 0.5 - 1cm thick
- Using a gingerbread man cutter, create the shapes and place each shape onto a baking tray (it may help to use a palette knife at this point).
- Now place an egg onto your person and gently fold the arms over to cuddle the egg 😊
- You can now either mark the face in with a cocktail stick or ice when they come out of the oven.
- Bake at 180C for 10-15 minutes.
- Leave them to cool before taking off the tray



ENJOY and Hoppy Easter 😊

St Laurence Sporting Stars



This week's Bradford on Avon semi-final against Downton resulted in a victory 2-1 and saw Year 12 student, Joel Kirby of Ashley House, named player of the match.

Well done to Joel.

At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com.

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

ENCOURAGING OPEN CONVERSATIONS AT HOME

With tricky topics and occasional clashes of opinion, it can be challenging to maintain an environment where children feel able to talk candidly and honestly. However, encouraging such conversations helps to develop trust – making it easier to unpack even sensitive subjects as children get older. Here are our top tips for promoting open conversations at home.

1 CREATE A SAFE SPACE

Criticism, blaming or shaming can all prevent children from feeling emotionally safe – while showing affection, positive attention and an interest in what a child has to say builds their sense of security. These formative years are when children's opinions and values begin to take shape, so it's important to provide a non-judgmental environment in which to discuss them – especially if their opinions differ from your own.

2 CONSIDER OTHER OUTLETS

Some children may find it easier to talk while they're participating in another activity such as drawing, writing, walking or sport. If it's possible, taking part in these activities together presents you with an opportunity to communicate while doing something side by side. A child may feel less pressure that way and can be more inclined to open up of their own accord.

3 NORMALISE CHATS ABOUT FEELINGS

Incorporate mental health and emotional wellbeing into everyday conversations, using age-appropriate language and examples to help children understand their emotions. Ask questions like "How are you feeling today?", "What was the best and worst part of your day?", "If you could start today again, what would you do differently?" and "Is there anything you want to talk about?"

4 LISTEN ACTIVELY

When children express themselves, make it obvious that you're listening closely and giving them your full attention. Maintain eye contact and validate their feelings without immediately trying to solve the problem. It's not helpful to dismiss their issues as childish or "teenage angst" – or to assume that they'll simply "get over" whatever they're feeling. Children don't have your life experience; their resilience is still developing as they learn to push through difficulties and handle problems.

5 ASK OPEN QUESTIONS

Encourage children to share their thoughts by asking open questions about their feelings and experiences. Closed questions (such as "Did you enjoy school today?") are more likely to elicit a simple "yes" or "no" response. Instead, you could ask things like "Who did you spend time with at break?" or "Who did you sit with at lunchtime?"

6 RESPECT THEIR BOUNDARIES

If a child isn't ready to talk to about something yet, respect their boundaries; this reinforces that their feelings are important and worthy of consideration. Ideally, you're aiming to let them know you care without smothering them, so just make it clear that you're there for them whenever they're ready to chat. Gentle, regular check-ins can sometimes be the best form of progress.

7 LEAD BY EXAMPLE

Model open, honest and healthy communication in front of children and young people. Try to demonstrate kindness when talking about others and yourself, because if children hear adults being overly harsh, critical or judgmental, or see them having unrealistic expectations of themselves, it makes them more likely to adopt and repeat this behaviour themselves as they grow.

8 HAVE REGULAR CHECK-INS

Check in with children periodically to discuss how they're feeling and what's going on in their lives. This could be a weekly or monthly conversation, where the child has an opportunity to share whatever's on their mind. For parents and carers, getting away from the house and other distractions might be productive here; you could consider regular trips to a coffee shop or a café, or just a weekly walk.

9 PROVIDE RESOURCES

It's often beneficial to let children know about other support that's available to them if they're struggling to talk to you specifically. Encourage them to talk to school counsellors, trusted adults or even a therapist, if necessary – while normalising this route and dispelling the harmful stigma around asking for help. Older children could engage with resources such as *Kooth* or *YoungMinds*.

10 CELEBRATE EMOTIONAL EXPRESSION

It's beneficial to praise children for expressing their feelings honestly – emphasising how important it is to talk about their emotions and how proud you are of them for doing so. This can be especially pivotal for boys, who often experience more of a stigma around talking frankly about their feelings and their mental health – a barrier that can be overcome, with enough love and support.

Meet Our Expert

With 30 years' experience as a teacher, trainer, consultant and interim executive board member, Anna Bateman has a superb understanding of what works in pedagogy, school improvement and leadership. She has also advised the Department for Education on their mental health green paper.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

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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

Restaurant Menu for Week Commencing Monday 25th March 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	CAULIFLOWER & BROCCOLI BAKE AND GREEN SALAD	WINTER HOT POT SERVED WITH MIXED VEGETABLES	TOAD IN THE HOLE WITH ALL THE TRIMMINGS	LASAGNE SERVED WITH GARLIC BREAD SLICE AND VEGETABLES	BATTERED FISH & TARTAR SAUCE SERVED WITH CHIPS AND BEANS
PLANT BASED / VEGETARIAN	PESTO PASTA BAKE	VEGETABLE HOT POT SERVED WITH MIXED VEGETABLES	TOAD IN THE HOLE SERVED WITH ALL THE TRIMMINGS	VEGETABLE LASAGNE SERVED WITH GARLIC BREAD SLICE AND VEGETABLES	VEGETABLE TART SERVED WITH CHIPS AND SALAD
STREET FOOD	VEGETABLE STIR FRIED NOODLES	PENNE ALFREDO	VEGETABLE FALAFAL SUB	VEGETABLE CURRY AND RICE	BBQ CHICKEN WRAP
TAKEAWAY TUBS	SOUP OF THE DAY & ROLL	STIR FRIED CHICKEN NOODLES	SPICY SAUSAGE PASTA	CHILLI BEEF BURRITO	LOADED NACHOS
PIZZA SLICE	PIZZA OF THE DAY	PIZZA OF THE DAY	PIZZA OF THE DAY	PIZZA OF THE DAY	PIZZA OF THE DAY
JACKETS	TRY OUR DELICIOUS FILLINGS FOR 70P EACH				
DESSERTS	GOOEY CHOCOLATE SPONGE & CUSTARD	BANOFFEE PIE CAKE	APPLE CRUMBLE CAKE	MIXED BERRY STRUDEL	LEMON 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**



