



ST LAWRENCE JUNIOR SCHOOL

HEADLINES SPRING TERM 2

27th March 2026

Word from the Headteacher.....

This morning, as we gathered together in church to hear the retelling of the Easter story, we were reminded of the powerful messages of forgiveness, love, and hope.

It was a beautiful way to mark the end of what has been a fantastic term at St Lawrence. Congratulations to our Year 5 children who spoke and sang so beautifully; there wasn't a dry eye in the building. Thank to Ms Raymonde, Mrs Chalmers, Mrs Grant and Mr Noble for preparing such a flawless performance. Celebrating our children's talents has been a highlight this term, from flute recitals and sporting events—including netball, football matches, and cross-country running—to, of course, our special Rocksteady concert on Monday afternoon. It has been wonderful to see how each child has blossomed in their own unique way.

In other news, our Year 6 pupils are working extremely hard as they prepare for their SATs in May and the progress in results has been impressive. Your support at home is greatly appreciated—just a small amount of daily practice over the holidays will make a significant difference, alongside time to relax and enjoy being active, of course.

I have had the pleasure of observing many lessons over the past few weeks and have been very impressed by the high quality of teaching across the school. Our Quality First teaching approaches, with an emphasis on high quality oracy, are consistently evident in every classroom, which is fantastic to see. I feel incredibly proud of the dedication and commitment shown by all staff at St Lawrence—they truly are a brilliant team.

As I write, I am getting updates from the team of staff from the Year 4 residential at Ufton Court and I look forward to welcoming the year group back later today full of joy, new friends and of course stories of 'mid-night' feasts! I am sure they will have all bonded and will be ready to fall asleep early tonight for you all!

Have a lovely, relaxing Easter break with family and friends. We look forward to welcoming the children back on Monday 13th April, in their summer uniform.

With very best wishes,
Mrs MacLean





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Year 3- What We Learned

It has been a busy but enjoyable second half of the Spring term for Year 3. In Science, the children have been learning about rocks, their types and properties; the soil and fossils. We recently built our own worm farms to demonstrate how these amazing creatures demonstrate translocation (the movement of soil) under our feet. We also made our own fossils using clay and Plaster of Paris – these will be on display, alongside a range of other work in our Summer Open Evenings.

We have continued to look at the transition from The Bronze Age to The Iron Age in History. We've learned about how life changed in Britain, and across the world, during this period with the introduction of iron, and how these changes still impact us today. It has been lovely to see the children realize and understand where 'we' have come from.

It is now time for a well-deserved Easter break. Subsequently, Year 3 will not be setting specific homework during this time. However, I would staunchly encourage all children to read daily and continue working on TTRS over the holidays – especially those that need to give their times tables a bit of extra focus.

Have a tremendous Easter Holiday.
Mr. Noble and the Year 3 team.

Year 4- What We Learned

Year 4 have had another busy and exciting half term packed with learning across the curriculum!

In Maths, the children have been working hard to secure their multiplication facts and Rolling Numbers songs as they prepare for the Multiplication Tables Check in June. They have also been developing their understanding of decimals, learning to recognise the value of digits in the tenths and hundredths places, how to make one whole as well as ordering and comparing decimal numbers with increasing confidence.



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Year 4 continued

In English, the children have been exploring the language of persuasion. Their big challenge has been to write persuasively, with the goal of encouraging Mrs Copsey to visit the imaginative civilisations they have created – and they have produced some fantastic, creative ideas!

Our History lessons have focused on the Romans, building background knowledge ahead of our exciting Ufton Court residential. Year 4 have particularly enjoyed discovering how Roman life, culture and innovation have shaped the world we live in today.

In Science, it has been “all things electricity” as the children have investigated circuits, components and electrical safety through hands-on enquiry and practical activities.

In RE, we have been learning about Sikhism, exploring key beliefs, traditions and values that shape the Sikh faith.

In PE, the children have been developing their gymnastics skills and taking part in lots of running-based activities to build stamina, teamwork and resilience.
Thank you once again to Mr Paddington

Throughout all subjects, we have been encouraging children to take pride in their handwriting and presentation, ensuring neat, carefully produced work in every area of the curriculum.

Year 4 continue to work brilliantly – well done, everyone! We are looking forward to the summer term already!



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Year 5- What We Learned

Hello to all our Year 5 families!

As we wrap up this busy and brilliant term, here's a rundown of everything your children have been up to. Grab a cuppa, settle in, and enjoy a peek into our classrooms (minus the PE bags and forgotten jumpers).

English: Drama, Wolves & Wonderfully Wild Writing

This term, we lived and breathed *The Highwayman* by Alfred Noyes. The children turned the poem into gripping narrative writing—complete with metaphors, figurative language, and enough dramatic tension to rival a TV cliffhanger.

We also journeyed through *The Wolves of Willoughby Chase*, comparing themes with *The Highwayman*. Lots of strong opinions, even more gasps, and thankfully no real wolves turned up.

Grammar-wise, we explored sentence structures, relative clauses, and speech punctuation. Many children became experts at using dialogue to show character—some suspiciously good at writing arguments...

Maths

In Maths, the focus was on decimals, fractions & percentages and we added thousandths into our repertoire of place value knowledge. We finished the term by looking at the perimeter and area of shapes. If your child has started estimating the perimeter of the kitchen table, we apologise. And you're welcome.

Science: Life Cycles in Action

This term we dug into the life cycles of plants, mammals, insects, birds, and egg-laying animals. One highlight was growing plants from seeds the children collected—our windowsills in the classrooms now resemble a rather unwieldy horticultural experiment!



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Year 5 continued- PE

Athletics Stars in the Making

Athletics was a big focus: long-distance running, sprinting, relay, triple jump, shot put and javelin. We may have discovered a few future Olympians along the way.

In PE, children learned and played a range of playground games, many of which have now made appearances at lunchtime—along with some very enthusiastic rules-negotiation.

History: Living Like Anglo-Saxons

We stepped back in time to meet the Anglo-Saxons, learning how the Germanic tribes settled in Britain and founded the seven kingdoms. The rivalry between them caused plenty of discussions—and a few spirited re-enactments.

And of course, Butser Farm brought history to life (and mud to shoes). Our Anglo-Saxon immersion day was a huge hit!

RE: Easter Preparation and Islam

We learned about Islam, exploring how Muslims live a good life, the Five Pillars, the Qur'an, and important celebrations.

We also enjoyed our Easter Pause Day, reflecting thoughtfully on the season.

Easter Service

Our Year 5s were proud to draw the term to a close for the whole school as we performed our Easter Service production at St Paul's. Hopefully (for those of who you were able to attend) you were moved by our interpretation of the most important event in the Christian calendar. I am sure many of you will have been discreetly wiping a tear from the corner of your eye when you listened to our beautiful rendition of "The Climb." Thanks to Mr Noble for his help.

Didn't our lovely kids do brilliantly—what a way to finish the term!



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Y6- What We Learned

Year 6 have certainly kept themselves busy this term! Alongside working incredibly hard in preparation for their SATs, pupils took on the ultimate culinary challenge in our very own "Come Dine With Me" competition. In groups of six, they battled it out in pairs to produce a three-course feast - with starters, mains and desserts all needing to include a surprise key ingredient (red pepper, salmon and pineapple... not without its challenges!).

Dishes were presented to our esteemed (and very discerning!) food critics: Ms Raymonde (Kites), Mr Noble (Owls) and Mrs Copsey (Eagles), who judged everything from taste to presentation. There were moments of brilliance, a few questionable combinations, and plenty of laughter along the way. We also discovered the sure-fire way to win over Ms Raymonde's taste buds (and heart!) - a winning combination of cheese and chocolate!

Overall, the children impressed us with their creativity, teamwork and willingness to take risks - and who knows, we may just have discovered the next generation of top chefs!





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Library News

It's been a very exciting half term behind the scenes as we've been working to strengthen reading for pleasure at St Lawrence.

The children have been incredibly patient while the library has been closed for renovations, and we're pleased to say it really will have been worth the wait. The space, which officially opens on 17th April, has been transformed into a warm and inviting place where children can truly enjoy and get lost in their favourite books.

A huge thank you goes to our wonderful parent volunteers, who have given so much of their time and energy over the past few weeks to bring this vision to life. We are also very grateful to our regular volunteers, who have kept the library running throughout the transition – no small task.

We'd also like to thank Dulux Decorators Centre on Walton Road for their support in sourcing paint colours, along with their generous donation of materials – a very kind gesture.

Two parents deserve a special mention. Katy Dixon of Dixon Design Studio www.dixondesign.org, for her interior design expertise and for creating such a thoughtful and engaging space, and Alison Manning, for sharing her library knowledge and leading the way in refreshing our collection with new and exciting texts.

Your time and dedication have made a real difference. We're really looking forward to officially opening the library on 17th April, with some special guests, and welcoming the children into their new space.

Happy Easter,
Miss Carter, Reading Lead



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Music

Wow! What a busy term it has been for music at St. Lawrence.

This week has seen the return of our Rock Steady concerts – these were enjoyed by all of the children and the performers' parents. It is so wonderful to see the children enjoying music and the variety of ways they are able to access it at our school.

Alongside Rock Steady, singing and instrumental lessons, drum and ukulele clubs are still going strong. So, if your child is interested in taking part in a musical activity, there're plenty of things on offer!

Choir has taken a short hiatus since the mammoth task of preparing for and performing at Dorking Halls. Again, the children showed how brilliantly musical they are – we were also the biggest school group there, by far, which was great to see! We will reconvene choir practice on Monday the 13th of April. For anyone wanting to join choir, it's never too late! There's no complicated sign-up procedure or anything – just come along on Monday lunchtimes at 12:30, in the Studio. Please do give your children a nudge! I would also like to see more boys joining, as there's more to life than football!

Have an eggcellent Easter break.
Mr. Noble.

Fundraising

This term we supported Red Nose Day with some fun activities related to the "design your own" 2026 theme. Thank you to all who bought noses through the school – together with our one off donation link, the total raised so far for Comic Relief is a fantastic **£471**. **The Parentmail item will remain open for donations until after the Easter break.**

Thank you also to William B's Mum in Year 4 who worked with Y4 on the day, sharing some of the work that Comic Relief do with the money raised.



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PE

This half term has been an exciting one across the whole school, with a fantastic range of PE lessons, coaching opportunities, and sporting events for all year groups.

Every class has been taking part in athletics lessons with Mr Paddington, developing core skills such as sprinting, jumping and throwing. Alongside this, children have enjoyed a broad curriculum PE programme, including dance, gymnastics and small-sided games that they can also play independently at break and lunchtime.

Cross Country

A highlight for many pupils was the Cross Country Competition, where our school proudly came 3rd out of 13 schools. Several children achieved top-three finishes in their races and earned medals, and there were countless personal bests across all year groups. It was a wonderful day with a great sense of community and celebration.





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Year 3 hockey

Our Year 3 pupils have benefited from specialist hockey coaching from OCHC, and it has been brilliant to see their confidence and technique improve each week. This continues in Summer term for Year 3.

Netball

Our school netball teams have also started their fixtures in the Netball League, showing excellent teamwork, resilience and sportsmanship. More league matches are still to come next term. Watch this space!

Girls Football event

To round off the term, some girls in Year 3/4 took part in the International Women's Day Football Event at Fulham's training ground — an inspiring experience that celebrated girls' football and gave our children a chance to train at a professional facility.

Year 6 Dodgeball

Some Year 6 children were delighted to participate in a recent Dodgeball Competition, where our team performed superbly and finished 2nd out of 6 schools — a huge achievement!

Boys football team

On Monday this week, some of the Year 5/6 boys played a football match against Claygate. This is the last match of the first round. Updates on next steps/ next stages to follow.

Well done to all our pupils for their outstanding effort, enthusiasm and achievements this term. We are incredibly proud of you all. Thanks to all staff, parents and governors who help support PE and sport at St Lawrence. It is a pleasure to work alongside such supportive and talented pupils and families.

Have a lovely Easter break!

Mrs Rey



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Celebrating our Chess Champion

We are incredibly proud of Benji O in Kingfishers, who has been crowned our Ultimate School Chess Champion!

Throughout the term, Benji has shown remarkable strategic thinking, resilience, and sportsmanship. He took on every opponent in the school chess club – including children two years older than him – and not only held his own but triumphed match after match!

Benji thrived on the challenge, demonstrating maturity, focus, and a natural talent for the game well beyond his years. His determination and calm under pressure have been truly amazing!

There's no doubt about it – we have a future chess star in the making! Well done, Benji! We can't wait to see where your chess journey takes you next.

Job Vacancy

We have a vacancy for a Teacher on the Main Pay Scale to join our dedicated and supportive team. This is an exciting opportunity for someone with enthusiasm, commitment, and a passion for helping children thrive. ECTs are also warmly encouraged to apply – we offer strong mentoring and a nurturing environment to help you grow in your early teaching career. If you or someone you know would be interested in this role, please apply [here](#).

We look forward to welcoming a new member to our wonderful school community!





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School Noticeboard

Summer term clubs

Rounders and cricket– We need more sign ups for these clubs, for them to go ahead next term. Please pay on Parentmail to secure your child’s place.

Deadlines for all of our school led club signups are mostly in the first week back after the Easter holidays. Purchase windows close at the deadline or when places are sold out, whichever comes first.

Back to school

Monday 13th April



Gem Winners

Congratulations to Toucans who are the gem winners this week. Well done on a record breaking total of 38 gems! What a lovely, polite and courteous class you are.

How to contact us

Urgent school enquiries– [Call 020 8941 0846](tel:02089410846)

**General or non- urgent school enquiries–
office@stlawrence-junior.surrey.sch.uk**

**Report an absence–
ReportanAbsence@stlawrence-junior.surrey.sch.uk**

**Breakfast and CAP club queries–
bccap@stlawrence-junior.surrey.sch.uk**

Pick up arrangements and messages to class–[Reading diary](#)





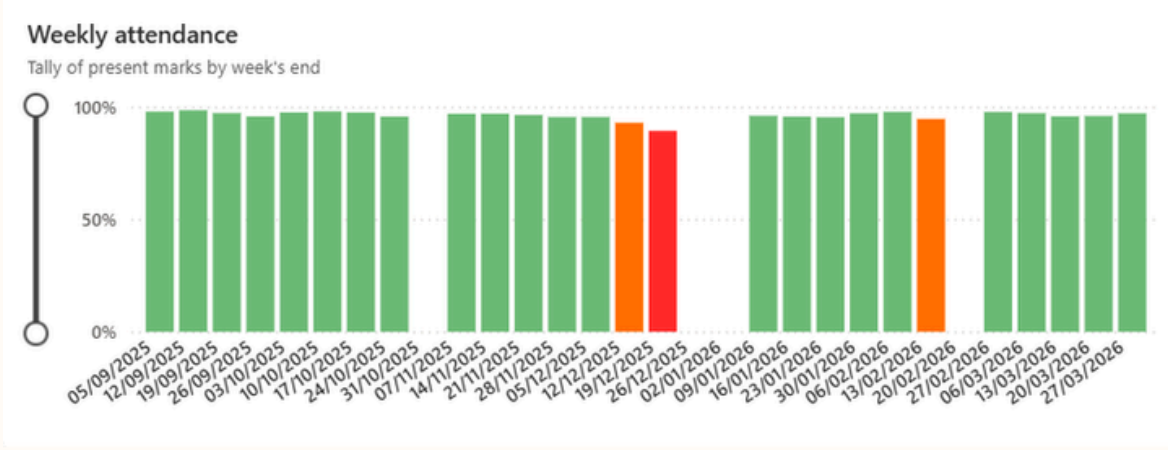
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PE days

PE Days Summer term 1 2026 updated 27th March 2026 Any ad-hoc changes will be communicated via Parentmail		
Year 3 all classes	Wednesday	Thursday (hockey) *Shin pads, longsocks and mouthguards required*
Year 4 Herons	Monday	Friday
Year 4 Kingfishers	Tuesday	Friday
Year 4 Swans	Wednesday	Friday
Year 5 Parrots	Monday	Friday
Year 5 Quetzals	Monday	Friday
Year 5 Toucans	Monday	Wednesday
Year 6 all classes	Tuesday	Thursday

St Lawrence Attendance 2025- 2026





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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