St Lawrence CofE Junior School

Autumn Term 1

Headlines

16th October 2026

Achieving, Believing, Caring

Word from the headteacher

This morning, we came together in unison at St Paul's Church to celebrate Harvest. It was a wonderful occasion filled with song, prayer and thankfulness. A huge well done to our Worship Ambassadors, who spoke so eloquently and helped make the celebration so special. Thank you to everyone who demonstrated our school values of generosity and compassion by donating to the Elmbridge Foodbank. We know these donations will be warmly received and will make a real difference to those in need this autumn.

Year 6 have thoroughly enjoyed their Old Cranleighan hockey sessions this term and have developed impressively over the past few weeks. It is the turn of Year 5 after the half term to shine on the muga pitch once again so please do dig out their much-needed mouth guards and shin pads for the sessions.

This term has been filled with special moments and exciting opportunities, from the launch of our new Forest School and visits from talented artists and poets, to parent tours and our Chelsea FC PSHE and football sessions. Throughout it all, the children have continued to make us incredibly proud, embracing each experience with complete joy. We know that it is all these extra special bits throughout the school day that make our school such a happy place to be.

Mrs Cary and I continue to work tirelessly together on both strategic and operational matters, refining policies and streamlining processes to ensure the smoothest possible learning experiences for all our children. Our teachers have enjoyed popping down to see learning taking place and have enjoyed welcoming staff to St Lawrence to do the same.

All that remains for me to say is that I wish you all a restful and happy half-term break, spent enjoying time with friends and family. I hope you all have the opportunity to recharge and enjoy a well-deserved rest before the inevitable busyness of the Christmas term begins! I am very much looking forward to a few days without my own children before their holiday gets started! We look forward to welcoming your children back to school on Monday 2nd November, looking smart in their full winter uniform. Please do remind them about how to do their ties!

Wishing you all a wonderful break,
Mrs Grace MacLean

St Lawrence CofE Junior School

Autumn Term 1 2026

Year 3 News

Miss Gould
Year 3 Lead

It's wonderful to reflect on such a successful first term and celebrate how much the children have grown in confidence and independence since joining St Lawrence.

This term in English, we have focused on different word types and sentence structures. In Maths, we have been developing our understanding of place value and have recently begun learning about addition and subtraction.

We were fortunate to be the first year group to take part in the Forest School sessions from 29th September to 1st October. The children thoroughly enjoyed the experience, taking part in a variety of activities including creating clay models, making wind chimes, and weaving with conkers and cocktail sticks. However, I think the highlight of the morning for many was roasting marshmallows over the fire and making delicious s'mores! Thank you so much to the parent volunteers that helped us during those mornings for each of the classes.

What a fantastic start to the year it has been. All of the children should be incredibly proud of their achievements this term and now deserve a well-earned rest over the holidays.











St Lawrence CofE Junior School

Autumn Term 1 2026

Year 4 News

Mrs Rey
Year 4 Lead



Year 4 have made a fantastic start to the year and have settled brilliantly into their new routines. We are incredibly proud of how well the children have embraced the challenges and opportunities of Year 4.

In Maths, the children have been developing their understanding of place value, addition and subtraction calculations, and key arithmetic skills. In English, they have been reading an exciting text linked to Ernest Shackleton's Antarctic expedition, which has inspired their learning and writing. The children have been learning to describe settings using fronted adverbials and powerful vocabulary to engage their readers and bring their writing to life. They have also been working hard to improve the presentation of their work through regular handwriting practice.

In PE, the children have enjoyed developing their football skills, focusing on passing, shooting and teamwork through a range of team games and matches. In RE, they have been learning about covenants in the Bible and exploring their significance.

Our budding artists have been experimenting with collage techniques and learning how to use shadow effectively in their artwork to create depth and interest. The children have also taken part in the exciting Healthy School Project run by Chelsea, where they have been exploring ways to make healthy lifestyle choices.

Alongside all of this, Year 4 have enjoyed many other enriching learning experiences and continue to demonstrate enthusiasm, resilience and a positive attitude towards their learning. We look forward to another exciting half term ahead!



St Lawrence CofE Junior School

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Year 5 News

Mr Noble
Year 5 Lead



Our Year 5 children have made an excellent start to their time 'upstairs'. Mrs. Grant, Mrs. Snow and I have enjoyed getting to know our new classes, and for me, it's been especially lovely seeing the year group for a second time – even though they're now much larger!

We've worked hard since being back. In Maths, we've been learning about number and place value; in Science, materials and their properties, and in History, we've been learning all about the Ancient Greeks and their amazing inventions and lifestyles.
The children have published two piece of English this half term – the first – a part-narrative about Theseus and the Minotaur, and the second – a non-chronological report detailing several aspects of Ancient Greek life.

Autumn 2 is set to be even busier; we're very excited to get cracking with all of the interesting things in store. But first, I think we're all ready for our extended half term break!

On this, I hope that you all have restful and rewarding time with your families and loved ones. We hope that the children recharge their batteries, ready for what the second half of the Autumn term will bring.

Best wishes,

Mr. Noble.

St Lawrence CofE Junior School

Autumn Term 1 2026

Year 6 News

Mrs Martin
Year 6 Lead



As we reach the end of our first half-term in Year 6, we would like to take this opportunity to share some of the fantastic learning that has taken place. It has been a pleasure to see the children settle so well into the new academic year, work hard, embrace new challenges, and continue to grow in confidence and independence across the curriculum.

This half-term, we have focused on developing our descriptive writing skills in English through character and setting descriptions. The children have explored ambitious vocabulary and figurative language to create engaging and imaginative pieces of writing. In maths, we have strengthened our arithmetic skills, tackled long multiplication and division, and been introduced to BODMAS. In science, we have been classifying living things and learning about microorganisms, including the different types and the important roles they play. In RE, we have explored Hinduism, learning about its beliefs, traditions, and practices. The children have also enjoyed creating street art-inspired murals, showcasing their creativity and artistic skills. We were also very lucky to have Chelsea FC join us for our PSHE lessons and each child has been involved in making their own campaign for a cause in which they are passionate about, the topics have included anti-racism, tackling sexism and bullying – WOW Year 6!

Looking ahead to next term, the children will have the opportunity to take part in Forest School, where they can further develop their teamwork, problem-solving, and outdoor learning skills. We are also excited about our upcoming trip to the Royal Courts of Justice, which will provide a valuable insight into the justice system and help the children understand how the courts operate.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support and encouragement. Your partnership makes a real difference to the children's learning, progress, and overall school experience. We hope you and your families have a restful and enjoyable half-term break, and we look forward to welcoming the children back in two weeks' time.

Year 6 Team

St Lawrence CofE Junior School

Autumn Term 1 2026

Extra-Curricular events

PE News from Mrs Rey and Mrs Snow

Curriculum lessons have gone well this half ranging from football, to tennis, to fundamental skills to volleyball! It has been great to see children so involved in sport and physical activity in PE lessons and during breaks and lunchtimes.

This term has seen an exciting start to our football season, alongside a significant increase in the sporting opportunities available to children across the school. We have expanded our lunchtime football provision and are working to offer even more opportunities for children to participate in football and other sports throughout the year. Further information will be shared soon.

Children from Years 4, 5 and 6 have had the opportunity to represent St Lawrence in both boys' and girls' sporting fixtures this half term. The teams have been made up of different pupils across the various competitions and matches, allowing more children to experience competitive sport and develop their teamwork, resilience and confidence. We are incredibly proud of the enthusiasm, commitment and sportsmanship shown by all those who have taken part so far and represented the school so positively.

Our school teams have made an excellent start to the season. The girls' football team opened their SSFA league campaign with a fantastic 2–1 victory, while the boys' team also secured a win away at Meath Green Junior School in the same competition. We have also entered both a girls' and boys' team into the Fulham Football Tournament, with the boys successfully progressing through to Finals Day.

Three of our four local league football teams have now played their opening fixtures. It has been wonderful to see the positivity, commitment and determination shown by all players during training sessions, with their developing skills, teamwork and sportsmanship clearly evident in matches. We wish all of our teams the very best as the local league season continues.

St Lawrence CofE Junior School

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Extra-Curricular events

PE News Continued

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A special congratulations goes to Nyla, Meghan, Orla and Lillie in Year 5, who represented St Lawrence in a new event at LEH School. The girls competed brilliantly in a challenging 4 × 1km cross-country relay race, demonstrating great perseverance and teamwork. They finished in 2nd place, out of 11 schools competing. Well done Girls!

There are many more sporting events and opportunities to come this year, and we look forward to celebrating the continued successes and achievements of our pupils. Well done and good luck to everyone involved!

Thanks to our Sports Captains for hosting a Sports Captain challenge: Penalty Shoot Out for Years 3 and 4 and Basketball Shoot Out for Years 5 and 6. Great leadership and excellent effort and determination from all our children! Winners to be decided soon!

Thank you to our parent coaches who help us with training and matches- we could not offer what we do without you!

Have a lovely half break.
Mrs Rey and Mrs Snow

St Lawrence CofE Junior School

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Inclusion Matters with Mrs Searle

Thank you to all the parents who joined our SEN Coffee Morning on 25 September. We discussed what SEN support looks like at St Lawrence, as well as some of the upcoming changes outlined in the Government report Every Child Thriving and Achieving. For those who were unable to attend, we have attached the presentation slides.

Parent Voice

We would love to hear from parents and carers who would be interested in joining our SEN Parent Voice initiative. This will provide an opportunity to share your experiences and views and help us continue to develop SEN provision at St Lawrence. If you would like to take part, please email senco@stlawrence-junior.surrey.sch.uk.

Young Carers

Our Young carers enjoyed a lovely afternoon planting daffodils with Mrs Searle this half term. Sometimes families do not realise that their child may be considered a young carer. It does not necessarily mean providing physical or practical care. It might simply mean that, because of a family member's additional needs, a child takes on extra responsibilities, worries about them, has to adapt when plans suddenly change, or sometimes misses out on activities with friends. If you think your child could be a young carer, please do contact Mrs Searle or the office to discuss.

SEN Parent Consultations

Mrs Searle will be available for virtual drop-in consultations on Friday 6 November for parents who have questions or concerns relating to inclusion. This might include SEN support or referrals, advice about the Surrey Local Offer, support for Young Carers, or other inclusion-related matters. For SEN concerns, we ask that parents speak with their child's class teacher in the first instance, as they work with your child every day and are best placed to discuss their needs and current in-class provision.

Appointments with Mrs Searle can be booked directly through her Google Calendar by following the link here and selecting 6th November. Going forward, SEN Parent Consultations will take place (where possible) on the first Friday of each month.

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Extra-Curricular events

Poet visit

On Wednesday 14th October, we enjoyed a fantastic and highly entertaining visit from the brilliant poet Kimba (Kimba Bush-Ramsey). Kimba joined our school community for a special double celebration marking both **National Poetry Day** and **Black History Month**.

The excitement began with an energetic, whole-school assembly. Kimba captivated the entire audience with his powerful words, rhythmic delivery, and engaging storytelling. The children were absolutely hooked from the very first line!

Following the assembly, Kimba led a series of interactive poetry workshops with the Year 5 classes. These sessions gave our pupils a fantastic opportunity to dive deeper into creative writing, find their own poetic voices, and learn directly from a professional artist.

Kimba's passion for poetry left a lasting buzz across the school. His book is available to order via this link:

https://www.authorsabroad.com/bookshop/writethewrongs-kimba



Kimba

Kimba is a poet who has worked with schools, community groups and has also released 2 hip hop albums.

Kimba wrote his first significant piece of poetry at age 11. He didn't realise how significant it would become until his mother discovered it in his bedroom. It was a piece expressing his discontent about issues at home. It was at this point he discovered the power of the written word.



Art Social Impact – Creating Art, Making a Difference!

We were delighted to welcome Arthur from Art Social to St Lawrence, where he delivered some fantastic art workshops and helped launch our fundraising challenge in support of Rentstart, a local homelessness charity and to help purchase additional art equipment for our school.

The children and teachers were really inspired by Arthur's creativity and enthusiasm, thoroughly enjoying the opportunity to learn new techniques and develop their own artistic skills. It was wonderful to see so much excitement and creativity across the school! A huge thank you to Arthur for generously donating his time and inspiring our young artists!

Our Art Social Impact fundraising competition winners will be announced after half term and the winning class will enjoy a special art afternoon with Arthur on 23rd November!

There's still time to get creative! Spaces are available at the Art Social half-term camps in Weybridge, run by our very own Mrs Grant!

Find out more and book at www.streetartsocial.co.uk.

St Lawrence CofE Junior School

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Extra-Curricular events

Taskmaster Club with Mrs Copsey

This term we launched our Taskmaster Club for children in Years 4–6. If you haven't ever seen the TV programme (stick to Junior with kids, or 'bleeped' for older children!) then the premise is fairly simple: the Taskmaster (in this case, Mrs Copsey) sets a series of tasks for groups or individuals to complete in order to earn points for their team.

Each week we do a combination of task types: challenge, physical or quick, as well as a home task and a "long term task" to be completed at some point in between sessions. So far, this term's tasks have included:

- Throwing a teabag into a mug from the furthest distance
- Making a teddy's bear picnic from items found in a scavenger hunt
- Ripping a picture into pieces...then putting your new "jigsaw puzzle" back together again
- Bringing in the most annoying thing

The favourite tasks seem to be the long-term ones, which have included impressing Mrs Rey, preparing a group performance of Mrs Copsey's favourite nursery rhyme (she didn't tell them what it was...that's the fun part) and wearing an item of clothing inside out and getting a member of staff to correct them.

Points are awarded based on not only completing the task, but also on thinking outside the box. For example, the task pictured was "make a hole in an A4 piece of paper and get someone from your team through it. The paper must not rip." From the pictures you will see some literal interpretations (full marks for the team who got each person fully through without ripping it) and some examples which earned some bonus points: team members drawn or written on paper and passed through the hole, "someone from your team" written down then passed through a hole and only a body part through a hole. The Taskmaster wasn't sure about the team who stuck multiple pieces of A4 paper together leaving a huge hole in the middle; she awarded bonus points for ingenuity but no points for completion of the task as it did specify an A4 piece of paper (would you have given them the points?)

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Extra-Curricular events

Taskmaster Club with Mrs Copsey

It's the first time we have run this club and very quickly we have seen many skills develop: problem solving, creative thinking, team work, communication, debating, risk taking and real genuine connection between pupils that may or may not have usually chosen to spend an hour together. Mrs Copsey also very much enjoys it, and all the staff have embraced the quirky challenges that have been taking place right under their noses (making Mr Noble laugh this week proved too tricky a challenge for many of the group!)

We have a few more weeks left before we can reveal the winning team for the Autumn term. In the Spring, we will be running another 10 sessions and hope that you might want to join in (pupils only I'm afraid!) If you have any ideas for tasks, then do let Mrs Copsey know.

The Taskmaster hopes to see a few new faces next term!

Artist of the week

AC/DC

Names of members: Angus Young, Brian Johnson, Phil Rudd, Cliff Williams, Stevie Young.
Genre: Hard rock, blues rock, rock and roll, heavy metal.
Type of artist: Band.
Country of origin: Australia.
Years active: 1973–present.
Awards won: Rock and Roll Hall of Fame induction (2003), ARIA Hall of Fame induction (1988), Grammy Award for Best Hard Rock Performance for *War Machine* (2010).



Five Facts:

1) Since their formation, AC/DC have had over ten band members.
2) The band AC/DC is famous for its power packed songs as well as its bizarre outfits. Angus Young's outfits on stage have ranged from Spiderman – to a gorilla – to a school uniform!
3) The huge popularity of the band AC/DC had let to a street being name after them. The street is named ACDC Lane and is situated in Melbourne.
4) AC/DC has sold an estimated 200 million albums worldwide!
5) Their music is used to help combat cancer! Researchers in South Australia have found that playing 'Thunderstruck' during chemotherapy treatment is effective at improving the efficiency of the drug.

https://open.spotify.com/playlist/25Y3HJsNpEmXj0jDoLOT6i

SMASH HITS!

Back in Black (1980)

Thunderstruck (1990)

Highway to Hell (1979)

Genre: Hard Rock

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Photo Gallery



Girls Cross country

Harvest contributions





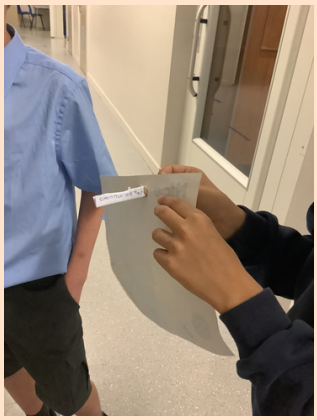


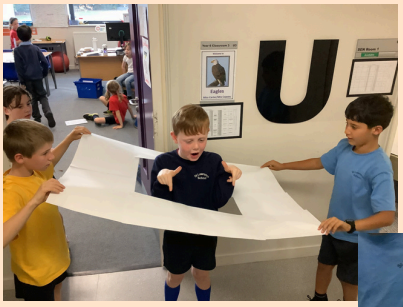
Art Social assembly

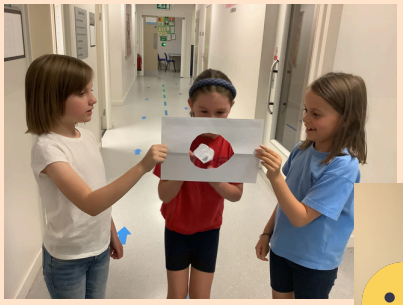


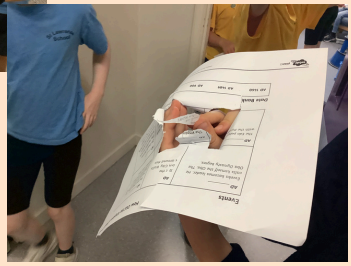
Kimba Bush– Ramsay visit

Taskmaster Club











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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.

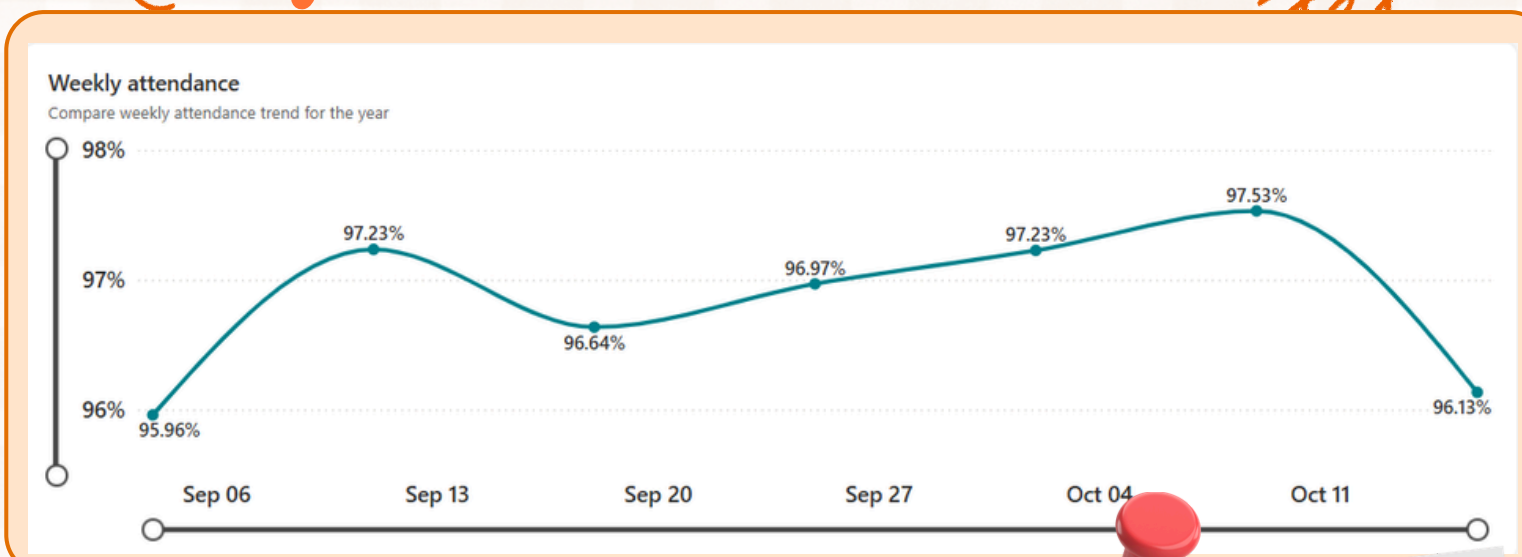
Third Offence and Any Further Offences (within 3 years)

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

St Lawrence CofE Junior School

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CONTACT US

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

General or non- urgent school enquiries-
office@stlawrence-junior.surrey.sch.uk
Always include child's name and class

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

Breakfast and CAP club queries-
bccap@stlawrence-junior.surrey.sch.uk
07799 380 157 During club hours

Pick up arrangements and messages to class-
Reading diaries

Daily reminders

- Water bottle and morning fruit snack
- Mouthguards and shin pads (if necessary, for hockey)
- Equipment needed for the school day **and** clubs
- Reading diaries
- ***Correct*** school uniform including coats and/ or hats depending on weather
- **Ties should be worn after half term, these are available to buy on Parentmail**
- Forest School clothes

Congratulations to Quetzals, who are the Gem winners this week. Well done for suck lovely, polite and courteous behaviour