



# St Lawrence Headlines

October 2024

*Inspired by the Christian faith, our children will treasure a **love of learning**, a **belief in themselves and others**, and a **respect for the world around them**, helping them to grow and flourish throughout their lives.*



## Dear Parents/Carers



'Impressive from start to finish,' was the comment from a recent parent who came to visit our school and we would all have to agree! As I walk the school daily and pop into classrooms, I can see excellent learning taking place and lots of engaged, happy children who have built strong bonds with their teachers and each other. We really feel passionately that relationships are the key to success at St Lawrence.

It was wonderful seeing so many of you this term during our various events, including our coffee mornings, parents evenings, class assemblies, Harvest service and choir performance – it is always a pleasure to share these special occasions with you all. Thank you also for completing a parent survey as it is incredibly useful to build a picture of how we are doing more generally. We will share the results with you in the coming weeks and will be tweaking and refining our provision over the year.

Year 6 had a wonderful opportunity this half term to be taught hockey by Miguel from the Old Cranleigh Hockey Club and many children have since joined the club outside of school. This extra PE lesson will be extended to Year 4 in January so watch this space for details. We also have two brand new hockey clubs next term, run by Surbiton and the OC so please do look out for details to book a place for your child. Mouth guard, shin pads and long socks a must!

Mrs Cary and I have been working very closely together over the past few years and are proud of the positive collaboration between ourselves and the two schools. The incredibly seamless transition of the Year 2 children into Year 3 is a testament to that relationship. Please look [here](#) at our joint school brochure highlighting the joined-up approach that we have. We look forward to continuing that partnership over the coming years.

So, after what feels like the longest half term known to man, I wish you all a restful and happy break with your friends and families. I am looking forward to taking advantage of my children's school holiday club for a day or two to recharge! We look forward to having the children back with us on Tuesday 5th November in full winter uniform.

With warm wishes,  
Mrs Grace MacLean





# What's been happening this term?



## Year 6

Over the past six weeks, Year 6 have had the fantastic opportunity to participate in hockey sessions run by Old Cranleighan Hockey Club. Their coach Miguel, who is a Portuguese international hockey player, has helped the children develop their hockey skills and displayed incredible sportsmanship. Miguel was particularly impressed with their enthusiasm and teamwork, making each session both fun and inspiring for everyone involved.

Evan (Owls) - I really loved hockey. Miguel taught us lots of tricks and we got to play lots of matches to practice our game play.

Luke (Owls) - Hockey was really fun. Miguel was really kind and he showed us his cool tricks.





## Year 5 - Message from Mrs Raymonde

On 26<sup>th</sup> September, Year 5 went on the Bhativedanta Manor Trip. It was an eventful one, where we were privileged to have had the M25 to ensure the safety of our children. After an eventful start, the children were able to enjoy a wide range of activities that were waiting for them at the Manor. These are some quotes from our children.

“We met a brown cow who was called Kalkey. I really enjoyed the food, it was delicious and I liked looking at all the murtis especially Shiva the destroyer!”

“In the temple, it was really cool. Everyone was singing and it smelt really nice and the murtis were really bright and decorated beautifully. They told us that they put new flowers on the gods every day. “

“I liked retelling the story of Rama and Sita because we enacted the battle of the demons and the monkeys as they fought over the ownership of the bridge. We did this with a massive whole year group pillow fight!”

“At first, when the coach broke down, I was worried but then I calmed down because I did some colouring with my friends and I knew that help was coming.

I thought it was fun and exciting because I had never before broken down on a school trip. I thought it was exciting that they shut down the whole of the M25 for year 5!

We made up a song about being on a broken-down coach. We made up games about the cars driving by us. We danced and felt happy to be in each other's company.

Breaking down and shutting the motorway is a story you could tell your grandchildren about one day!”

Girls' football had two very special guest referees this term when we were visited by Nina and Lucy, who part of the club last year. Now in year 7 at Esher High, these two wonderful young women got up early on one of their days off and came along to join us. We roped them in to referee a mini tournament we were playing and they were masterful - not even needing the support of the VAR!

## Year 3—Geography Walk



Last week, Year 3 went on their Geography study around Molesey.

We encountered several of the physical and human features that Molesey has to offer. We visited The Wilderness, which used to be farmland; The River Mole and the River Ember. On the return to school, we passed several Victorian houses, St. Mary's church, The Bell Public House and The Islamic Centre. It was great for the children to visually see the areas and features that we've been studying in our topic this term.

Thank you again to all our parent helpers!



# Harvest Festival



This morning, the school celebrated Harvest with a special church service. All the children taking part did a fantastic job, reading (or remembering) their lines clearly and performing them enthusiastically. It was lovely to have the whole school together for the end of half term, giving us an opportunity to reflect on what we are thankful for and a chance to consider how we can show generosity and compassion (two of our school values) to others. Over the last few weeks, all the children have been learning 3 Harvest songs with Mr Noble as part of our singing assemblies and hearing their voices in chorus (and at times, harmony!) was a particular highlight.

Well done to all our Worship Ambassadors for their hard work.

We are grateful to the whole school community for your generosity with Harvest donations. We are delighted to tell you that the total collection totalled 324kgs.





## SEN/D New by Mrs Searle



It has been a busy first half term in my new role as SENco! I have really enjoyed visiting different classes, and meeting with parents across the school to discuss all the ways in which staff are best supporting the needs of every child.

Being a parent of a child with SEN/d can feel quite daunting and isolating at times. For this reason, we are holding a 'coffee morning' at **8.45am on Tuesday 12th November**, to provide a networking space for parents to share experiences, ideas and/or provide general support to each other. I do hope you will be able to attend, whichever stage of the SEN/D process you may currently find yourselves. If successful, we would like to hold these once a term, with a view to inviting external agencies to come and talk, or providing information on specific needs, going forward. Please email me at - [Senco@stlawrence-junior.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:Senco@stlawrence-junior.surrey.sch.uk) - to confirm attendance or ask for more details.

Thursday 10th October was mental health day, and it was lovely to see so many children wearing a yellow accessory to mark the occasion. We were also given a beautiful rendition of 'Yellow' by the school choir, which brought a happy tear to many a teacher's eye! In the afternoon, the children were able to choose a wellbeing activity – I believe decorating lockers was the favourite!

**Have your say on SEND in Surrey!** The Additional Needs and Disabilities Partnership has designed a survey for all parents and carers of children and young people to understand parent's experiences of accessing help and support related to SEND in Surrey. The survey is anonymous and only takes about 15 minutes but is a really important chance to make your voice heard. Please use the link below to take the survey before the deadline, Sunday 24th November. **[Take the Parents' Voices Matter Survey 2024](#)**

Please note, my SENCO working days are Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday. Although I will always aim to respond to your emails as quickly as possible, please be aware there may be a slight delay.

## Reading news by Mrs Carter



On the 3rd of October, we had the wonderful opportunity to welcome the esteemed author and poet, Kev Payne, to our school. His engaging workshops were a real highlight for our children and provided them with a rich, inspiring experience in the realm of poetry.



**Book Corner** - We are currently trying to promote a love of reading in all of our children and build a reading for pleasure culture across the school and have opened applications for this years Reading Ambassadors. If you are interested in applying for the role of Reading Ambassador please complete an application form and return to Miss Carter by the 13th November.

We will have the **Book Fair** in our School from Tuesday 19th November to the 22nd November



## Sports News by Miss Saunders



After a full-on (and seemingly never-ending) half term at St Lawrence, we are well and truly in the swing of all things sporting, and are very much looking forward to even more excitement in the year ahead. Our eight, newly appointed sports captains in Year 6 are anticipating a very busy year ahead.

Some of our Year 6 boys represented us in their first league match, against Thames Ditton, last week, and they certainly did us proud! We have several more matches scheduled for the second half of the Autumn term. I must give thanks to Mr Barrington-Brown and his footballing expertise, training the Years 5 and 6 boys for these games, and also for offering his refining abilities! Continuing on a footballing note, Mrs Raymonde continues to run the girls football club on Friday mornings, and they also have several league games to compete in, after half term. Watch this space!

I must say, I have been very impressed by the turn out on Friday mornings, for Running Club. The enthusiasm and stamina of the children never fails to impress me. A huge thanks to all the parent helpers who show up every week, rain or shine. You really are an amazing support, and the children really benefit from your presence.

On a final note, I must thank Mr Paddington, who is an absolute asset to our school. We are very lucky to have him, as he puts in many hours, running clubs before and after school, as well as teaching excellent lessons across the school.

As with every year, if there are any parents or carers who feel they are able to help in the running of a club or sporting activity, please feel free to get in contact with me, via the school office.

Thank you for your continued support.

Miss Saunders





# School News

## Secondary School Applications

The deadline for 2024 Year 7 Secondary school applications is **31st October.**

Please follow the link to access the online applications for Surrey:

<https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/schools/admissions/secondary>



## School Uniform

After half term winter uniform is to be worn



**Boys: Sky Blue Shirt/Navy Jumper  
Grey Trousers & School Tie**

**Girls: Sky Blue Shirt/Navy Jumper or  
Cardigan**

**Navy Skirt/Tailored Navy Trousers &  
School Tie**

**Shoulder length or longer hair to be tied  
back**

**School Ties can only be purchased from  
the school office at a cost of £5.00**

## Open Mornings

Our recent open mornings were a great success with prospective parents. Our Year 6 House Captains expertly conducted the tours. Here are the results of the completed questionnaires.

### **What were your first impressions of St Lawrence?**

- Impressive from start to finish
- Clean and warm environment
- Excellent!
- Lovely, polite and positive school life
- Really lovely and very inclusive
- Welcoming and shows a competitive nature which is great
- Encouraging, confident children, great space

### **How informative did you find your tour guide (our Year 6 children)?**

- Confident, articulate, polite
- Excellent
- Great to have first hand experience from Year 6
- Fantastic!
- Very informative

### **What did you like about your tour?**

Well organised  
Many smiley faces  
I was able to ask all the questions I had  
Bringing my daughter along  
The relationships with The Orchard  
The choir!  
Big school but felt small and inclusive

## School Fund

Thank you to those who are donating to our school fund. Donations can be made on ParentMail under Payments/Shop/Governors fund or by standing order. Please contact the office for more details.



## Dates for your Diary

### November



4th Inset Day  
 8th Parent Tour  
 11th Anti-Bullying Week  
 11th Remembrance Day  
 14th Individual photographs  
 15th Kites Assembly  
 19th Book Fair  
 19th Parent Tour  
 22nd Christingle  
 28th Parent Tour  
 24th Christingle

### December



3rd Y4 Christmas show matinee  
 4th Yr 3 Hampton Court visit  
 5th Yr 4 Christmas show evening  
 11th Christmas Dinner  
 13th Christmas Pause Day  
 16th Rocksteady Concert  
 20th Carol service at church  
 20th Finish at 1.30pm



**Have a lovely half term.  
 We return on Tuesday 5th  
 November.**



