

# St Lawrence CE Primary



## NEWSLETTER



Friday 4th March 2022

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

Dear Parents,

We do hope that you enjoyed your half term and managed some time out and about despite the blustery, high winds and downpours! It has been lovely welcoming the children back to school and what an incredibly busy week we have all had.

This week we have been finding out about Shrove Tuesday and Ash Wednesday as they mark the start of Lent. Reverend Morby will be visiting school on Monday to lead Worship to discuss more about the religious observance of Lent.

Our school houses are represented by the Patron Saints of the countries that make up the United Kingdom. On Tuesday children were commemorating Saint David's Day as the patron Saint of Wales and learning some key facts about him.

### Commonwealth Games Mascot

St. Lawrence staff and pupils were very excited to receive a visit from Perry, Birmingham's Commonwealth Games official mascot. The energy from both the mascot and the children was infectious and our children even managed to have a little workout with Perry! Birmingham 2022 will shine a light on this vibrant corner of the Commonwealth and work to improve health and wellbeing; inspiring, engaging and connecting communities and athletes to realise their potential and live happier, healthier lives. [The Commonwealth Games](#) begins 28th July and will run until 8th August 2022.



### Celebrating 25 years of World Book Day!

Thank you to everyone for getting involved in our World Book day celebrations this year. This year the children enjoyed an afternoon of activities in their 'family' houses. It was absolutely marvellous seeing the children from each class working together (especially after being segregated so much with covid measures) and the older children supporting the younger pupils within their house. Children looked fantastic dressed as their favourite book characters and it was wonderful to see the array of different outfits on show. We were overwhelmed with the response for the 'Book Scene' competition and the hard work and effort that it has gone in to making them. We would very much like to keep some of them for our 'Get carried Away by books' display to showcase children's love of books.

## 'Story Scene' Competition



I just wanted to share with you the wonderful creations that have been made by the children for World Book day. The task was to create a scene from their favourite book in a shoe box. The completed scenes were absolutely fabulous and we have created a display to showcase the efforts. It was so very difficult to choose winners as everyone was deserving but Mr and Mrs Brown who live in the village were the independent judges. The winners were; Niamh (Class 1), Ivy-Rose and Sophie (Class 3).



## Ukraine Crisis

Hearing the news of war can be scary and confusing for our children and it is important that we talk to them openly and honestly but in age appropriate manner. Teaching staff have been gauging the response from pupils and answering questions in a factual, reassuring manner. We haven't spoken to the children collectively at this time, as it wouldn't be appropriate for our younger pupils. We understand that some parents have concerns about what we are discussing so please be reassured that we have only dealt with it in classes when questions have been raised.

## How can we help together?

Should you wish to do your part in support of the 'Ukraine Crisis' the Polish Centre in Shrewsbury are asking for items.

The following items are needed: thermal clothes (new, all sizes, not worn), warm gloves, hats and socks, warm shoes, coloring books, crayons, toys, torches and batteries, calpol and paracetamol, dressings (bandages, plasters etc), sanitary products, nappies, toothbrushes and toothpaste, baby milk powder (new and unopened).

If you would like to donate any items please bring them in to school by **Friday 11th March** and the items will be delivered by a member of school staff.

### A Prayer for Ukraine

God of peace and justice,  
we pray for the people of Ukraine today.  
We pray for peace and the laying down of weapons.  
We pray for all those who fear for tomorrow,  
that your Spirit of comfort would draw near to them.  
We pray for those with power over war or peace,  
for wisdom, discernment and compassion  
to guide their decisions.  
Above all, we pray for all your precious children, at risk and in fear,  
that you would hold and protect them.  
We pray in the name of Jesus, the Prince of Peace.  
Amen.

Archbishop Justin Welby  
Archbishop Stephen Cottrell



# 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 Mrs Standish has awarded **class 4** for their empathy and compassion shown in discussion about recent developments in Ukraine.

### Head Teacher Award

**Rosa** - for her fabulous art work on Bears.

#### Class One

**Ewuradwoa**—for working so hard in phonics.

#### Class Two

**Baaba**— for being a terrific role model.

**Evie** - for her fantastic reading work.

#### Class Three

**Faith** - for always following the St Lawrence way in all that she does.

**Kofi** - for settling into Class 3 so well.

#### Class Four

**Abigail** – good input into all lessons in class .

**Daisy** – improvement in handwriting.



### House point winners

This week the winning house is **St Andrew's** with a staggering **55** points.

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

HOUSE NAME	POINTS THIS WEEK	POINTS IN TOTAL
<b>St David</b>	47	1255
<b>St Patrick</b>	44	1258
<b>St Andrew</b>	55	1575
<b>St George</b>	52	1397





# Achievements beyond the classroom

Here is Lottie with her swimming award.  
Well done for passing your level 4 Lottie!



## Year 5/6 Girls Football Telford Schools Tournament

Yesterday, we were represented by 8 of our Year 5/6 Girls in a tournament run by the Telford and Wrekin Sports Partnership. I am immensely proud of the teamwork the girls showed during a rain soaked afternoon. Unfortunately, we did not qualify for the knockout stages, but the smiles and enjoyment on the faces of the children were the highlight of the afternoon. I am still not sure how we did not manage to score in our second group game (a 0-0 draw) as we hit the crossbar and post twice; including with the last kick of the game!

The girls are continuing to apply themselves and excel as a team.

Well done!

Mr Al-Asmar and Mr Matthews.





# Online Safety



## Online Safety Newsletter

March 2022

### Poppy Playtime

Have you heard of Poppy Playtime? With chapter 2 just being released we thought it important that you're aware that whilst the name and characters suggest a playful game, it is a survival horror game with graphics that may not be suitable for your child. It includes characters such as 'Kissy Wissy' and 'Huggy Wuggy.' Please view this game before allowing your child to play it as it may not be appropriate for them – particularly young children.

Children may be playing the game or just watching videos of it on sites such as YouTube or playing replicated versions on Roblox for example.

### Further information

The INEQUE Safeguarding Group have produced this informative briefing for parents and carers:

<https://ineqe.com/2021/12/03/poppy-playtime-online-safety-review/>

### Smartwatches / Fitness trackers



Check what the smartwatch allows your child to do and if available, set appropriate restrictions. Talk to your child about the different settings and if you have, why you have set up the restrictions.

#### What are the risks?

- Some smartwatches allow you to take photos. It is important to talk to your child about appropriate behaviour when taking and sharing photos. Once a photo is shared, they lose control of it.
- Some smartwatches have internet access with the ability to download apps. You need to be aware of the potential of in app purchases and viewing upsetting content.

Depending on the brand of smartwatch, you may be able to set up parental controls for example to restrict content and prevent purchases. More information about Apple Watch parental controls can be found here: <https://support.apple.com/en-gb/guide/watch/apd54d0a51fb/watchos>

As always, ensure your child knows to talk to you or another trusted adult should they see anything inappropriate or that worries them whilst using their device.

*Many schools discourage or do not allow the use of smartwatches – check your child's school Acceptable Use Policy as this will tell you if they are allowed in school.*

#### Further information

- <https://parentzone.org.uk/article/digital-family-basics-smart-watches-fitness-trackers>
- <https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/tech-guide/smart-toys-and-wearable-gadgets/#smart>



## Supporting young people with SEND online

The internet can be a great place, but we need to be aware of the risks involved with being online. For children with SEND, they may encounter further challenges and therefore additional support may be required. There is a lot of tailored information available to parents and carers and the following links are a great starting point:

- <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/online-safety-families-children-with-send/>
- <https://www.internetmatters.org/inclusive-digital-safety/advice-for-parents-and-carers/supporting-children-with-send/>
- <https://www.childnet.com/help-and-advice/supporting-young-people-with-send-online/>

The above sites cover topics such as helping your child browse safely online, setting appropriate parental controls, activities to help discussions about being online and the steps you can take to help protect your child online.

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date released 1.03.22.



## Snapchat

### What is Snapchat?

Snapchat is an app used for messaging and sharing photos and videos. You must be 13+ to sign up. Users can send messages (snaps) to others that can only be seen for a set time period e.g. 10 seconds. Users can also upload snaps to stories which then disappear after 24 hours.



### What should I be aware of?

- **Who is your child friends with?** Talk to your child about who their 'friends' online are.
- **Group chats** - in a group chat there may be people that they're not friends with on the app who can then communicate with them in the group. This also increases their risk of interacting with strangers.
- **Snap Map** - The map lets users see where 'friends' are. Location sharing via the map is optional and is off by default (we recommend that it remains off).
- **Snapchat streaks** - Streaks count how many consecutive days two people have been sending Snaps to each other, this can increase pressure to respond daily.
- **Inappropriate content** - due to the nature of the app your child may come across content that is inappropriate.
- **Screenshots** - whilst Snaps disappear, users may take screenshots before they do, potentially resulting in them losing control of what they have shared as it could be sent to other people.
- **Bullying** - there is a risk of bullying on all platforms so please ensure your child knows how to block and report other users if necessary.
  - <https://snap.com/safety/safety-reporting/>
  - <https://support.snapchat.com/en-GB/a/remove-block-friends>

### Safety tips

It is important to talk to your child regularly about what they are doing online and make sure that they know that they should always talk to you or another trusted adult if they have any concerns. **Please make sure the appropriate privacy settings are set up and your child knows how to block and report other users if necessary.**

We would recommend you explore Snapchat with your child and suggest why certain options are safer, for example, setting your account so only friends (rather than everyone) can see your content and only those you are friends with can contact you.

- <https://support.snapchat.com/en-GB/article/privacy-settings2>

Don't forget to talk to your child about **being kind online**, for example only posting positive comments, don't say anything they wouldn't say in real life and treat others as they would expect to be treated.

## Apps for learning and having fun!



**White Rose 1-Minute Maths**  
Currently aimed at Key Stage 1 pupils, and focuses on adding, subtracting and subitising.



**Scratch Jr**  
Children (ages 5-7) can learn important coding skills as they program their own interactive stories and games.



**Wonderscope**  
Books come to life on your floor and you can play a part in the story! Wonderscope uses augmented reality to transform ordinary spaces into extraordinary stories. 1<sup>st</sup> book free but then in-app purchases.



**InShot - Video Editor**  
Great for creating your own movies! Free but does have in-app purchases available.

**Top apps to get kids active:**  
A guide from internet Matters including lots of apps to get your child moving:  
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1pFhUEJEI8WpCCf-PCX3iZv7GY1wbRiBx/view>

*As with all apps, check their suitability for your child before they use it. Think about if it is appropriately aged for your child, how does the app use your data and does it have any communication channels within it for example?*





# JOIN THE ADVENTURE



**ANCHORS**  
5 – 8 Years

**ႁ႗ႃႆႇႇ**  
8 – 11 Years

**Company**  
11 – 14 Years

**Seniors**  
14 – 18 Years

FIND OUT MORE ABOUT YOUR LOCAL GROUP

**1st Wellington Company meets at Wellington Methodist Church on Thursday nights 6pm to 7:30pm. Call/text Alastair on 07977 508723**

**BOYS-BRIGADE.ORG.UK/JOIN**

The Boys' Brigade is a Company limited by guarantee, registered in England & Wales number 145122. A registered charity in England & Wales number 305969 and in Scotland number SC038016. Registered Office: Felden Lodge, Hemel Hempstead, HP3 0BL, UK



# Cash For Schools 2022



WIN A SHARE OF £12,000!

Thousands of pounds up for grabs in our  
Cash for Schools competition.

All schools who enter will be showcased in a special Cash for Schools supplement that will appear in the **Shropshire Star on Thursday, March 3, 2022**, which will signal the start of the token collect campaign.

All parents, children and teachers have to do is collect as many tokens as possible that will appear every day in the Shropshire Star from **Thursday, March 3, 2022 to Saturday, April 2, 2022.**

## £12,000 prize pot breakdown

The best bit is that every school has an equal chance of winning. The prizes will be awarded based on the schools that have collected the most tokens per pupil from Reception to Year 6 – so smaller schools have the same chance as larger ones.

For example, a small school with 50 pupils that collects 400 tokens would win when compared to a bigger school with 400 pupils that collects 800 tokens.

Five schools with the most tokens collected per pupil will have the chance to walk away with a cash prize and win a share of the £12,000 prize pot.

The first placed school with the most tokens collected per pupil will scoop a whopping **£5,000**, followed by **£3,000** for second, **£2,000** for third and then two **£1,000** awards, which will be presented to the fourth and fifth place schools



SPONSORED BY



**Shropshire Star**

Let your family and neighbours know  
we have entered Cash for Schools  
and collect as many tokens from the  
Shropshire Star as you can.

Thank you for your support