



Week Commencing Monday 6th October 2025

Headteacher's Update

Dear Parents and Carers

As we settle into the rhythm of the term, I'd like to thank you for your continued support of both the school and the wider community. The partnership between home and school is what makes such a difference to our children's education, and we are always grateful for the time, energy, and encouragement you give.

I'm pleased to remind you that the SLSA (our version of the PTA) will be hosting their **Quiz Night on Thursday 17th October**. It promises to be a fun evening filled with friendly competition, laughter, and the chance to connect with other families. All funds raised will go directly towards enhancing the opportunities and experiences we can offer our students.

To make the evening even more special, we are asking for your help. If you, or someone you know, has connections with a local business that might be willing to donate a prize, we would be truly grateful. Items such as hampers, beauty or restaurant vouchers, and other treats make a huge difference in boosting our fundraising efforts. No contribution is too small, and every donation will be acknowledged with thanks.

We look forward to seeing many of you there—it's set to be a wonderful evening!

Thank you, Mr Farrer

In this week's bulletin:

- 6th Form Open Evening date
- Second hand uniform sale – last one of 2025
- Y11 Mock exams timetables
- **Please check Sports News section for changes to sports club schedules**
- Online Safety – What you need to know about EA Sports FC 26
- Community News
 - Quiz Night – Book now!! Just 3 tables left

And lots more.....

Key dates for your diary - Week B

Monday 6 th October	Y7 Farm Day (LG1) 9:00am – 4:00pm
Tuesday 7 th October	- Y7 Farm Day (LG2) 9:00am – 4:00pm - Y8 Rugby V Corsham School (Away) - Y11 Netball V JoG (Home) - Berlin Presentation 6:00pm – 7:00pm
Wednesday 8 th October	- Y7 Farm Day (LG3) 9:00am – 4:00pm - Y7 Football V Kings Oak Academy (Home) - Y8 Rugby Tournament
Thursday 9 th October	- Y7 Farm Day (LG4) 9:00am – 4:00pm - Y13 Reports Issued 6th Form UKMT Senior Maths Challenge - GCSE/A Level PE Parent Filming Event 6:00pm – 7:30pm
Friday 10 th October	

Key dates for your diary - Week A

Monday 13 th October	Y7 Farm Day (LG5) 9:00am – 4:00pm
Tuesday 14 th October	- Y7 Farm Day (LG6) 9:00am – 4:00pm - Y10 Bronze DofE Launch for Conigre & Ashley House Students - Y6 Open Morning Year 7 Admissions St Laurence School
Wednesday 15 th October	- Y7 Farm Day (LG7) 9:00am – 4:00pm - Y10 Bronze DofE Launch for Huntingdon & Westfield House Students - Careers Fair - Y8 Christchurch Trip
Thursday 16 th October	- Y7 Farm Day (LG8) 9:00am – 4:00pm - Y6 Open Morning Year 7 Admissions St Laurence School - Y10 Bronze DofE Launch for Budbury Students - Y8 & Y11 Reports issued
Friday 17 th October	Y13 Holburne Museum Trip



St Laurence School
Care • Inspire • Succeed



Open Evening
6th Form
Thursday 6th November 2025 | 5:00pm – 7:30pm



Inspire •



Presentations led by the Headteacher and Director of 6th Form will be at 5:00pm and 6:00pm in Trinity Hall, followed by a tour of the school.



In the Wiltshire Music Centre

www.st-laurence.com • Ashley Road, Bradford on Avon, Wiltshire. BA15 1DZ

From: Mrs Pritchard - Director of Progress and Learning KS4

Many thanks to all those parents who attended our **Year 11 information evening** on Monday 29th September, we hope you found it useful.

As promised the slides, guide and timetable were emailed to you via Bromcom on Tuesday. If you have the app, please check your MCAS messages to access these.

From: Mrs Butterworth - Head of Psychology and Sociology, and Mrs Haigh – Teacher of RE
For Parents and Carers of Y11 GCSE Sociology Students

We have been running GCSE Sociology Extra since the start of term and would like to invite your son/daughter to attend on Wednesday of Week B, or Thursday of either week, to help in the runup to mocks and beyond.

Those students attending will be given a raffle ticket and entered into the Sociology Christmas draw. Please sign up on MCAS. We would like to see your son/daughter there!

From: Ms Favali - Teacher of Psychology

Dissection workshop for A-Level Psychology, Biology and KS4 Science students

There will be an opportunity for students studying A Level Psychology and Biology to take part in a sheep brain dissection on Wednesday 3rd December 3:15pm - 4:15pm. This is also open to any KS4 science students are interested in medicine or forensics.

The sheep brain dissection is to help students better understand the science behind the brain and the different functions and will enable our keenest science students to see how the brain systems are organised.

We are limited with the number of spaces that can be allocated to this activity so we will offer it to Year 13 Psychology and Biology students first, followed by Year 12 Psychology and Biology students and then KS4 Science students with an interest in medicine or forensics.

To sign up for this opportunity students should collect a permission slip from Ms Favali in S4, to be signed and returned. Psychology and Biology students have access to the permission slip on MCAS.

Mrs Butterworth - Head of Psychology and Sociology

For Parents and Carers Working in Psychology, Social Work or Criminal Justice Sectors

It is at this time of year that we put out our annual plea for speakers that would be willing to come and talk to our Key Stage 4 and 5 students about careers related to the Social Sciences.

We welcome face to face or online speakers throughout the year. If you can support us please email nicbut@st-laurence.com for more information. Thank you for your support in inspiring our students in their next steps.

From: Mr Bailey - Head of History and Learning Outside the Classroom

St Laurence Extra – afterschool clubs

St Laurence Extra afterschool clubs are well underway, and we are delighted to see so many students taking part in the extracurricular life of the school.

We have a waiting list of children wanting to sign up for clubs which are now full, if your child has missed several weeks of a club, they will be removed from the register to make space for those on the waiting list.

If your child has been unwell or had other appointments on the day of the club preventing them from attending, before the next session please communicate this with the club leader so that your child remains on the register.

Removal of students from a club register does not create an alert to parents/carers, therefore we encourage you to check the clubs that your children are actively enrolled on and attending.

From: Mr Chadwick - Director of English

For the attention of parents and carers of Year 10 students - English Literature Set Texts

The English department asks that all students have their own copy of all set texts, so that they can make notes in them, and have them to revise from.

By the end of term 1, please can parents and carers source a copy the set text *An Inspector Calls* by JB Priestley, or *The Woman in Black* by Susan Hill. The set text required will depend on which teacher your child is taught by. This information can be found on **MCAS**. Revision guides are also available for these texts; for *An Inspector Calls*, we recommend the York Notes GCSE 9-1 revision guide.

Some students who are in receipt of the Pupil Premium will have their texts and a revision guide provided for them by the school; teachers will advise these students in lessons.

Literacy lessons in the ILC and the importance of reading for pleasure

Twice during a fortnightly timetable cycle, year 7 and year 8 students use the ILC for their Literacy and private reading lessons. These lessons are coded Lx on students' timetables.

For half of the Lx lesson, students follow the Bedrock Vocabulary Builder program; this individually adapted program introduces students to many new words and teaches them how to use these in several contexts. For the other half of this lesson, students have half an hour of private reading in the comfortable reading area of the ILC.

These lessons are a privilege - they

- Provide time in a busy day for students to become immersed in a book that will stimulate their imagination
- Allow students to be calm and focused for an extended time
- Give students an opportunity to read something purely for pleasure
- Let students find out about new writers and books

We would ask that parents try to ensure that their children

- Have their reading book in their bag for these Lx lessons
- Read at home for 20+ minutes per day, and cultivate a habit of regular reading for pleasure
- Do not have access to mobile devices when they read

At a time when reading for pleasure among young people is reportedly at its lowest ever level, it is important that adults encourage reading of lengthy texts (i.e. novels, biographies, extended non-fiction) for sustained periods of time.

If parents can also talk to their children about what they are reading, share reading with them, and be reading for pleasure role models themselves, this can help foster a reading culture at home to complement the one that we try to foster at St Laurence in English and Literacy lessons.

Thank you for your support, Mr Chadwick

Second Hand Uniform Sale

Is your child about to outgrow their school uniform? Join us for our last sale of 2025:



 **Date:** Wednesday 21st October

 **Time:** from 4:30pm

 **Location:** Trinity Hall (please use the Ashley Road entrance)

There will also be a small selection of winter jackets available.

Pre-sale donations welcome – please leave your clean, resaleable uniform at Reception during school hours.

If you can spare two hours to help at the sale, please email marketing@st-laurence.com for details. Your help will be greatly appreciated.

Lost Property

Each term, we have a large amount of lost property left at **Student Reception**, which often goes unclaimed.

At the end of each term, unnamed and unclaimed belongings are disposed of and can no longer be collected.

This term the deadline for collection from Student Reception is:

Tuesday 20th October between 3:00pm – 4:00pm only

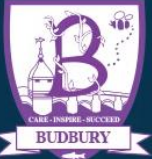
Lost property remaining unclaimed by this date will be donated to the St Laurence School Association or a local charity.

What's on the Menu?



Click the link to our Catering page for information on all the different ways our students can enjoy healthy and nutritious meals at school:

[Catering | St Laurence School \(st-laurence.com\)](https://st-laurence.com/catering)

House Points				
Ashley	Budbury	Conigre	Huntingdon	Westfield
				
17329	18280	16500	17218	17497

Timetable of Y11 Mock Written Examinations in Sports Hall (10th – 21st November 2025)

Mon, 10 Nov week B		Late Break	Lesson 3	Early Lunch	Session 2 Exam
Line up under main quad canopy by 8:35	German Listening – 1h (Lecture Theatre) French Reading - 1h15m	11.05 – 11.30	Normal lesson	12.30 – 1.00 Line up under main quad canopy by 1.00	Geography UK Paper 2 - 1h45m
Tue, 11 Nov		Late Break	Lesson 3	Early Lunch	Session 2 Exam
Line up under main quad canopy by 8:35	Maths Paper 1 (non-calculator) - 1h	11.05 – 11.30	Normal lesson	12.30 – 1.00 Line up under main quad canopy by 1.00	Combined Science Biology - 1h15m Separate Science Biology - 1h45m
Wed, 12 Nov		Late Break	Lesson 3	Early Lunch	
Line up under main quad canopy by 8:35	Business - 1h45m Sociology – 1h45m	11.05 – 11.30	Normal lesson	12.30 – 1.00 Line up under main quad canopy by 1.00	RE Ethics – 1h30m
Thu, 13 Nov	Session 1 Exam	Late Break	Lesson 3	Early Lunch	Session 2 Exam
Line up under main quad canopy by 8:35	History Paper 1 - 2h	11.05 – 11.30	Normal lesson	12.30 – 1.00 Line up under main quad canopy by 1.00	English Language – 1h45m
Fri, 14 Nov	Session 1 Exam	Late Break	Lesson 3	Early Lunch	Session 2 Exam
Line up under main quad canopy by 8:35	PE - 1h15m Food - 1h45m Design Technology - 2h	11.05 – 11.30	Normal lesson	12.30 – 1.00 Line up under main quad canopy by 1.00	French Listening – 1h (Lecture Theatre) German Reading - 1h15m
Mon, 17 Nov	Session 1 Exam	Late Break	Lesson 3	Early Lunch	Session 2 Exam
Line up under main quad canopy by 8:35	Maths Paper 2 (calculator) - 1h	11.05 – 11.30	Normal lesson	12.30 – 1.00 Line up under main quad canopy by 1.00	Combined Science Chemistry - 1h15m
Tue, 18 Nov	Session 1 Exam	Late Break	Lesson 3	Early Lunch	Session 2 Exam
Line up under main quad canopy by 8:35	English Literature - 1h	11.05 – 11.30	Normal lesson	12.30 – 1.00 Line up under main quad canopy by 1.00	Dance - 1h30m Drama - 1h45m Music - 1h15m (Lecture Theatre)
Wed, 19 Nov	Session 1 Exam	Late Break	Lesson 3	Early Lunch	Session 2 Exam
Line up under main quad canopy by 8:35	Maths Paper 3 (calculator) - 1h	11.05 – 11.30	Normal lesson	12.30 – 1.00 Line up under main quad canopy by 1.00	Combined Science Physics - 1h15m Separate Science Physics– 1h45m
Thu, 20 Nov	Session 1 Exam	Late Break	Lesson 3	Early Lunch	Session 2 Exam
Line up under main quad canopy by 8:35	History Paper 2 - 1h	11.05 – 11.30	Normal lesson	12.30 – 1.00 Line up under main quad canopy by 1.00	German Writing – 1h30m French Writing - 1h30m
Fri, 21 Nov	Session 1 Exam	Late Break	Lesson 3	Early Lunch	Session 2 Exam
Line up under main quad canopy by 8:35	Geography Global Paper 1 - 1h	11.05 – 11.30	Normal lesson	12.30 – 1.00 Line up under main quad canopy by 1.00	Catch-Up

For candidates entitled to exam access arrangements:

Candidates who are entitled to a word processor, reader, scribe or separate/smaller room access arrangement will be collected from the main quad canopy by reception and taken to their exam room.

- If you do not have an exam timetabled for any of the sessions, then you must follow your usual Year 11 timetable.
- You must return to normal timetable after your morning exams, but in the afternoon, you will be free to go home when your exam is complete.
- If you need to remain on site to wait for transport, there will be space provided.
- All exams will be held in the Sports Hall unless otherwise indicated on your exam timetable.
- All information relating to exams, including seating plans, will be displayed on the exams notice board in the main school quad each day and published on the Student Portal.
- You may bring water into the exam hall in a clear, label-free bottle. Do not bring food.
- Please bring equipment in a clear pencil case or plastic bag and do not bring calculator cases into the exam hall.
- Candidates must not bring into the exam room any notes, mobile phones, earphones/earbuds, watches, or any digital/Bluetooth/other devices

- Extra time will be accommodated for students with approved access arrangements, but please be aware that buses will not wait after school so alternative transport home may need to be arranged by students/parents /carers.

If students have a clash of subjects within an exam session, their individual timetable will show when they sit their clash exam.

Y11 Mock GCSE Practical Exam Timetable

Art	11C 8 th December, 11A 9 th December (TBC)
Dance	26 th November
Drama	25 th November
Food	24 th & 28 th November
French	3 rd & 4 th December
German	4 th & 5 th December
Graphics	11D 9 th December, 11B 10 th December (TBC)
Music	27 th November
PE	2 nd December
Photography	11A December (TBC)
Sport Studies	2 nd December

From: Mr Carter – Head of PE

Cross-Country Event

At 3.00pm on Tuesday 7th October, the PE department are running an open cross-country event for students in years 10 and 11. If your child is interested in this event, please ask them to sign up on the PE department notice board. The distances are - **Girls - 3k** **Boys - 4k**

There is also an opportunity for students to represent the school in the cross-country team at the West Wiltshire Championships on Friday 7th November. For more information, please contact Mr Carter: jascar@st-laurence.com

Change to after school clubs

1. Mr Burrows year 7 and year 8 rugby club - Postponed and will return on Thursday 16th October
2. Mr McCulloch's year 7/8/9 netball club - Postponed and will return on Thursday 16th October
3. Mr Carter's year 9 rugby club - **Moved** to Wednesday 8th October
4. Mr Povoas year 10 and 11 netball club - **Will continue as normal**
5. Mr Quantrill's table tennis club - **Will continue as normal**

Upcoming Fixtures

Tuesday 7th October

Year 8 Rugby vs Corsham (A). Return approx. 5:30pm
Year 11 Netball vs JOG (H). Finish approx. 4:45pm

Wednesday 8th October

Year 8 Rugby Tournament at Trowbridge RFC. Return approx. 6:00pm
Year 7 Football vs Kings Oak Academy. Finish approx. 5:15pm

Recent Results

Tuesday 30th September

St Laurence 23 – 7 vs St Augustine's (Year 10 Netball)

Wednesday 1st October

St Laurence 0 – 1 Mangotsfield School (Year 10 Boys ESFA Cup)

Thursday 2nd October

St Laurence 1 – 2 Corsham School (Year 7 Rugby)

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about EA SPORTS FC 26



WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

AN ANNUAL RELEASE SCHEDULE

As was the case with the last two EA Sports FC games and the FIFA series before it, the franchise rolls out once a year with updated squads and new features. This can make it expensive to keep up with, particularly when so many dedicated players are keen to get their hands on the latest edition.

VOICE CHAT

Voice chat can be enabled across all platforms, meaning young people can speak to anyone they play with or against. While it can be switched off, some children will no doubt want to speak to their friends while they play. This also means they may encounter strangers much older than them, which can expose them to inappropriate language or behaviours.

IN-GAME PURCHASES THROUGH ULTIMATE TEAM

Ultimate Team is the big draw for EA Sports FC, letting players spend real money on packs that they can open to build a squad of the world's best players. They're not always easy to obtain, and new, improved versions of players will be regularly added as limited-time offerings. Young people could feel pressured into spending money and experience fear of missing out.

SCAMMERS IN ULTIMATE TEAM

Ultimate Team is managed by EA itself, but that hasn't stopped scammers from looking to dupe players out of money and in-game coins. Some scammers sell their accounts, which is a violation of EA's terms of service, while others will 'sell' coins – something the developer is still working to crack down on. Some try to gain access to others' accounts, potentially giving them access to payment information.

POTENTIAL FOR ADDICTION

While EA Sports FC is potentially addictive, thanks to its fast-paced gameplay and mirroring of the real-world skill and glamour of football, Ultimate Team's focus on limited-time rewards and the lottery of winning packs can make it feel closer to gambling than gaming, which may lead to addiction and impulsive spending of money.

Advice for Parents & Educators

PREPARE FOR ANOTHER GAME IN A YEAR

The annual-release cadence aligns with the return of the school year, and can be a great way to incentivise good behaviour at the start of term. If children are applying themselves and preparing for a new year of school, or were particularly well behaved in the summer, EA Sports FC 26 could make a great reward.

LIMIT SPENDING

If you're worried about children accidentally spending real money in Ultimate Team, whether in game or on the EA Sports FC companion app, don't link a payment card to their account. Reclaiming funds can be a mountain to climb, and the dopamine hit of opening flashy packs with slick animations means one purchase can lead to another very quickly. It's also worth adding a prepaid card if you'd prefer them to make their own choices with their budget.

MONITOR VOICE CHAT

As in-game chat is open, be sure to adjust the settings in EA Sports FC 26 to lock it down. If children want to chat with their friends while they play, consider setting up a safe space for them to call, to allow them to play without fear of outsiders.

BE VIGILANT

As with last year, there are ways to keep scammers at bay. Ensure passwords are locked down, and consider using a password manager application to keep them secure. EA will never contact players through the game itself, so be vigilant with incoming messages, and block and report suspected spam. EA will contact players by email if needed, but they will never ask for usernames or passwords. Players should also avoid buying in-game currency from unofficial websites – doing so can lead to accounts being banned and could cost players money in the process.

Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is an experienced freelance writer and has been working in the gaming and tech industry for seven years. A regular visitor to the App Store to try out new tools, he's also a parent and therefore understands the importance of online safety. He's also a tech and fitness writer and has been published at sites including IGN, TechRadar, and plenty more.



The National College

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/ea-sports-fc-26>



@wake_up_weds



/www.thenationalcollege



@wake.up.wednesday



@wake.up.weds

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 01.10.2025

Community News

BOOK NOW! There are only 3 tables left for Quiz Night on Friday 17th October! Please come along and support this event which promises to be fun and memorable! Every penny raised goes to much needed projects and equipment for the school

Tickets and cheese platters are on sale through Eventbrite! There will be a cash bar on the night. Come as a team of 6 or form a team on the night.

Buy your tickets here:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/st-laurence-school-quiz-night-tickets-1680001141639?aff=oddttdtcreator>





WE ARE HIRING!

Cleaning Vacancy

Imperial Cleaning Services have an exciting new opportunity for you to join their cleaning team at
St Laurence School

Monday-Friday
3 hours a day, 3:00pm-6:00pm or
3 hours per day 4:00pm-7:00pm

Pay: £12.21 per hour
Morning shifts available too.

Please contact us to find out more at:
recruitment@imperialcleaningservices.co.uk
or Tel: 01225 282525

CALLING ALL YEAR 9/10/11 FOOTBALL PLAYERS.

Bradford on Avon Youth U14 football team is looking for new players to come and join us immediately. We pride ourselves on being a friendly and welcoming team. Games are played on Sunday afternoon and training is on Monday evening.

PLEASE CONTACT keithjwalker@yahoo.co.uk



MIGHTY GIRLS ART CLUB



MONTHLY MEET UP

Come and join us for fun, relaxed evenings where we'll explore different art forms and open up conversations about things that matter most to you.

First Wednesday of the month commencing Wed 1st Oct 25

Stone, Paper, Scissors, Tithe Barn Workshops, 4 Pound Lane, Bradford on Avon, BA15 1LF

Open to girls aged 12 + (Year 8 upwards)

6:00 to 7:30 PM

Learn more: www.mightygirls.co.uk



Positive Relationships



Art Facilitator
Sharkey

COLOUR AND LIGHT

Free Open Access Young Artist Programme
Trowbridge Saturdays NOV 25 - NOV 26

Calling local young people (aged 11-18yrs) who'd like extra art room time on Saturdays during term time in Trowbridge town centre from Nov 8th 2025 - Nov 2026. These open-access sessions are free, made possible by a grant from the Arts Council England. You will also have the opportunity to be included in an exhibition and publication, Easter 2026

FREE!

WHAT'S ON OFFER

- 2hrs on Saturday's 10.00 - 12.00 to make art in an inclusive studio environment, STARTING 8TH NOV 2025
- Self initiated projects with a free sketchbook and portfolio.
- Inclusion in a group exhibition and publication, Easter 2026
- Creative support from artist directors, Alison Ballance & Anna Chrystal Stephens
- Use of studio materials (paper, inks, photosensitive emulsions, textiles, pens, pencils, paints, etc)
- Weekly sign up & facilities induction

FIND OUT MORE BEFORE NOVEMBER - FREE TASTER WORKSHOP
10.00 - 12.00 SAT 4TH OCT

SILT is an art studio based in Trowbridge dedicated to image-making using ecologically aware materials and methods. Our studio has an eco darkroom for analogue photographic processes, facilities for ink-making & textile dyeing, and an evolving exhibition program. We provide hands-on public workshops and courses such as Botanical Inks and dyes, Eco Analogue Photography, Experimental Drawing, Painting and Printing. SILT was set up in 2023 by artists Alison Ballance and Anna Chrystal Stephens

SILT Unit 6, St George's Works, Silver Street, Trowbridge, Wiltshire
BA14 8GZ, UK | @__SILT__ | hello@silt.work



SIGN UP HERE
Saturday sessions

led by
Wiltshire Council



Supported by specific funding from
ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND