



ST LAWRENCE C OF E JUNIOR SCHOOL

HEADLINES

July 2025

Word from the Headteacher.....

Well, it has been a short but action-packed week, and I think we are all more than ready for the summer holidays. I'm sure many of you are feeling the same! It feels as though we are one of the last schools still standing, but we've certainly made the most of every moment.

On Monday, we were treated to the fantastic Rocksteady concerts. It was wonderful to see just how much progress the children have made, not only in their musical skills but also in their confidence. A huge well done to everyone who performed. Standing up in front of an audience takes real courage, a school value we talk a lot about to the children. I certainly wouldn't have been able to do it at their age. Thank you again to all the parents and families who came along to support.

We were also delighted to welcome our incoming Year 3 pupils for one final transition visit during our Bug Hunt morning. A special thank you goes to our Year 4 pupils, who organised and led the activities on their own. Just like with the Year 5's last week, I was blown away by the maturity shown. They were fantastic role models, and it is safe to say that our Year 2 children are (more than!) ready to join us in September.

The excitement continued later in the day as the much-anticipated Pizza Project came to life. I am delighted to share that the event raised over £100 for the Elmbridge Foodbank. Congratulations to Year 4 for another wonderful success and for demonstrating our school values of compassion and community so brilliantly.

Tuesday began with a heartfelt assembly as we celebrated the remarkable contribution of our much-loved teaching assistant, Mrs England, who is retiring after an incredible 29 years of dedicated service to our school. There were funny memories from staff, a very moving video from the pupils, a leavers song and flowers – a perfect way to mark what has been a wonderful career. The day finished with 'Magic Frosty' – a truly impressive magic show which left children and staff alike amazed, laughing and wondering just how those tricks were done!

And this morning it was the turn of the Year 6's, as we gathered in St Paul's church to say a fond farewell for the last time. This year group will always have a special place in my heart as they were the very first children I got to know properly as I joined the school in 2022 as the deputy head. We were all new at the same time and had a lot of fun getting to know each other. The kindness they showed, even at that young age, will always stay with me.

And all that is left to say is I hope you all have a wonderful summer with your family and friends. We are off to France with our 3 boys and I am very much looking forward to switching off, as I am sure many of you are!

We look forward to welcoming your children back with us bright and early on Wednesday 2nd September.

Thanks as always for your support – we really do appreciate it,
Mrs Grace MacLean



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YEAR 3

What We Learned

This final half term has been an exceedingly busy one in Year 3. We have undertaken a geographical study in East Wittering and compared our observations to East Molesey; in Art, we've learned how to print – using a range of techniques, and, most importantly, have prepared ourselves as fully as possible for the transition into Year 4.

Our Wittering trip was great – the children enjoyed their adventure to the seaside almost as much as eating their ice creams! We conducted a traffic survey, a land use study and a sketch. When comparing our data with that of Molesey, not surprisingly, the range of traffic here was far greater than in Wittering. It was interesting to observe, however, that Wittering surpassed Molesey in our tally of pedestrians. Who'd have thought that people flock to the beach when the weather's glorious?!

In art, we've enjoyed making seaside bunting. First of all, we discussed our ideas and researched which items were synonymous with a beach setting. We then carved designs into polystyrene for our first print. To further built on this idea, we creating a physical stamp out of cardboard which we used for our final piece. The children really enjoyed the printing – they also learnt a lot about the difficulties that come with being over-detailed using these techniques. The simpler designs were often the most effective.

It was both sad and lovely in equal measure to see the children beginning the transition process to Year 4. We're very proud of the resilience they've shown but will each miss our classes dearly. It's been so wonderful watching each and every child flourish as they've progressed through the first year of their St. Lawrence journey.

Have a wonderful Summer break. Thank you for all of your help and support this year; we really couldn't have done it without you.

Warmest regards – in every sense.
The Year 3 Team.



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YEAR 4

What We Learned

Year 4 have had a busy and exciting end to the year! We have enjoyed making our own pizzas and tasting a variety of healthy smoothies while learning about food and nutrition. In English, we developed our persuasive writing skills, creating convincing arguments and engaging pieces of work. In Maths, we explored statistics as well as position and direction, applying our learning through practical activities.

Our topic work included a river study and learning how to classify plants using their characteristics. We also celebrated all that we have learned in French this year with a range of revision and speaking activities.

The children enthusiastically prepared for Sports Day and demonstrated excellent teamwork and determination. We were also delighted to welcome the Year 2 children for a fun-filled Bug Hunt, helping them feel excited about moving into Key Stage 2.

Well done, Year 4, for a fantastic year of learning and achievement! Thanks for your support with your child's learning. It was lovely to speak to so many of you at the Open Classroom event last week.

We have enjoyed teaching the children this year and wish them a happy and successful year in Year 5.

Have a happy and safe summer break.





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YEAR 5

What We Learned

What a busy and successful half term Year 5 had! The children tackled some fantastic learning across the curriculum and impressed us with their enthusiasm and effort throughout.

In English, they became confident debaters, discussing topics such as space exploration, Pandora from Avatar and plans for the old Poundland site. Many children discovered they had a real talent for arguing a point—even when they didn't entirely agree with it themselves!

In Maths, the children developed their understanding of decimals, negative numbers, measurement and conversions. They worked hard and showed great perseverance when tackling some tricky calculations.

Our Science topic explored the human life cycle, while in Geography the children sharpened their map-reading skills.

Creativity shone in DT, where the children designed and made impressive pop-up books using moving mechanisms.

In Computing, they experimented with 3D modelling using SketchUp and produced some excellent digital designs.

The children also explored creation stories from different faiths in RE. PSHE lessons focused on online safety, screen time and responsible use of technology.

In PE, the children enjoyed Crazyball and Rounders, developing teamwork, throwing, catching and striking skills. They also organised a fantastic Sports Day with The Year 2s from The Orchard, teaching the youngsters how to play their games with great patience and kindness. Clearly a few budding coaches in this year group!

We are incredibly proud of everything that Year 5 have achieved, not only this half term, but in the whole year and we wish them all a happy safe and well-deserved summer break!



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YEAR 6

Farewell, Year 6

What a year it has been!

As we say goodbye to our Year 6 pupils, we look back on a year filled with unforgettable memories, incredible achievements and plenty of laughter. From outstanding SATs results that truly speak for themselves, to taking to the stage in our spectacular production of *The Wizard of Oz*, which blew us all away, this year group has embraced every opportunity with determination, confidence and a real sense of community.

Our PGL residential was another unforgettable highlight. Whether they were working together during raft building, competing in archery tag, or dancing the night away at the disco, the children threw themselves into every experience with enthusiasm, courage and plenty of smiles. The evenings were just as memorable, from singing around the campfire with toasted marshmallows to the now legendary impromptu 70s dance class led by Miss England afterwards! It was wonderful to see friendships flourish, confidence grow and memories being made that will stay with them for years to come.

However, what has stood out most is not just what this year group has achieved, but who they have become. They have supported one another through challenges, celebrated each other's successes, shown kindness, resilience and maturity, and filled our classrooms with laughter every single day.

We are incredibly proud of the remarkable young people they have grown into and know they are more than ready for the exciting adventures that await them at secondary school. They leave St Lawrence with so much to be proud of, and while they will be greatly missed, we know they have bright futures ahead.

To our Year 6 pupils: thank you for the memories, the laughter and the privilege of being part of your journey. We wish you every success and happiness in the future. Remember, once you're part of the St Lawrence family, you'll always have a place here.



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Year 6 photo gallery





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PE SUMMER 2

Cricketers Keep Their Cool to Claim Third Place!

Our Year 5 cricket team achieved a fantastic third-place finish in the Conellan Trophy. On Thursday, the team competed in the semi-finals and finals at Weybridge Vandals, playing four games in challenging 34°C heat. Despite the difficult conditions, they kept their cool throughout and demonstrated excellent teamwork and sportsmanship, making them a real credit to the school. With 12 other Surrey state schools competing, third place was an excellent result—especially as this was an U11 competition and our Year 5 pupils had to step up and compete against teams made up predominantly of Year 6 players while our own Year 6 pupils were away on their residential trip.

Mrs Grant has already spoken to the organisers about next year's competition and further cricket opportunities for both our girls and boys, so expect plenty more cricket news in the future!

A brilliant achievement—well done to the whole team!





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PE SUMMER 2

PE Roundup

This term has been truly successful for St Lawrence. We held both Sports Days this half term- Thank you for your support and positive feedback with the updated format. There was a great atmosphere in the school! Well done to all children and to Elm for winning Sports Day 2026!

Not to forget a swimming gala and cricket final. These all in addition to our PE curriculum and clubs.

Our Year 5 football team played in their final and secured a brilliant 2-0 victory. They should feel incredibly proud of what they achieved. Many children contributed throughout the various stages of the competition to help the team reach the final, which was hosted here at St Lawrence. It was a thrilling match and every bit as exciting as watching England play! The plate has now been engraved and is on show for all to see in our trophy cabinet.

Recently, one of our netball teams competed in their final away at Thames Ditton Junior School. The standard of netball on display was outstanding, with both teams demonstrating great skill, teamwork and determination. The match was closely contested, with Thames Ditton winning 9-6. It was another exciting game, showcasing the excellent level of netball that our children have played all year. Many children have represented the school and contributed throughout the different stages of the competition, helping the team reach the final.

The most recent success we have had is becoming District Sports Champions! It was the first time in the history of St Lawrence that we have won the event. Children demonstrated teamwork, determination, and individual success to earn points across throwing, jumping, sprint races, relay races and distance races. It was a fantastic event and Mr Paddington and I are so proud of each child. It will be a day we will never forget! A great community day after a successful Sports Day.

Do pop by to see our trophy cabinet, Sports Day cup, two plates and some medals added to this!



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PE news continued

These are just a few of the many sporting achievements our children have enjoyed this year. We are incredibly proud not only of the results, but also of the determination, resilience, teamwork and sportsmanship shown by all of our children.

This week we have celebrated these children in assembly along with every child who has represented St Lawrence in PE and sport this year. These athletes have shown commitment, enthusiasm and effort throughout. They have been wonderful ambassadors for St Lawrence and have made us all very proud.

Thank you to parents and staff for supporting Sport and PE so well. I have been amazed by the support and couldn't have provided all these opportunities without parents and staff.

Have a lovely summer break and good luck to our Year 6 children who are ready to embark on their secondary school journeys.





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PE Photo Gallery





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Monday's Favourite Visitors!

Every Monday afternoon this year, we have been lucky enough to welcome two very special visitors to our school – Vanessa and her wonderful therapy dog, Bella.

Vanessa has generously given up her own time every single Monday to visit us, and together she and Bella have made a huge difference to so many of our children. Their calm, friendly presence has brought smiles, confidence and plenty of wagging tails.

The children absolutely love spending time with Bella, whether they are reading to her, chatting with Vanessa or simply enjoying a quiet cuddle. Bella has a remarkable way of making everyone feel at ease, and we're especially proud that several children have even overcome their fear of dogs thanks to her gentle, patient nature.

We are incredibly grateful to Vanessa and Bella for their kindness, commitment and the joy they have brought to our school every week. Mondays simply wouldn't have been the same without them!

A huge thank you from all of us—you are both truly pawsome!





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Friends Across the World

Swans Class enjoyed a very special video call with former pupil Shun, who has moved back to Japan. It was wonderful to see him again—and his little brother too! The children picked up where they had left off, chatting and laughing together with ease. It was a lovely reminder of the friendships made at school and how our community can stay connected, even from opposite sides of the world. We were also pleased to discover that Shun was still smiling despite Japan's World Cup exit! We learnt lots about what school, and life, is like in Japan. A big thank you to William Buzza's mum for helping to organise the call.





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Music news

As we come to the end of another year, I'm really proud of the position that Music is in at St. Lawrence. Over the summer, I will be looking finding a way to bolster musical performance opportunities for our children. As each year passes, I become more in awe of what they are capable of; it would be lovely to give the children a further opportunity to shine.

Choir has continued with gusto; a select few recently visited the Royal Cambridge Care Home to perform for the residents. We performed a medley of rousing WWII songs, which our audience enjoyed immensely. It was so lovely to see the enjoyment our brilliant children bring to the wider community.

On Monday, we saw our Summer Rock Steady concert, led by our new band leader, Perry. As I've said previously, it's been so brilliant watching these bands grow and develop and, as I always say, any opportunity to make music should be celebrated!

On a personal note, I'd like to say a huge thank you to all of our enthusiastic parents. Thank you for believing in me and what I'm trying to build at St. Lawrence. If it isn't plainly obvious, music has played a very important role in my life. I feel very humbled to be in a position now where I am able to bring it to the forefront for others.

Have a wonderful (and musical) Summer break.
Mr. Noble.





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2026 YEAR 6 PRODUCTION THE WIZARD OF OZ

Review of The Wizard of Oz

Having attended these productions for over 20 years it never fails to amaze on just how much talent our children have. The quality of the productions has always been high and it was no surprise that our current Year 6 maintained that high standard and , although comparisons are invidious, probably nudged the bar that bit higher.

Whilst sticking to the original story, the audience was given real value with there being a number of children sharing the major parts. We had no less than three Dorotheys and Scarecrows, two Tinmen, Lions and Wicked Witches with Toto being the exception, playing his part manfully, or more correctly doggedly, throughout the performance. Supported by an amazing cast of from the Great Oz, Glinda the Captain of the Monkeys, Munchkins, Gatekeepers, Guards, Mice, Monkeys and the Emerald Citizens, with our own special group of Mice Girls everything moved along at a great pace, supported by the Backstage and Tech teams, who ensured that all sets were properly in place and the background effects were correct. The singing was of the usual high standard, whether delivered as a solo, of which there were many, in groups or the full choir and lines were delivered clearly allowing the audience to follow the story from the Kansas tornado, to Oz and back again.

What is truly surprising is that this production has been put together in the period since the children were toiling over SATS week and the effort they have made is truly commendable. So too is the input of the Year 6 staff team of Ms Harman, Ms Evans, Ms Carter and Mrs Copsey supplemented by Mrs England and other staff members. Parents also contributed with their support in time and costumes. All the effort put in produced an amazing, magical afternoon for which they all deserve congratulations and the highest praise.

George Cameron,
Governor





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Premier League Young Writers competition

We had a special assembly this week to celebrate Jesse's Young Writer award. He read out his winning story which was about the rematch talk from the manager of a football team. His main message was that anything is possible and showing values makes you a better person.

As part of his prize, we had an author talk from Dan Freedman, author of Jamie Johnson books, where he shared about his own journey of becoming a writer which included reading match reports from major football matches. He explained how many careers can come from being interested in football.

Well done, Jesse, this this huge achievement. You are an inspiration to us all! Good luck for your future football and writing successes- we are sure there are going to be many. On Thursday afternoon, we were delighted to welcome author Dan Freedman to school for a truly inspiring talk about reading, writing and the power of storytelling. The children were completely engaged from start to finish and left feeling motivated to pick up their pens and create stories of their own.

Dan's visit was part of a fantastic prize awarded through the Premier League Young Writers competition, won by Jesse in Eagles Class. Jesse impressed the judges with his captivating piece of writing, The Teamtalk – an inspiring speech delivered to a football team trailing 2-0 at half-time in a Champions League final. His writing showcased creativity, determination and a powerful ability to motivate others.

A huge congratulations to Jesse on this incredible achievement. We are immensely proud of him, and his success gave our whole school the opportunity to enjoy such a memorable and inspiring visit.



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Young Writers competition continued

"It was an absolute privilege to visit St Lawrence Junior School to help celebrate Jesse's remarkable achievement in winning the Premier League Young Academy Writer of the Year award for the Under 11 age group. It was such a positive experience.

"The staff are outstanding and the pupils were involved, attentive and engaged throughout. During my session, they were enthusiastic, interactive, incredibly polite and listened excellently throughout. They represented the school fantastically throughout the day. We discussed the power of reading and writing - and how far your words can take you. All inspired by Jesse's words bringing us all together on the day."

"Big thanks to Sami and Abz from Brighton and Hove Albion FC for making everything happen and to Ms Carter and the brilliant team at St Lawrence. And huge congrats to Jesse on his special day. His story was outstanding and I hope his achievement inspires the pupils to Go For Their Goals."

Dan Freedman





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Disability Pride Month event

We are incredibly proud of Harvey A in Kingfishers, who recently read his poem about hands at the Houses of Parliament to an audience of more than 60 people, including MPs and members of the House of Lords!

Harvey was part of a special event marking Disability Pride Month, helping to raise awareness of limb difference and the need for better support for children and families across the UK. What an amazing achievement—well done, Harvey! You are a total superstar :)



Dance for Diabetes Fundraiser

A huge thank you to everyone who supported our Dance for Diabetes fundraising event. It was a fantastic opportunity to raise awareness of diabetes while also raising money for our school. The children had great fun taking part and showed wonderful enthusiasm throughout the event.

Together, we raised an amazing £700. Congratulations to our top three fundraisers: Paige T, Daisy J, and Claudia J, who all did an outstanding job collecting sponsorship. Thank you once again to all the children, families, and staff who helped make this event such a success. We are incredibly grateful for your support.



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Time to say Goodbye



Firstly, a heartfelt goodbye to **Mrs England**, who retires after an incredible **29 years** at our school. During this time, she has made a lasting impact on so many children through her care, warmth and dedication, helping them to grow in confidence and thrive. Most recently, she has supported Year 6 pupils to flourish in all aspects of the curriculum, with a particular passion for arithmetic. We also can't forget her artistry, making props, background and embellishments for the end of year productions. Mrs England also played a special role in our residential trips, creating memories that will be cherished for years to come. Is there anything she cannot do? She will always be remembered for her kindness and, of course, her legendary earring collection! She will be greatly missed, and we wish her a very happy and well-deserved retirement. Thank you for all you have done!



We also say a fond farewell to **Mrs Battle**, who retires after an amazing **32 years** of service. Over the years she has taken on a number of roles, from Teaching Assistant to member of our cleaning team, always showing commitment and care. A talented artist, she created many wonderful displays, particularly for our Year 6 productions, helping to make these moments truly special. She will be greatly missed by staff and pupils alike, and we wish her a happy retirement. Thank you, Gina!



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Time to say Goodbye



Goodbye to **Miss Harman**, our Year 6 Lead, who has done an excellent job supporting children to achieve their full potential by recognising and nurturing their individual strengths. Many pupils will remember her from Year 3 as well as her recent tenure in Year 6; she really has nurtured our pupils from their first day, to the last. Her talents and skills will be missed by students and adults alike. We wish her so much luck as she moves on to the next adventure.



Goodbye also to **Miss Evans**, one of our Year 6 teachers, who has worked tirelessly over the last few years to help pupils achieve their very best. Her passion for teaching and learning has been contagious, and the impact on her pupils will last a lifetime. Her commitment and enthusiasm have made a real difference, and we wish her every success as she embarks on the next stage of her career.



Finally, goodbye to **Mrs McIntosh**, our Year 4 teacher and Bike Bus extraordinaire, whose caring nature has been greatly valued. Her work in introducing our very first bike bus is a wonderful legacy that will be remembered for many years to come, and her enthusiasm and passion for children and their development will be missed. We wish her all the best as she pursues her love of teaching and the outdoors in this next chapter of her life.



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A warm welcome

Introducing our new teachers for 2026/2027



Ms Ness (Y3)

Robins Class



Mrs Snow (Y5)

Parrots Class



Mr Hunter (Y6)

Owls Class

Students moving on to pastures new

We say a fond farewell to several children this term, we wish them well in their new adventures....

Jacob T- Swifts
Thomas G- Swifts
Michael BB- Swans
Bastie L-Swans
Clay C- Toucans



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Office Notices

Sorry We're
CLOSED

Extra-curricular clubs

Please see attached the updated Autumn clubs timetables.

Bookings for Chess club will open on Thursday 23rd July on Parentmail



THANK
YOU
😊

From Mrs A, Ms B and Mrs B-

Thank you soooooo much for all of our thoughtful and generous gifts.

Have a lovely summer break and we will see you again on **Wednesday 2nd September.**

A few reminders

Parentmail- Pay all outstanding debts- lunches, BCCAP, trips

Complete Meals choice form

Complete dietary requirements form (if needed)

Select / Pay for extra- curricular clubs and BCCAP if required

First day - Hand in prescribed medication

Ensure medication form is completed

First day - Bring in water bottle



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Attendance

Weekly attendance

Tally of present marks by week's end



As we approach the end of the academic year, we have noticed a slight dip in attendance. As a school, we are proud of our strong attendance record and recently celebrated 22 pupils who achieved 100% attendance throughout the 25/26 academic year. This is a wonderful achievement and reflects the commitment shown by both pupils and their families.

Good attendance is one of the most important factors in a child's success at school. Every lesson builds on previous learning, and even occasional absences can mean children miss important teaching, discussions and experiences that cannot always be replicated later. Beyond academic progress, regular attendance helps children develop confidence, resilience, friendships and positive routines that support their overall wellbeing.

As we look ahead to the new academic year, we hope all families will continue to work in partnership with us to make attendance a priority. We publish our [school calendar](#) in advance so that family holidays and other appointments can be planned, wherever possible, during school holiday periods. By ensuring children attend school every day, on time, we can give them the very best opportunity to thrive and make the most of every learning experience.

Thank you for your continued support in helping us maintain the high attendance standards that benefit all our pupils.



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Attendance

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