



HEADLINES

DECEMBER 2025

A word from the Headteacher

How wonderful it was to all gather together in the church for our Carol Services this morning. We were all reminded of the true meaning of Christmas as the children performed the Nativity beautifully. The angelic voices of the choir filled the church and the whole school sounded wonderful as they joined in with gusto. A special mention to our soloists who sang so skilfully. What an exciting way to mark the end of two wonderful and successful terms of learning!

Music at the school is thriving and continuing to reach new heights. The whole school is benefitting from a lively and engaging music curriculum: Charanga. Year 3 are learning the recorder, building on their skills from Year 2, Year 4 are exploring Djembe drums, Year 5 are enjoying the flute, and an exciting new project is on the horizon for Year 6—watch this space! We enjoyed impressive Year 5 flute recitals earlier in the term and the ever-popular Rocksteady bands shone brightly during their performance on Monday to a huge parent turnout.

Our Pupil Leaders continue to have a positive and meaningful impact across the school. I would like to thank our Reading Ambassadors, Worship Ambassadors, Wellbeing Ambassadors, House Captains, Sports Captains and School Council members for the commitment and responsibility they have shown in carrying out their roles. As outlined in our [12 Before 12 Guarantee](#), pupil leadership opportunities are open to all children at St Lawrence and play a vital role in developing independence and maturity.



HEADLINES

DECEMBER 2025

Thank you, as always, for your kind words and continued encouragement regarding the direction of the school. I feel incredibly fortunate to work alongside such a dedicated and passionate team, and I look forward to building on the many successes we have achieved together over the past few years.

So after 15 long weeks, with every type of weather thrown in, I wish you all a brilliant Christmas with your families. I look forward to our festive drive to Edinburgh with the 3 excited boys in the back. The most important habit to keep up over the holidays is reading—every single day. We've seen time and again how this simple routine can boost children's confidence and help them feel ready to take on the challenges of the curriculum. I will be carving out the time between the celebrations to do the same with my own!

We very much look forward to welcoming your children back to school on Tuesday 6th January 2026, wearing their smart winter uniform and ready to enjoy new learning and embrace all the exciting challenges and adventures ahead.

With very best wishes,

Mrs Grace MacLean

YEAR 3 NEWS

AUTUMN TERM 2025

On the 5th of December, Year 3 went to Hampton Court Palace to experience Christmas like the royals. We had a wonderful day exploring the palace as well as learning about the festive traditions of years gone by. We're so lucky to have such a historically significant building so close by. It was amazing to see the children's excitement when experiencing things that we had taught - through a screen at school - come to life. Thank you very much to all of our parent volunteers for helping to make the trip possible.

This trip concluded what has been an incredibly busy Autumn term. The team and I would like to take the opportunity to wish you all a wonderful Christmas and a very relaxing break!

See you in January!

Year 3 team

YEAR 4 NEWS

AUTUMN TERM 2025

What a fantastic half term it's been! We've loved seeing the children shine in our Christmas production of 'No One Wraps Like An Elf' – such a joyful way to celebrate together. Swimming has now finished for the year, and we're so proud of the progress everyone has made in the pool over their ten sessions.

In class, we've been busy exploring Design & Technology, learning all about different fastenings and how they work. Our writing has focused on entertaining through narratives and poetry, inspired by animals – the creativity has been amazing! In Science, we've investigated teeth and healthy eating, while in RE we've learned about Humanism and what it means to live a good life without religion. Geography has taken us across Europe, discovering human and physical features, famous landmarks, currencies, climates, and so much more.

Next term promises even more exciting learning! We'll be preparing for the Multiplication Tables Check (MTC) and continuing with our maths curriculum in flexible groups, writing to inform through our History learning, and enjoying hockey lessons with OCHC. In Science, we'll explore electricity, and in French, we'll learn about festivals and places to go in France. Plus, there's plenty more to look forward to!

Thank you for your continued support – we can't wait to see what the new term brings!

Wishing you all a wonderful festive season and a happy New Year!
The Year 4 Team

YEAR 5 NEWS

AUTUMN TERM 2025

Autumn Term 2: A Half Term That Covered (Almost) Everything 🌍🇪🇺



Autumn 2 has flown by in a whirlwind of learning, creativity, problem-solving and the occasional spaghetti-related challenge. Year 5 have thrown themselves into the half term with enthusiasm, resilience and (mostly) correctly punctuated sentences.

In English, we journeyed straight into the dusty heat of Camp Green Lake through our class novel Holes. Pupils showed real flair when writing informal letters home as Stanley – some were so convincing you'd almost believe they'd been digging holes all day themselves.

Our Geography work took us across the globe to The Americas, where pupils learned about hemispheres, latitude, longitude and the equator – all without anyone actually falling off the Earth. They explored climates, biomes and the differences between physical and human features, making thoughtful comparisons and developing a strong sense of place.

In Science, forces were everywhere – gravity pulling us down, friction slowing us up, and air and water resistance doing their thing whether we liked it or not.

Maths was suitably rigorous, with formal written methods of multiplication and division taking centre stage. Pupils tackled large numbers, remainders and fractions (both mixed and improper).

In DT, the classroom transformed briefly into a kitchen as pupils designed, adapted and cooked their own spaghetti bolognese recipes. There was careful measuring, sensible hygiene and some very honest food evaluations at the end.



YEAR 5 NEWS

AUTUMN TERM 2025

PSHE lessons encouraged thoughtful discussions around celebrating differences, tackling racism, bullying and rumours, and considering whether money really matters. These sessions promoted empathy, respect and an understanding of the wider world. RE gave pupils the opportunity to reflect on Christian beliefs about creation, discussing ideas about responsibility, renewal and hope.

Meanwhile, PE and Games kept everyone active with hockey skills, badminton rallies and the daily Golden Mile (yes, daily!). Computing lessons saw pupils becoming PowerPoint pros, adding animations, audio and hyperlinks to create engaging presentations, while Music brought rhythm and swing through Charanga units, with plenty of opportunities to perform and improvise.

All in all, Autumn 2 has been busy, challenging and hugely rewarding. Year 5 have worked hard, risen to new challenges and should be very proud of everything they've achieved – now it's time for a well-earned rest (and perhaps a break from fractions... for a few days at least).



YEAR 6 NEWS

AUTUMN TERM 2025

This term has been full of learning, creativity, and memorable experiences for Year 6. From persuasive writing to code-breaking, and even stepping into the shoes of barristers, our pupils have embraced every challenge with enthusiasm and determination.

In English, they explored the art of persuasion through letters, speeches, and adverts, while sharpening grammar and spelling skills with daily practice and the Spelling Bee. Their reading focused on persuasive texts, helping them understand how language influences ideas. Maths has been all about fractions - comparing, ordering, adding, subtracting, multiplying, and dividing - alongside converting metric and imperial units. Weekly reasoning questions kept their problem-solving sharp and ready for real-world applications.

Science lessons took us inside the human body, studying the circulatory system and the vital role of diet and exercise. Pupils investigated how heart rate changes with activity, linking theory to practical experiments. In Geography, we explored global trade and economics, asking big questions like: How did trade become global? Pupils investigated imports and exports, supply chains, and fair trade, as well as the UK's role in global markets. Meanwhile, Computing offered a fascinating journey through time, uncovering the story of Bletchley Park, the evolution of computers, and even tackling code-breaking challenges - connecting history and technology in exciting ways.

One of the highlights of the term was our trip to the Royal Courts of Justice, where pupils took part in a mock trial. They argued their cases with confidence and learned first-hand about the workings of the legal system - a truly unforgettable experience that brought learning to life. Creative subjects added colour to the term: in DT, pupils designed navigation tools using sketches, coding, and eco-friendly materials; Music introduced them to jazz and improvisation; and French expanded their vocabulary on clothes and numbers. RE explored the Christian concept of the Trinity, while PSHE focused on celebrating differences and kindness. PE sessions built teamwork and tactics through basketball and football.

Year 6 should be proud of all they have achieved this term. Wishing all our families a joyful holiday and a happy new year - we look forward to seeing their curiosity and creativity continue to flourish in 2026!



ST LAWRENCE JUNIOR SCHOOL

SEND NEWS

AUTUMN TERM 2025

From Mrs Searle, SENDCO and Inclusion lead

I'm delighted to share a few updates as we wrap up this term.

Parent Meetings

The postponed meetings will take place on Tuesday, 13 January. A couple of slots are still available—you can book here, ensuring you click on the 13th January to access any available sessions:

[Book here](#)

Looking ahead, I am going to be trialling a monthly drop-in clinic on the first Tuesday morning of each month (where possible). These sessions will be a great opportunity for informal conversations and less time-sensitive questions. Of course, individual appointments can still be arranged at other times if needed.

Coffee Mornings & Online Sessions

Our half-termly SEN coffee mornings have been such a positive space for sharing experiences and building connections—I'd love to see even more of you there next term! To make things easier for busy families, we're also planning to deliver online twilight sessions. These will focus on topics that matter most to you, such as anxiety and masking. More details coming soon.



ST LAWRENCE JUNIOR SCHOOL

SEND NEWS

AUTUMN TERM 2025

Extra Support

We've attached information about "You Are Not Alone", a free monthly virtual support group for parents of neurodivergent children.

You'll also find lots of helpful resources on the Surrey SENd Advice website: [here](#)

Finally, thank you for your continued support. When home and school work together, it makes a world of difference for our children –they truly shine brightest when we're united.

Wishing you and your families a joyful Christmas and a peaceful New Year!

YEAR 4
PERFORMANCE

'No-one Wraps Like an Elf'

Having attended these productions for a considerable number of years I did not believe that I would be surprised by any production. However, Year 4 managed to prove me wrong and I enjoyed a very new experience whilst the children performed a new morality play. The story, provided by Mrs Langwade/Out of the Ark, centred around two greedy entrepreneurs, who produced over-priced and poor-quality merchandise, deciding to kidnap Santa and his reindeer, so that the public would have to buy their shoddy Christmas presents. Fortunately, one of Santa's elves found the letter warning Santa and managed to rescue both him and the reindeer from the centre of the maze, where he had been imprisoned and Christmas was saved. All of the Year 4 children were involved in delivering the story with considerable skill, delivering lines clearly so we all shared in the puns based around elves and reindeer as well as singing and dancing. Those not directly performing added their voices as part of the choir and the stagehands managed the many changes of set extremely well.

It all made for a most enjoyable evening and a fantastic start to Christmas celebrations. The children had clearly put a great deal of work in preparing for the performance, which was very entertaining. Many thanks to them and the Year 4 teaching team, led by Mrs Rey, all the other school staff who contributed, and of course to the parents, for their help with costumes and work done at home on lines and songs. Finally, praise to the PTA in serving hot drinks, mince pies and cakes, a very welcome initiative, which I hope is repeated in the future.

George Cameron, School Governor.

MUSIC NEWS

AUTUMN TERM 2025

From Mr Noble, Music lead

It's been an extremely busy Autumn term for the choir, which is now over 70 children strong! It's absolutely incredible how fast the children – especially the new Year 3s – have learned to sing and enjoy ensemble music, together.

We have performed at multiple events over the Autumn Term. The choir have entertained the public at St. Peter's Church Fair and Magical Molesey, alongside several Parent Tours at school. It was also a treat to visit the Royal Cambridge Care Home to sing for the residents. The performed beautifully and did themselves, and me, proud on every occasion.

Learning instruments has been a real focus this half term. I'm pleased to say that Swans managed a few lessons learning the Djembe drum, alongside preparing for their wonderful Christmas production. Swifts have been learning the recorder and have managed to play their way through multiple pieces, using the notes B, A and G.

On a personal note, I'd like to say a big thank you to all of the children and parents for their enthusiasm for music at St. Lawrence. There is a lot of hard work that goes on behind the scenes to provide these opportunities for our children. Your wonderful feedback and kind messages make that work just a little bit easier.

I hope that you all have a safe, happy and restful Christmas.



PE NEWS

AUTUMN TERM 2025

From Mrs Rey, PE lead

What an active and exciting term it's been in PE! Year 4 have enjoyed their curriculum lessons and completed their swimming sessions for the year – we're so proud of their progress and confidence in the water.

Across the school, we've explored a variety of sports, including hockey, badminton, football and basketball, helping children develop skills, teamwork, and resilience.

Some Year 3 and 4 children took part in a fantastic football event, and some in Year 5 and 6 represented us brilliantly in football events and league matches for both girls and boys.

We've had a mix of wins, losses, and draws, but above all, the children demonstrated our school values in abundance and proved themselves to be fantastic team players.

Once all results are collated, we'll share an update on our progress through the league – watch this space!

Looking ahead to next term:

Year 3 – dodgeball and yoga

Year 4 – hockey lessons from OCHC (mouthguards and shin pads needed!) and football lessons

Year 5 – dodgeball and yoga

Year 6 – gymnastics and rugby

PE NEWS

AUTUMN TERM 2025

A huge thank you to parents and staff who have supported me with training for football and event organisation – your help makes all the difference!

Also, thank you to parents for helping us raise so much money for the Great Athletes event. Prizes have now gone out, and I'll update you in the New Year on how the funds will be spent on resources.

The netball league matches will be starting in the Spring term – more information will be shared about this and other sporting events.

Thank you for your support throughout this busy term. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all!



ST LAWRENCE JUNIOR SCHOOL

PHOTO GALLERY

AUTUMN TERM 2025



INFORMATION

AUTUMN TERM 2025

Daily reading and Home School Contact books

Daily reading matters! 20 minutes a day supports with your child's fluency and comprehension. We have noticed that in some classes there has been a drop off in the number of Home School Contact books brought to school. These books must be in school every single day and the expectation is that your child reads, or is read to, every day. These contact books are checked by an adult in the classroom. If your child does not have their Home School Contact book they will be asked to have a conversation with the teacher during breaktime. Please support your child with this and help them to pack their book each morning. Please inform the teacher if there has been a problem preventing the book being in school.

Please find a recommended reading list by year group below as you may wish to stock up on the latest reads over the Christmas break:

[here](#)

Thank you for your support with this.

House points

House points Autumn term

- 1st Place- Oak- 165 points
- 2nd Place- Beech- 140 points
- 3rd Place- Elm- 125 points
- 4th Place- Pine- 115 points

**Oak house children have earned a Mufti day on
Friday 9th January 2026**

ATTENDANCE

AUTUMN TERM 2025

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

ST LAWRENCE JUNIOR SCHOOL

OFFICE MESSAGES



Year 3 School place applications Deadline 15th January

Online applications should be made here-
<https://www.eadmissions.org.uk/eAdmissions/app>.

Last tour of St Lawrence at 9.15am on 8th January 2026-
spread the word!

Clubs bookings

Payment items are closing in the first week of term, see timetable for further details

Back to school

There is an Inset day on Monday 5th January, pupils return on Tuesday 6th January

School uniform

You can buy ties via Parentmail in 'payments, shop, uniform for sale'



Thank You

From all of us here in the office and support staff team, we would like to thank you all for your beautiful and generous gifts and thankful messages, we truly appreciate it.

Merry Christmas

