



Week Commencing 20th November 2023

Headteacher's Update

Dear all,

Year 11 mocks are going really well and our Year 11 students have responded so maturely. They continue this week with practical exams too and I hope the students are well prepared. This week we also have the Year 13 Subject Evening so please make sure you have made some appointments.

Thank you for all of the lovely feedback we have had about the KS3 information evenings. I know Mrs Rhodes has worked hard to ensure you are provided with as much information as possible to help support your student across the year.

I hate to mention it but please look out for some key dates as we move towards the end of the term with the Christmas Fair, the Carol Service, Christmas tree sales from our SLSA and other events. It's going to be a busy 5 weeks!

Mr Farrer

WEEK B	CALENDAR - TERM 2
Monday 20 th November	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Year 11 Mock Practical Exams start 8:35am
Tuesday 21 st November	
Wednesday 22 nd November	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Y8/9 Girls County Cup Football (Round 2) 12:15pm – 5:15pm
Thursday 23 rd November	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Y11 Music Mock Practical 09:05am – 12:30pmY11 GCSE Mock Written Exams EndY13 Subject Evening 4.30pm - 7.30pm
Friday 24 th November	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Y11 GCSE Mock Practical Exams End

Collective Worship Term 2:

Dear God please help us, whether we faith or no faith, to

- Be still in our busy day.
- Connect with our school's Christian vision and values.
- Consider the concept of the unspoken.
- Take an opportunity for prayer or reflection.

From: The School Immunisations Team

Last Date to Book Nasal Flu Immunisations: Wednesday 22nd November

Use this link to give consent or if you wish to decline: <https://schoolimms.hcrgcaregroup.com/flu/2023/wilts>

If you have any queries, please contact the School Aged Immunisation Team on 0300 247 0082 or email: vcl.immunisations@nhs.net For further information see: www.nhs.uk/child-flu

From: Wiltshire Council

Wiltshire Council is consulting on the proposed admissions criteria and admission arrangements for its Community & Voluntary Controlled Schools for the 2025/26 academic year and has asked us to share the details with parents/carers.

It is also consulting on the proposed schemes for co-ordination of admissions to all maintained schools and academies for the 2025/26 academic year.

The consultation starts on Friday 17 November 2023 and it ends on Friday 12 January 2024.

The consultation documents can be accessed by clicking on the link below.

www.wiltshire.gov.uk/schools-learning-admissions-consultation

To respond to this consultation please send your comments by email to admissions@wiltshire.gov.uk or you can write to:

School Admissions Team, Wiltshire Council, Bythesea Road, Trowbridge, Wiltshire BA14 8JN

From: Mr Blowers – Director of 6th Form

Students applying to St Laurence 6th Form must complete the online application form. This can be found on our website both on the **Home Page**, and on the **Join us – 6th Form Page**.

A reminder to all Year 11s that we would like an application from the overwhelming majority of you. We want to be sure that you have a range of choices as you consider next steps.

Deadline for Applications - Friday 30th November 3:00pm

A reminder that it is well worth meeting this as subjects will be filled on a first come first served basis.

From: Miss Hancock – Head of Music

The Percussion Club are performing as the pre-concert entertainment in the Wiltshire Music Centre

- When: Saturday 2nd December 2023
- Where: Wiltshire Music Centre foyer
- Time: 7:00pm – 7:30pm

Carol Service

- When: Wednesday 13th December 2023
- Where: Holy Trinity Church, Bradford-on-Avon
- Time: 7:00pm

From: Mrs Favali – Teacher of Psychology

Advance Notice: Holocaust Survivor Talk

On Thursday 7th December we have the great privilege of having Gloria Silver in school to speak to Year 9 students during Period 3.

Gloria is a second-generation Holocaust survivor who will be sharing her father's extraordinary testimony of surviving different camps and hiding in the German Army.

Due to limited space in the Lecture Theatre, she will only be speaking to students who would normally have PE during that period.

I will be arranging another talk from a Holocaust survivor for the remaining students for Term 4 or 5.

From: Mr Carter – Head of PE

Fixtures:

Tuesday 21st November

- Year 8 Rugby Waterfall Tournament v Hardenhuish School 11:30am -16:00pm (Away)
- Year 7 Boys County Cup Football GWA 2:45pm - 4:15pm (Home)

Wednesday 22nd November

- U14 Girls County Cup Football Round 2 v South Wiltshire Grammar School (Away)

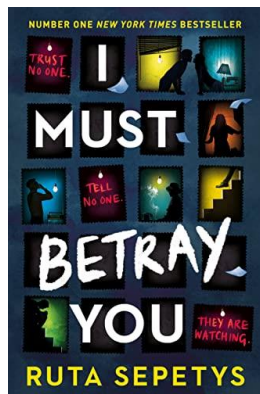
Thursday 23rd November

- Year 9 Rugby Waterfall Tournament Kingsbury Green Academy 11:30am -16:00pm (Away)
- Year 10 Rugby v Kingdown 3:00pm - 5:30pm (Away)

Results of last week's games:

- Year 10 Netball vs Melksham Oak **18-8 WIN**
- Year 7 Rugby vs Melksham Oak **WIN**
- U15 National Plate Rugby Game v Oasis Brislington **27-19 AGAINST**

St Laurence Reads 2023-24



Every academic year, as part of our Tutorial programme, all students and tutors take part in St Laurence Reads.

This year, students voted to read *I Must Betray You* by internationally renowned young adult author Ruta Sepetys, a gripping thriller set in Communist Romania on the brink of the 1989 revolution.

If any parents or carers would like to 'join in' and also read the novel, Wiltshire Libraries have multiple copies, including at Bradford on Avon and Trowbridge branches.

The importance of reading

When we study subjects at school, we cannot learn effectively without 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.

We know that students who **read widely, and read for pleasure**, tend to learn more in their school subjects, and do better in those subjects, than students who do not. Reading widely 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 widely makes you cleverer**.

At St Laurence, we study whole literary texts in English lessons in all years. We also make access to the ILC available in order to choose reading books, and we try to encourage students to have a reading book on the go at all times – whether this is the latest novel in a series that students have been reading, a biography of a sporting hero, or a collection of short stories.

At St Laurence we recognise that not everyone will enjoy every book; but we know that there is “a book for everyone”. As such, we actively encourage students to discover and explore a range of books, and the ILC has lots of books with stories that cover the whole human experience. We want to challenge our students to develop their own reading journeys, and in doing so increase their insight, empathy and understanding of the wider world.

It's important for students to experiment with what they read – for them not to get stuck in a rut, or read books that are too easy. The staff in the ILC have an exceptional knowledge of all kinds of books that 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 tutorial activity once per week, where everyone in the school reads the same book and discusses it; this helps to underline how important we think reading is at St Laurence.

Reading isn't just something for English lessons: being a good, fluent reader helps students across school – and in **their whole life**. And, aside from this, in a world that can be dominated by the consumption of fleeting and sometimes asinine digital snippets, the feeling of getting immersed in a good book is simply one of the most **calming, rewarding and enjoyable** there is.

We have produced, with help from colleagues in the ILC, the following wider reading lists that complement the schemes of learning that years 7, 8 and 9 are respectively following in terms 1 and 2. We hope your children can enjoy some of these.

St Laurence English department



[Year 7 T1-2 Difficult Choices.pdf](#)



[Year 8 T1-2 Visions.pdf](#)



[Year 9 T1-2 Inequality.pdf](#)



[Importance of reading.docx](#)

At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one of many devices which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about SMART TVs

Smart TVs connect to the internet without the need for a set-top box or streaming device, letting users access a range of features through the TV set itself: from on-demand content apps like BBC iPlayer to streaming services such as Netflix, as well connecting to smartphones and other wireless devices. Most new televisions are internet enabled – so whether you're thinking of upgrading your home viewing system or buying an additional TV for your child's room, it's now even more important to consider the online safety aspects.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

From Netflix to Disney+, there is a plethora of streaming services available. While these services offer content catering for younger viewers, they also provide material for more mature audiences. If you don't have parental controls set up on your accounts, your child could find themselves being exposed to shows and movies with adult themes, strong language and violence.

INCREASED SCREEN TIME

The array of content available through smart TVs could lead to your child spending excessive amounts of time in front of the screen. Not only can prolonged screen time distract from important activities such as schoolwork or exercise, but experts have also warned that endless hours in front of the box can lead to health problems including obesity, poor sleeping patterns and depression.

REMOTE-CONTROL RETAIL

Like many online devices, smart TVs facilitate digital purchases: buying a new app or the latest season of a favourite show, for example. If your child has access to a bank card and isn't restricted by spending controls on the system, they could run up a sizeable bill through a smart TV fairly quickly – especially if they're not quite old enough to fully appreciate the value of money.

UNCONVINCING SECURITY

As Internet of Things (IoT) devices, smart TVs can be uniquely vulnerable to attack. Experts warn that internet-enabled TVs tend not to support high-level security software, so you won't always be able to download strong antivirus programmes like you would on a phone or computer. Being targeted by hackers could be deeply upsetting for your child, as well as putting their personal data at risk.

A SILENT SPY?

Some smart TVs already collect data on users' viewing habits and then display targeted advertising based on that personal information – while there have also been reports of internet-enabled TVs (and the apps installed on them) being used to 'eavesdrop' on owners. In models with a built-in microphone (for voice activation), third parties could potentially listen in on someone's home life.

CONTACT FROM STRANGERS

Many smart TVs can be used for web browsing, social media and live streaming – all of which could allow unknown users to contact your child (or vice versa). If your child engages with these functions of the TV, a stranger could potentially discover their contact information and potentially then use it to obtain even more sensitive personal details, such as your home address.

Advice for Parents & Carers

MAKE IT A FAMILY THING

Family TV time is a great way to model the responsible enjoyment of technology – showing your child how to use the smart TV safely for when they're old enough to watch it independently. You could also take this opportunity to establish some healthy TV boundaries, such as time limits on their daily viewing or how to make sure they're only watching content that's appropriate for their age.

CREATE CHILD PROFILES

Much like with smartphones and tablets, apps can be downloaded onto smart TVs: from free content platforms such as BBC iPlayer to paid-for services like Prime Video. Most of these apps allow you to create a separate account for your child which has different settings to your own – suggesting more child-friendly material and reducing the possibility of them viewing explicit content.

SET UP PARENTAL CONTROLS

It's likely that your smart TV has built-in parental controls, which not only let you filter out age-inappropriate shows, movies and games but can also restrict in-app purchasing, so your child can't accidentally spend money through the device. When you've enabled these safeguards, have an open conversation with your child about the reasons, helping them to understand the potential risks.

CONSIDER THE LOCATION

If you're concerned about the online safety hazards that a smart TV might pose to your child, you could consider where in your home you put the device. The safest option would be to place the smart TV in a shared family space – so that an adult is usually nearby and able to supervise while your child's watching it – rather than in the relative privacy of a bedroom.

Meet Our Expert

Cathy Hogg is an experienced technology journalist with a track record of more than 10 years in the industry. Previously the editor of tech website The Register, Cathy is now a freelance technology journalist, editor and consultant.

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#WakeUpWednesday

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Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 15.11.2023



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 20th November 2023

<div>Lunch week 2</div> <div>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.</div>					
	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
MAIN MEAL	CHEESE & BEAN SLICE SERVED WITH WEDGES & GREEN SALAD	HUNTERS CHICKEN SERVED WITH RICE & VEGETABLES	ROAST CHICKEN SERVED WITH ALL THE TRIMMINGS	CHICKEN & VEGETABLE PIE SERVED WITH NEW POTOES AND VEGETABLES	SAUSAGE SERVED WITH CHIPS AND BEANS & CURRY SAUCE
PLANT BASED / VEGETARIAN	SPICED FALAFEL FLATBREAD SERVED WITH SALAD AND WEDGES	HUNTERS QOURN FILLETS WITH RICE AND VEGETABLES	QUORN ROAAST SERVED WITH ALL THE TRIMMINGS	VEGETABLE MINCE PIE SERVED WITH NEW POTOES AND VEGETABLES	VEGAN SAUSAGE SERVED WITH CHIPS BEANS & CURRY SAUCE
STREET FOOD	VEGETABLE FRENCH BREAD PIZZA	VEGAN CHILLI & INFUSSED GARLIC RICE	AMERICAN STYLE HOT DOG	MEATBALL SUB	FISH FINGER BAPWITH LEMON MAYO AND CRISPY ICEBERG
HOT SNACKS	SOUP OF THE DAY & ROLL	CHICKEN NUGGETS WITH A DIP AND SALAD	VEGETARIAN QUICHE & CRISPY SALAD	STIRE FRIED VEGETABLE NOODLES	PESTO PASTA BAKE
PIZZA SLICE	PIZZA OF THE DAY	PIZZA OF THE DAY	PIZZA OF THE DAY	PIZZA OF THE DAY	PIZZA OF THE DAY
	SALAD BAR	SALAD BAR	SALAD BAR	SALAD BAR	SALAD BAR
JACKETS	TRY OUR DELICIOUS FLLINGS FROM 70P EACH.				
DESSERTS	STEAMED JAM SPONGE & CUSTARD	WARM GINGER CAKE SERVED WITH CREAM	PEAR CRUMBLE & CUSTARD	TOFFEE APPLE CAKE SERVED WITH CUSTARD	CHOCOLATE CHEESECAKE

Meal Deal
Main Meal
With Vegetables
And Dessert



£2.80
All Of Our Main Meals and Desserts Are Freshly Made On Site Every Day

Op Sceptre



November 2023

Dear Parent/Guardian/Carer,

The Wiltshire Police Youth and Early Intervention Team work with schools, colleges and partners to share messages and educate young people. The aim is to keep young people in our community safe from harm and exploitation, whilst educating them where they can go for support.

Op Sceptre, a week-long national campaign aimed at tackling knife crime, is running from 13th November – 17th November 2023. Wiltshire Police's Youth and Early Intervention Team would like to raise awareness of weapons and knife crime within Swindon and Wiltshire. We wanted to give you, as trusted adults, some useful and helpful information on the following subjects:

- How to recognise the signs that may indicate that your young people are potentially at risk of being exploited or vulnerable to carrying/storing weapons.
- Safeguarding and signposting information on who to turn to and which agencies can help you.

Wiltshire Police aims to raise awareness around knife crime and carrying weapons on the streets of Swindon and Wiltshire. We need your help as trusted adults to ensure that every young person knows what the risks are. This will help them make informed and educated choices moving forward in their lives.

Signs that your young person maybe being exploited

- Is your child hanging around with a new group of friends? A group that you don't know or have never met?
- Is your child suddenly wearing new items of clothing that you have not purchased for them?
- Does your child have more than one phone?
- Have they started to become more irritable every time you try to engage with them?
- Are they becoming more secretive, always in their bedroom, not engaging in family activities/outings?
- Is your child missing school? Or having missing episodes from home?

Whilst most of these signs are what you may call typical teenage behaviour, just be mindful that there could be more to it. If your gut feeling is telling you that something isn't right, then have a conversation with them or speak to a friend or professional who may be able to offer you some support.

Things to think about before your young person goes out

- Do you know where they are going?
- Do you know who they are with?
- What time do they need to be back by?
- Ensure you have contact details for their friends and their friend's parents.

Safeguarding and signposting information

Fearless is a site designed specifically for young people. You can access non-judgmental information and advice about crime and criminality. It can also be used as an anonymous reporting tool for young people. <https://www.fearless.org>

Crimestoppers is an anonymous reporting service specifically for adults and is the company of Fearless. <https://crimestoppers-uk.org>, 0800 555 111.

The NSPCC is a children's charity, dedicated to supporting children and trusted adults for most situations providing useful information and resources. <https://www.nspcc.org.uk>

Childline is here to help anyone under 19 in the UK with any issue they are going through. You can talk about anything. Whether it's something big or small, their trained counsellors are there to support you. <https://www.childline.org.uk>. Or call on 0800 1111.

The Ben Kinsella Trust aims to educate everyone on the dangers of knife crime ensuring that young people can make educated choices and know where to go to for more help and support. They have resources for young people, school and trusted adults. <https://www.benkinsella.org.uk>

Please take a few minutes to look at the videos below. The aim of these is to highlight what your child/children/young person may be going through, if they find themselves in that situation and to give you, as a trusted adult, an insight into what this might look like. Please be mindful these videos can be emotive for those watching.

- [Kayleigh's Love Story - Full Version - YouTube](#) – Kayleigh's Love Story.
- [Help put 'county lines' out of business - YouTube](#) – National Criminal Child Exploitation.
- [Knife crime: A new way forward - YouTube](#) – Avon and Somerset Police.

If you have any concerns about a young person and wish to contact the Police, please call 101. If there is immediate risk to a young person call 999.

We hope that you have found this information useful and should you have any questions please contact us using the email addresses below.

youth@wiltshire.police.uk

youthswindon@wiltshire.police.uk

Kind Regards,

Youth and Early intervention Team

St Laurence School Association

Christmas Tree Sale

Saturday 2nd & 9th December
9am - 3pm

Nordman Fir Christmas Trees
No Drop

5 foot - £50

6 foot - £60

7 foot - £70

ALL PROCEEDS GO TO
ST LAURENCE SCHOOL

Pre-order available now at:
<https://slsa.org.uk/xmas-trees>

Or by email:
slsa@st-Laurence.com

Sale will be in Churches car park
(Wiltshire Music Centre side)





CHRISTMAS Movie Night

Raising money for Cots for Tots

13 December



Tickets
£3

SCREENING THE NAVIITY 2

LECTURE THEATRE OPENS AT 15:15, FILM
SCREENS 15:45 TILL 17:30

Buy tickets on ParentPay and bring
extra cash for snacks

INDOOR CAR BOOT SALE



SUPPORTING PAPYRUS AND FITZMAURICE PRIMARY

BRADFORD ON AVON

25TH November

10:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Adults £1 entry

BoA Scout Hut, BA15 1DP

VERY LIMITED PARKING PLEASE USE
TOWN CAR PARKS

BRADFORD ON AVON

Christmas Lights Switch On

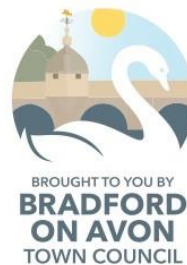


**FRIDAY 24TH
NOVEMBER**

**SWITCH ON 6PM
WESTBURY GARDEN**

**With live music at Westbury
Garden, Lamb Yard, Tithe Barn
Workshops & The Shambles**

**Santa's grotto,
Mistledog Trail, funfair
rides, festive food &
drink and gift fair**



Event Sponsor



SYSTEMAGIC
DOING IT DIFFERENTLY

For more information visit www.bradfordonavon.co.uk

Chess Club Session

Saturday 25th November 2:00pm – 3:00pm

Open to children aged 7+



Chess Club is open to children aged 7+ who can play chess and would like the opportunity to play games with other children.

All children must have an adult present during the session.

If you have a chess board, please bring it along.

For more information, please see a member of staff or call on 01225 863280.

bradfordlibrary@wiltshire.gov.uk