



St Lawrence Headlines

October 2025

*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



'Very good, surpassed all expectations' alongside 'Great facilities, lovely pupils' are just a selection of comments from families on recent tours of the school. All have been unilaterally blown away by the confidence and knowledge of the House and School Captains showing them around. Alongside these tours, there have been many visitors to the school this term and all have come away saying the same thing. A true testament to the hardworking and dedicated staff and pupils at the school.

St Paul's church was packed this morning as we gathered to celebrate all things Harvest. It was a wonderful occasion filled with song, prayer and thankfulness. A huge well done to the Worship Ambassadors who spoke so eloquently. Thank you for your generous donations for the Elmbridge Foodbank - we know these will be warmly received by many in need this Autumn time.

We enjoyed a brilliant morning on Tuesday with Team GB sprinter Victoria Ohuruogu. The whole school came off timetable to take part in some exciting physical challenges in the hall and it was a delight to see the children champion each other and cheer each other on. The assembly that followed centred around perseverance, one of our school values of course, and it brought a tear to many of the adults' eyes when all 309 children unanimously roared and clapped when Victoria played a clip of her coming first in the British 400m title in 2022.

Year 6 have had a superb opportunity this half term to be taught hockey by Coach Charlie from the Old Cranleigh Hockey Club and many children have since joined the club outside of school. This extra PE lesson will take place for Year 5 after half-term so please do sort mouth guards and shin pads for the sessions. Year 5 also fully embraced the hockey festival at the same club recently playing mini matches against three other local schools with some wins, draws and losses for both teams. Good job team!

Mrs Cary and I continue to work tirelessly together on both strategic and operational matters, streamlining policies and processes to achieve smooth learning experiences for all the children. We remain incredibly proud of the positive collaboration between ourselves and the two schools.

All that now brings me to say is that I wish you all a restful and happy break with your friends and families over the half term. Time to recharge and unwind a little before the inevitable business of the Christmas term. We look forward to having the children back with us on Tuesday 4th November in full winter uniform.

With best wishes,

Mrs Grace MacLean





What's been happening this term?



Year 3

As we creep slowly closer to half term, it's time to reflect on all that Year 3 have achieved so far this year. Firstly, the children have had to make the difficult transition into a new class at a new school, which they have all done brilliantly, demonstrating great courage and resilience. It feels like such a long time ago that we were meeting and greeting at our classroom doors!

The children have learnt a LOT this half term – not only through our vast curriculum content, but all of our class and school rules, homework expectations and routines. We saw our first Year 3 class assembly by Swifts! I was so impressed with the confidence shown by the children as they performed their parts superbly. And, most recently, we embarked on our epic Geography walk around Molesey, which really helped to bring our classroom learning to life.

It's never a slow week at St. Lawrence, but hopefully next week will be so. It's so important, for everyone, that we rest, relax and recharge our batteries, ready for Autumn 2.

I hope that you all have a wonderful and well-deserved half-term break.

Kind regards.
Mr. Noble.

Year 4

We hope you and your children have had a fantastic start to the school year! It's been a busy and exciting first half of the Autumn Term in Year 4, and we're thrilled to share what we've been up to.

Settling into Year 4

The children have settled brilliantly into their new routines and responsibilities. They've shown great enthusiasm and maturity, and we're proud of how they've embraced the challenges of Year 4.

Curriculum Highlights

History: We've journeyed back in time to explore the fascinating world of the Ancient Egyptians, learning about their where they lived, how they used the River Nile and even mummification!

Science: Our budding scientists have been investigating the Water Cycle, understanding how water moves through our environment in a continuous loop and how solids liquids and gases change state.

English: We've been working on setting descriptions, using rich vocabulary and sensory details to bring scenes to life.

PE: The children have enjoyed swimming lessons and have had great fun learning the energetic and strategic game of Crazyball.

Looking Ahead to Next Half Term:

PE: We'll be learning how to play basketball, focusing on teamwork, coordination, and skill development.

English: Our writing will shift to character descriptions, helping children develop vivid and engaging fictional personalities.

Drama: The highlight of the term will be our Christmas production, featuring our entire cast of 85 talented performers! Preparations are already underway, and we can't wait to share the magic with you.

Thank you for your continued support. We're looking forward to another exciting half term full of learning, creativity, and festive fun!

Warm wishes,
Mrs Rey

Year 5

Everyone's been settling into their new classes really well – it's been so lovely to see the children getting comfortable and confident in their new routines. In maths, the flexible groups have been a big hit! Lots of children have already moved groups as we hoped would happen, and it's great to see them adapting well.

Our topic on Greek myths has really captured imaginations – the children have written some wonderfully descriptive pieces inspired by the stories, and we've been so impressed by their creativity.

Over in art, there's been a focus on expression through line, and the prints they've made are absolutely beautiful.

PE lessons have been full of energy with netball and tennis keeping everyone active and engaged.

To round off the half term, we had a brilliant trip to Bhaktivedanta Manor! The children got to feed cows, dress up as deities, and enjoy a delicious lunch – some (who will remain nameless) even had 3 helpings!

Roll on Autumn Two,
Ms Raymonde

Year 6

Year 6 - A Fantastic Start to the Year!

Year 6 have made a brilliant start to the year, showing focus, resilience, and positivity in everything they do. In English, they've been exploring "The Middler", writing imaginative character and setting descriptions, while in Maths they've been tackling long division and becoming true mathematical whizzes.

In History, pupils have been learning about the Ancient Kingdom of Benin and debating whether the British invasion was the right choice.

In Science, they've enjoyed hands-on experiments growing mould, and in PE they've been developing volleyball and hockey skills.

Music has seen them singing "Happy" with confidence, and in Art they've been creating bold, colourful street art.

It's been a half-term full of curiosity, creativity, and growth - a fantastic start to Year 6!

Visit from Monica Harding MP



We were lucky enough to have a visit from Monica Harding, MP, on Thursday 16th October. Monica started the day by joining our bike bus, before touring the school and meeting with some of our pupil leaders, senior leadership team and governors. Monica was thoroughly impressed by our school, especially the pupils who asked some fantastic questions. Monica had some good advice for pupils which definitely inspired them.

Read more about the Bike Bus here: <https://uk.news.yahoo.com/bike-buses-could-soon-spread-130000675.html>

Monica Harding's visit was awesome! I actually got to ask her a question: "what is your advice to us as future leaders?" she said to follow our dreams and do what we love. She said she became an MP because she was unhappy with the last one. She knocked on 4,000 people's doors to hear what they wanted and now takes that to Parliament. Monica was fascinating to listen to and I hope she realises how inspiring she is.
Jessica G, Y4 Swans School Councillor

Last week we had a very special visit from Monica Harding. She came to school with the bike bus where she first got to meet some St Lawrence students. Afterwards, Mrs MacLean and Mrs Copsey gave her a tour of our fantastic school. Shortly after, she met with the House Captains and School Council. She told us all about her life as an MP and her dreams to help our country. She shared something very inspiring: "you should find something you are really passionate about and chase it and do something about it until a difference is made. Do this and you will feel amazing and know that was because of you. The most rewarding things don't come easy so don't give up."
Sienna VZ, Oak House Captain



Harvest Festival



We had a heart-warming service at St Paul's Church this morning, led by our Worship Ambassadors who brought the meaning of Harvest to life. They helped us to remember that Harvest is a time for thanksgiving for our blessings, and also a time for generosity, to give to those who may not be as fortunate. They worked hard to remember their lines and spoke confidently to the whole school.

Their message of generosity was borne out this week with the many donations made to the foodbank for our Harvest collection. The House Captains worked diligently to sort and pack the numerous cans, packets and bottles donated by generous St Lawrence families. Thank you all for your kind donations.





Music news by Mr Noble



Music has continued to thrive at St. Lawrence since September. Firstly, we have managed to integrate over thirty new Year 3 children into the school choir! It has been such a privilege to offer this to our new starters every week, and it's been lovely to see their confidence grow; they really feel like they are part of something. The choir has performed several times this half term as part of our school tours – they sang beautifully – especially considering the minimal amount of time they have had to rehearse!

Rock Steady continues to go from strength to strength with the addition of two new and nearly full Year 3 bands. There are still some spaces for Year 6 children, but, apart from that, we are running at capacity.

Swans class have started Djembe drumming as part of our constantly evolving music curriculum offering. Speaking with Mrs. Searle, it has been lovely to hear how much the children are enjoying it and how much their understanding of rhythm has improved. Each Year 4 class will be taking part in this Djembe instrumental tuition throughout the year.

Get ready for Autumn 2, as we have a very busy festive schedule to come!

But first, I think we all need to have a wonderful and restful half-term break.

Warmest regards.

Mr. Noble.



Sports News by Miss Rey



Autumn Highlights

We've had an exciting and energetic start to the term in PE—both in lessons and across wider school events. We're thrilled to share some of the fantastic moments your children have been part of!

* Year 5 Hockey Festival at OCHC

It was a brilliant morning of teamwork, fun, and community spirit. The Year 5 children loved showing off their skills and playing competitively against other schools.

* Girls' Football – First Match!

Our girls' football team played their first match this term, and what a performance! Their determination, sportsmanship, and team spirit were truly inspiring. We're so proud of how they represented the school.

Sports News continued

* Victoria Ohuruogu Visit – Lessons in Patience & Perseverance

We were honoured to welcome Team GB athlete Victoria Ohuruogu to our school. Her message about patience and perseverance really resonated with the children. She reminded us all that success takes time, effort, and belief in ourselves. The children gave 100% energy during our Mini Fitness Circuit event as part of Victoria's visit! Their enthusiasm was infectious, and thanks to their efforts—and your generous support—we raised a HUGE amount of money for new school sport and PE equipment. This will make a lasting impact on our PE provision.



On Tuesday, a very famous Olympian, Victoria Ohuruogu, visit our school. She led a fitness circuit for every class. It was really fun, especially for Sports Captains as we got to lead the exercises with her. Afterwards she led an aspirational assembly linked to our value of Perseverance where she shared her story. Her goal was the finish in the top 2 at the British Championships and make the Olympics, representing Team GB. She showed us some clips from the British Championships from her early career and how she went from coming 8th place to 4th place and then finally first! Last year, she got into the Olympics for the first time after many years of trying, and received a Bronze medal with the 4 x 400m team. It really inspired me to follow my dreams and keep trying.

George P, Pine Sports Captain

* Year 5/6 Girls' Football Event at Fulham

Thank you to Mr Weeks and Miss Harman for attending this event and supporting the team. We will be sharing with you the summary of this event in the next Friday Flyer.

Looking Ahead to Next Half Term

Curriculum PE lessons with Mr Paddington and class teachers will include exciting topics ranging from basketball to Tudor dance.

The boys' football league matches will begin.

We'll also be taking part in other sporting events—stay tuned!

Thank you for your continued support. We're looking forward to more exciting events and achievements as the term continues!



School Notices



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 via Parent-mail at a cost of £5.00

Academic Mentoring Volunteers:

We will be sending out a Parentmail message today with details of how to sign up as a volunteer for Academic Mentoring at St Lawrence.

If you are interested in signing up, please complete this form. <https://forms.office.com/e/DZpCBYfGwF?origin=lprLink>



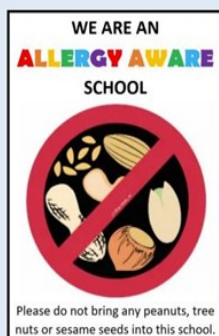
Cycling to school

We are extremely excited about the installation of our new, covered bike racks ahead of winter. With more children now cycling to school, we recommend all children wear helmets for their own safety.

Governors Fund

Thank you to those who are donating to our governors fund. Donations can be made on ParentMail under Payments/Shop/Governors fund or by standing order. Please email the office if you require our bank details.

Due to the severe allergies of some of our pupils



This would include Nutella, hummus, pesto pasta if made with cashews and **anything** that physically contains nuts or sesame. Please be extra vigilant with this.





School Notices continued



Penalty Notice Fines for School Attendance are Changing!

With the introduction of the new National Framework for Penalty Notices, the following Changes will come into force for Penalty Notice Fines Issued after 19th August 2024. All the money from the Penalty Notices goes directly to Surrey County Council

Per parent, Per Child

Penalty Notice Fines will now be Issued to each parent, for each child That was absent.

For example: 3 siblings absent for Term time leave, would result in Each parent receiving 3 separate Fines.

5 days of Term Time leave

Penalty Notice Fines will be issued for Term Time Leave of 5 or more days. Inset training days are school days and can be included in the 5 or more days where there was intent to be absent for term time leave.

10 sessions of unauthorised Absence in a 10-week period

Penalty Notice Fines will be considered when there has been 10 sessions of unauthorised absence in a 10 week period.

First Offence

The first time a Penalty Notice is Issued for Term Time Leave or Irregular Attendance the amount will Be:

£160 per parent, per child paid within 28 days.

Reduced to £80 per parent, per child If paid within 21 days.

Second Offence (within 3 years)

The second time a Penalty Notice is issued for Term Time Leave or Irregular Attendance, the amount will be: £160 per parent, per child paid within 28 days.

Third Offence and Any Further Offences (within 3 years)

The third time an offence is committed for Term Time Leave or Irregular Attendance, a Penalty Notice will not be issued, and the case will be presented straight to the Magistrates' Court, Magistrates' fines can be up to £2500 per parent per child.

Cases found guilty in Magistrates' Court can show on the parent's future DBS certificate, due to failure to safeguard a child's education

Have a lovely half term.
We return on Tuesday 4th November.



Photo gallery



Year 5 trip to Bhaktivedanta Manor





Olympian visit



