



## *Word from the Headteacher.....*

This month's value: FORGIVENESS

It has been another productive and positive week in school, and I would like to thank our children, staff and families for their continued support. It is always a pleasure to see the enthusiasm our children bring to their learning and the compassion they show to one another each day.

I would like to say a huge CONGRATULATIONS to our wonderful pupils who recently represented the school at the cross country event yesterday. They demonstrated fantastic determination, resilience and sportsmanship throughout the event, and we were incredibly proud of their impressive results. They represented the school brilliantly and should feel very proud of their achievements.

This week has been a busy one for special assemblies and on Tuesday we came together to mark International Women's Day. During the assembly, pupils learned about the importance of celebrating the achievements of women and girls around the world and reflected on inspiring individuals who have made a difference in many areas of life. It was a valuable opportunity to discuss equality, respect and the importance of believing in our own potential.

Thank you, Mrs McIntosh.

Mrs Searle talked with the children this week about what it means to be a Young Carer and how it can impact on young people's lives. This special group in our school met together to talk in more detail about this and I know Mrs Searle is working behind the scenes to plan some lovely social events for them.

Eagles wowed us with all their many talents this morning: musical, sporting, creative, you name it- they have it! A special mention also to Mrs Copsey and her drumming abilities – very impressive timing! Thank you, Miss Carter for putting together such an inspirational assembly.

Take good care,  
Mrs MacLean

## Safeguarding Focus – Medical and Dietary needs

If your child has school dinners, we **must** have an up to date 'Special diet request form' on record in the office. It is the responsibility of parents/ carers to update us as needed.

If your child requires prescription medicine to be administered in school, please complete a form in the school office. It is the responsibility of families to ensure that we have any medicine that is prescribed to their child that they may need during the course of the school day.

## Attendance

As the graph shows, attendance often drops significantly in the week leading up to a scheduled holiday break. Every teaching session makes a meaningful difference to your child's learning and overall progress, and even a small number of missed sessions can add up quickly.

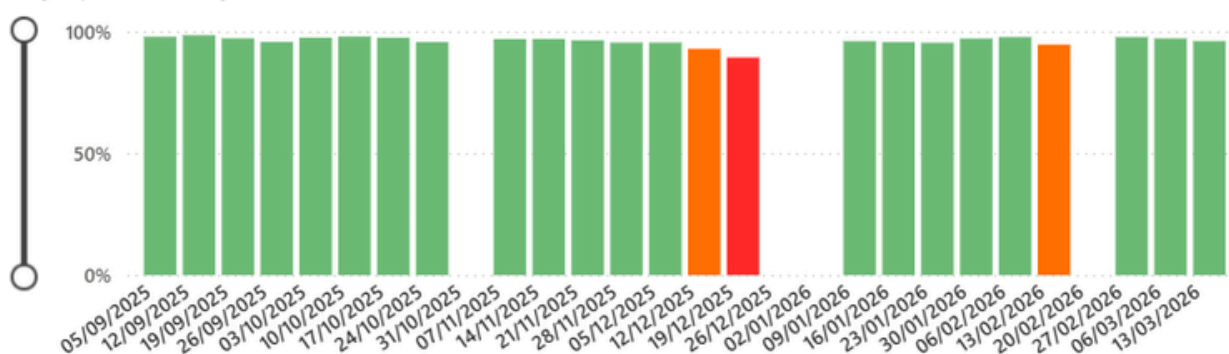
We kindly ask that families book holidays outside of term time to ensure your child's education is not negatively affected.

Below is an example showing how the number of missed sessions can accumulate and impact your child's learning over the school year.

Attendance (%)	Real terms	Missed lessons
95%	Attendance of 95% for the year equals 10 days that your child has been absent, that is 2 full school weeks of your child's learning missed for that year.	<b>50 missed lessons</b>
80%	Attendance of 80% for the year equals 38 days absent per year that is over 7 school weeks missed.	<b>200 lessons</b>
<b>Punctuality</b>	Arriving 5 minutes late every day adds up to over 3 days lost each year	<b>20 lessons</b>

Weekly attendance

Tally of present marks by week's end



## Cross Country Event

St Lawrence children took part in the annual cross-country event at the OCRC yesterday, running distances of 1.6km or 2.2km against 12 other schools. Our children have shown incredible dedication in the lead-up to this event—taking part in trials, training sessions, and practice runs. They faced injuries, supported one another before and during the race, demonstrated our school values, and pushed themselves to achieve their personal bests.

I am so proud of everything they have accomplished. St Lawrence came third overall across all district schools, and several children even medalled for placing first, second or third within their year group and gender category. A huge thank-you to parents for your support with this event. It has certainly been a sporting highlight of the year so far!

Mrs Rey

## Library Update – It's All Coming Together!

After months of planning, reorganising, and carefully improving the book selection in our school library, we're delighted to share that the final touches are now underway. The space is becoming brighter, more welcoming, and far more inviting for our young readers. We can't wait for the children to enjoy a library that truly inspires a love of reading.

A huge thank you to all the parent volunteers who have supported this project so far—your time and enthusiasm have made an enormous difference.

To celebrate this effort and encourage continued involvement, the class with the most parent volunteer hours logged will win a special Mufti Day!

Every hour helps, and we appreciate all contributions, big and small.

## Sponsored Read



We were blown away by the many children who took part in the sponsored read, we raised a staggering **£896.50!!!**

This incredible amount will go towards some finishing touches to our new and improved library.

Congratulations to **Benjamin K, Eli F and Ruby G** on winning our top 3 fundraising prizes



## Artist of the week

# Charlie Parker

Names: Charlie Parker  
Type of artist: Soloist  
Country of origin: USA  
Years active: 1937 - 1955  
Awards won: -



### Five Facts:

1. His nickname was 'Bird' or 'Yardbird' – he even named a song after it.
2. He started learning the saxophone at age 11.
3. Whenever he made a mistake at a practice session, a drummer would throw a cymbal at him. Instead of quitting, Charlie practiced for hours every day until he became amazing!
4. He would practice up to 15 hours a day when he was a teenager, showing incredible determination.
5. His music was so new and exciting that it helped create a whole new style of jazz called bebop which changed music forever.

<https://open.spotify.com/playlist/2Gmk8sX4vhhoZvWYoCkoK7>

### Famous Works

Yardbird Suite (1946)  
Ornithology (1946)  
Ko-Ko (1945)  
Donna Lee (1947)

Genre: Jazz -  
Bebop

## Church Road Entrance – Safety Reminder

We would like to remind all parents and carers to ensure that children do not go behind the bike shelter when entering or leaving the school via the Church Road entrance. This area is not safe for pupils, and we need everyone's help to keep this space clear at all times.

Barriers and signs have been put in place to guide families safely, but it is important that these are followed consistently. Your support in reinforcing this with your child helps us maintain a safe and orderly environment for everyone.

## Dropping children at morning clubs

A reminder that children should not be left alone during morning club drop offs, unless they have signed permission to walk to school alone. Any children left alone may lose their place in the club going forward. Thank you for your support with this.

## **Charity Fundraiser**

### **Girls (and boys!) just wanna have funds - 28th March Music Night.**

Please join us for a special fundraising Music Night in support of Momentum Children's Charity, helping families facing cancer and life-challenging conditions.

Saturday 28th March, 7.30 - 11pm, The Poytnz Arms, Molesey.

£12 per ticket - the incredible Liam Cottrell on the decks again!

To purchase a ticket, please contact Katie McIntosh on 07813 028096

## **Academic Mentors and Volunteers**

Thank you to our sporting volunteers. Could you help one-to-one reading or writing? Even 30 minutes per week makes a huge difference to our children. Please click [here](#) to register your interest in becoming a volunteer with us. Thank you.

# School Noticeboard



## Gem Winners

Congratulations to **Wrens** who are the gem winners this week. Well done! What a lovely, polite and courteous class you are.

**16th March**

Deadline to accept or reject your Secondary School place

## Daily equipment checklist



Water bottle and morning fruit snack



PE kit including mouthguards and shin pads if necessary



Musical instruments



Correct school uniform including tie



Reading diaries

## How to contact us

**Urgent school enquiries- Call 020 8941 0846**

**General or non- urgent school enquiries-  
[office@stlawrence-junior.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:office@stlawrence-junior.surrey.sch.uk)**

**Report an absence-  
[ReportanAbsence@stlawrence-junior.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:ReportanAbsence@stlawrence-junior.surrey.sch.uk)**

**Breakfast and CAP club queries-  
[bccap@stlawrence-junior.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:bccap@stlawrence-junior.surrey.sch.uk)**

**Pick up arrangements and messages to class-[Reading diaries](#)**