

St Lawrence CE Primary



NEWSLETTER



Friday 7th January 2022

'Being the best we can be, because with God all things are possible'

Dear Parents,

Happy New Year to you all! I hope that you have all had a peaceful, magical Christmas with your families and looking forward to 2022 with increased positivity!

Firstly, all staff would like to thank you whole heartedly for the gifts, cards and Christmas wishes that were sent at the end of term. We were overwhelmed with your generosity and we would like you to know that these were greatly appreciated.

Children have settled back incredibly well this week into their class routines and it has been lovely to hear all about the special times that they have had with the family over the Christmas break. I got to hear quite a variety of responses in my assembly on Tuesday afternoon and it was just incredible that none of the responses mentioned gifts or presents, it was all related to family and friends. Oliver (class 3) said, 'I was grateful for my Grandma and Grandad coming over to my house and playing games with me'. For me, this response typifies the nature of the children here at St. Lawrence.

Classes have started their new themes this week and you below you will see that each new theme begins with a thought provoking question to get children interested and intrigued and will allow plenty of discussion.

The curriculum maps for this half term have been completed and teachers will be sending them out via SeeSaw and uploading on to the website for you to view. I am looking forward to talking with the pupils in the coming weeks to find out what they have been learning and if the Vikings were really actually vicious!

Spring Term Themed Plan

Class 1	Class 2	Class 3	Class 4
Is there anyone out there?	Why did a castle have a moat?	Were the Vikings really vicious?	How have the Greeks shaped our world?

The theme this half term in our collective and class based worship will be on the Christian value of Compassion.



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Covid Guidance for Schools

As the new term begins it would be remiss of me not to mention covid as unfortunately there isn't opportunity to get away from it! There has been a lot in the press about the Omicron strain and the increase in infection rates and we are getting regular updates and guidance from the LA and DfE on how best to manage the situation in primary schools. We are taking all the measures we can in school to prevent transmission, while trying to provide a full curriculum of face-to-face learning as this is our main priority.

We are obviously taking the precautionary measures and handwashing, sanitising and ventilation are our key priorities. Staff will be wearing face coverings in communal spaces and we will be limiting the amount of staff in the staffroom during breaktimes. We will operate the Covid Management Plan in the event of 5 linked cases within school. At present, we are not at this point.

Should you have any queries or questions please contact the school office who will be happy to help or alternatively will direct you to the Health Protection Hub.

Advice on obtaining test kits is available by following these links:

<https://maps.test-and-trace.nhs.uk/>

<https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests>

As always, please ensure you are vigilant for symptoms and if your child does display symptoms, please keep them off school and book them a COVID test using this link: Get a free PCR test to check if you have coronavirus (COVID-19) - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

As general advice, if your child is in a household contact of a positive case (even at primary age) we would also ask that they take daily LFD tests for a period of 7 days from the date of exposure to the positive case.

Please note that this guidance is from the Health Protection Hub who offer advice.

Follow this link for further guidance - <https://www.telford.gov.uk>



Celebrating Success this week!



AWARDS THIS WEEK GO TO....

St. Lawrence Values Award

Our St. Lawrence Values Award is an award nominated by the pupils and teachers to reflect the school's values represented in the 'St. Lawrence Way'.

This week Isla nominated **Oliver C** for smiling and inspiring as he always shows kindness in his class.

Class One

Elsie-Mai – fantastic behaviour for learning.

Class Two

Max - for working really hard and being helpful this week.

Noah - for setting excellent learning examples for others.

Class Three

Reuben – for trying so hard with his handwriting this week.

Olivia – for working so hard and trying her best in all tasks.

Class Four

April - excellent effort in maths.

Austin – great imagination in English.

Head teacher's Award

Abigail - for always having a beaming smile on her face and giving 100% to everything she does.

House point winners

This week the winning house is **St George** with a staggering **70** points

Well done to **Lola** the House Captain and everyone who is a member of this house.

HOUSE NAME	POINTS THIS WEEK	POINTS IN TOTAL
St David	57	838
St Patrick	50	833
St Andrew	61	974
St George	70	899



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Online Safety Newsletter January 2022

Smart TV / Streaming services

There are so many TV streaming services available now such as Netflix, Prime, Apple TV, Now TV and Disney as well as more families having Smart TVs, which connect to the internet and allow you to download apps and access YouTube for example. This means our children potentially have access to a lot more content, some of which may not always be appropriate to watch.

If your child does access content through these services then, as always, make sure you set parental controls so they can only view content that is suitable for their age.

Each service will have their own parental control settings with most of them using a Parental PIN so you can restrict what can be viewed (and purchased in some cases).



TikTok

You must be over 13 years of age to use TikTok. Users can watch musical clips, record clips (it includes lots of lip synching and dancing), edit them and add special effects.

Why should I be concerned?

You need to be aware that some of the videos may contain explicit language and sexual imagery, which may not be suitable for your child to view. There is also the risk of strangers contacting your child so make sure you have set up the appropriate settings.

If your child is using TikTok then we recommend setting the account as private (this is the default setting for users under 16 since Jan 2021). Even with a private account, your child's profile information such as their photo and bio are still visible so ensure your child understands the importance of not adding personal information (e.g. location, age and phone numbers) to this area. This article explains how you can strengthen your privacy settings and what features are turned off by default for accounts for children aged 13 – 15: <https://newsroom.tiktok.com/en-us/strengthening-privacy-and-safety-for-youth>

Family Pairing

This allows parents to link their own TikTok account to their child's account. This will allow you to set controls such as restricted mode (limit the appearance of inappropriate content) and screen time management (control how long they can spend on TikTok each day). You can find out more here: <https://www.tiktok.com/safety/en/guardians-guide/>

Challenges and Trends

Lots of them are fun and not harmful but sometimes they can be risky. TikTok have produced this resource to help you talk to your child about challenges and the potential risks: <https://www.tiktok.com/safety/en-sg/online-challenges/>.

Blocking and Reporting

As with similar apps, there is the ability to report and block other users so ensure your child knows how to use these features:

- <https://support.tiktok.com/en/safety-hc/report-a-problem>
- <https://support.tiktok.com/en/using-tiktok/followers-and-following/blocking-the-users>



Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into.
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