

March 2021

St Louis Catholic Academy News



Dear Families

We nearly made it to half term Covid free but sadly in the final week, we needed to close two bubbles on separate days. Thankfully, the rest of the school remained open. Despite the many restrictions that we all work within, we've tried to keep our learning in school and at home as close to our usual curriculum as possible. The teaching team and wider team of support staff from admin to caretaking, cleaning and catering teams have been working so hard to maintain a safe school environment and this has allowed us to deliver some brilliant learning opportunities. It was fantastic to see a teams of WW2 refugees, nurses, soldiers, and more at home and in school on UKS2's WW2 history day. We've also been inundated with robots too. We are very much looking forward to welcoming children back into school on 8th March. When they return, they'll see some of their home learning proudly displayed around school. Thank you to all the home learning families who have done so much to help their children and the critical workers who have been exceptionally busy during lockdown.

Best wishes

Sue Blakeley

Helpline: 0800 068 3131

There is a clear need to provide ongoing support to the Suffolk population both in response to Covid-19 and to meet wider support needs.



Suffolk Collective
Suffolk partners and agencies working together

Dear Parents and Friends of St Louis' School

As I write this, we have just begun the season of Lent. In many peoples' minds the mention of the word Lent conjures up negative images. Lent is the time when we give things up, a time when the Church is bereft of flowers and the hymns, we sing are gloomy. If we think this is Lent then we need to think again. Lent comes an Anglo-Saxon word for Spring. Spring as we know is the season of new birth and new life. In this season of Lent we go into spiritual training so as to be on form for the celebration of what lies at the heart of our Christian Faith: the death and resurrection of Jesus. The traditional Lenten trio of prayer, fasting and almsgiving are not ends in themselves. Rather they are there to help us shift the attention away from ourselves, so that we are better placed to focus on God and others. In this season we ask God to renew us so that our lives will resemble more closely the life of Jesus his Son. We ask that God's grace will touch, heal and shape us in the image of Jesus, who died and rose from the dead so that we might share his life.

With the assurance of my prayers and good wishes,

Fr Christopher

Our Lady Immaculate and St. Etheldreda Catholic Church, Newmarket

For all church dates and news, check the weekly church bulletin <http://www.olise.co.uk/wordpress/> Link to the latest newsletter from the parish home page




Talking to your child about online safety
Advice on how to start the conversation and get support if you're worried.

We have spaces!

Please tell your friends

We have spaces in classes across our school.

Our nursery has wrap around care and can accommodate your child during your working day. We are an inclusive Catholic school, welcoming of all children.

Please enquire now for places and tell others.

Email Contact:
antoinettejones@stlouisacademy.co.uk

Our new website has arrived! We're learning how to use it—so please be patient with us.

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<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/talking-child-online-safety/>



We are so glad to be welcoming all the children back into school soon, it has certainly been a strange term with so many of you at home. We have all been so impressed with the effort that you have put into your home learning and have loved to see all the photos of everything that you have been up to. We have missed you all terribly. I hope this spotlight will give you a better insight into the way LKS2 works.

Lower Key Stage 2 comprises both Year 3 and 4. Year 3 marks one of the major milestones in your child's academic journey. They have moved from Key Stage 1 to Key Stage 2. From your child's point of view, they have gone from the "infants" to the "juniors". That means a big step up in the amount and complexity of work. Your child is encouraged to be more responsible for looking after themselves and their peers. They are required to work more independently and encouraged to try and find out the answers for themselves. The curriculum builds on KS1 and is mainly subject specific. We base our learning around a theme. The spring term topic is Inventions through time and the summer topic will be Travel and Transport. We also teach RE, Science, History, Geography, French, PE, Art, DT, Computing and Music lessons.

In LKS2, reading continues to be vitally important and we encourage children to read to an adult on a daily basis and also respond to their reading in written form too. We also put an emphasis on the understanding of reading so comprehension skills are developed all the time. Our English teaching is based around The Power of Reading which uses a key text to help develop their reading stamina and love of books. This then provides a real and exciting stimulus for writing through which we can also develop their grammar and punctuation skills. We also teach the children a joined up (cursive) style of handwriting.

The knowledge and rapid recall of multiplication tables are a key focus of LKS2. Year 3s will learn their 2, 5, 10, 3, 4 and 8 times tables. The Year 4s will learn their 6, 7, 9, 11 and 12 times tables. We reinforce this learning using a fun programme called Times Tables Rock Stars which can be played at home as well as at school and is accompanied by regular tests each week.

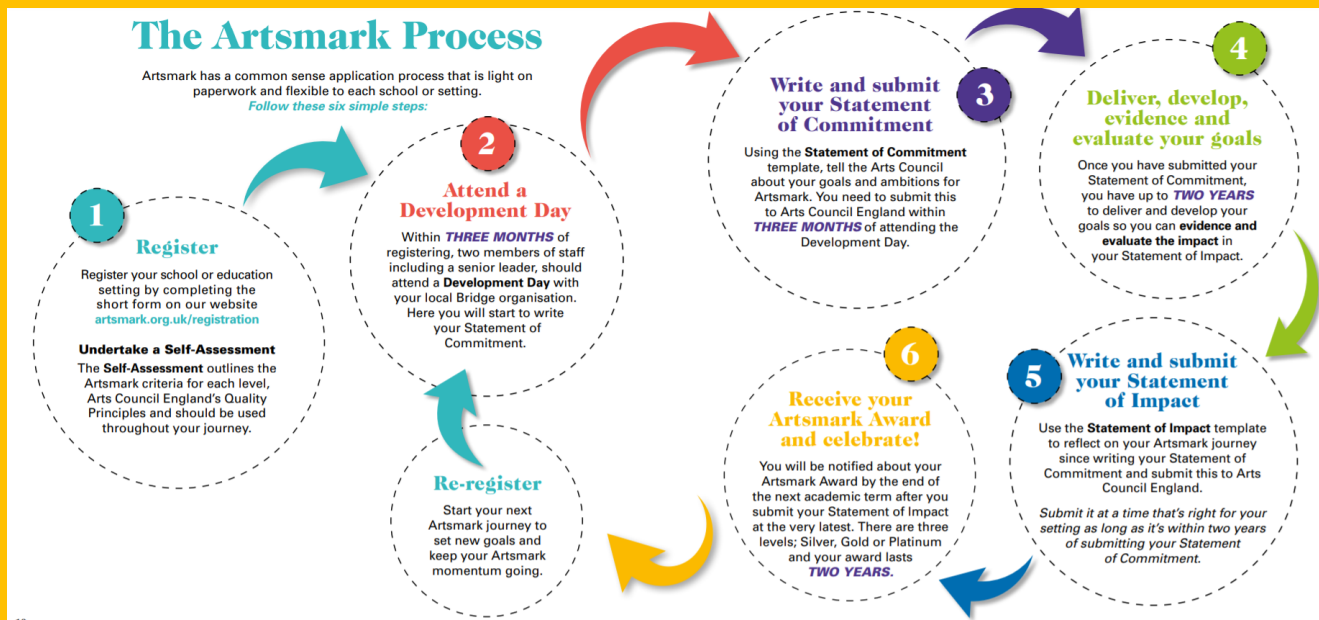
At school we continually assess the children to monitor their progress and we will provide small group interventions for children who need additional support. In LKS2 we are always keen to help and support our families. Please do not hesitate to get in touch if you need any guidance or support

for your child.

Mrs White—LKS2 Leader

We have started our Artsmark Journey towards a Silver Award

We will be finalising our plans to have Artsmark Silver accreditation within two years following our Development Day. We will be using our Artsmark journey to help us to further improve writing in school. This is already a priority in the School Development Plan.



The Quality Principles are embedded throughout the Artsmark Award framework to support us to achieve our ambitions for high quality arts and cultural provision.

The seven Quality Principles are:

1. **Striving for excellence and innovation-** we will be working with specialists to help us be the best we can and try new ways to develop the skills and talents of our children
2. **Being authentic-** for example, we'll see drama taking place in a theatre setting
3. **Being exciting, inspiring and engaging-** we will show children how good they can be
4. **Ensuring a positive and inclusive experience-** every child will be fully involved
5. **Actively involving children and young people-** we'll reflect their ideas and views and those of their families
6. **Enabling personal progression-** we'll see each child make personal progress journey through our school
7. **Developing belonging and ownership-** we'll build local partnerships with others

We will get • A clear framework for teachers to plan, develop and embed arts, culture and Creativity across the curriculum • Ongoing support from Bridge organisations, including support sessions and guidance on completing your Artsmark application • Access to our Artsmark Partners – a network of the country's leading cultural organisations • Joining a national community of education settings who champion arts and culture. We'll be supported throughout our whole Artsmark journey by our network of regional Bridge organisations.

Silver
The setting values each arts subject and promotes arts and culture for the value they have, including appropriate timetabling. Children and young people have the opportunity to develop their skills over a longer period of time.

Silver
The setting can provide evidence of regular in-house opportunities for sharing and developing good practice in educators' knowledge, skills and understanding of arts and cultural education.

Silver
The setting has clear schemes of work and programmes of study to show an increase of knowledge, skills and understanding for arts and cultural subjects, across all phases.
The setting uses an arts and cultural curriculum to help children and young people explore or make connections in other subjects.

Silver
The setting can demonstrate that consistent arts and cultural experiences have been developed for all children and young people. This may include clubs and activities that go beyond formal teaching.

Silver
Children and young people's art is showcased and displayed effectively, and planned arts and cultural events have a high take-up in the setting.

Bridges are funded by Arts Council England to connect children and young people, schools and communities with arts and culture. They support with: • Delivering Artsmark Development Days • Running Artsmark support sessions • Giving us advice • Sharing practical resources • Introducing us to leading

Silver
The setting can demonstrate that it is using arts and cultural professionals and organisations to support the delivery of quality provision.
The setting is exploring opportunities to work in partnership with other settings.

Useful links Artsmark Award:
artsmark.org.uk Bridge organisations: artsmark.org.uk/Bridge
 Music Education Hubs: artscouncil.org.uk/music-education/music-education-hubs Arts Award:

Cultural organisations in our

area.

We're investing in our Foundation stage outdoor learning experience

We are very excited to have placed the order with Sovereign for our Foundation outdoor learning space and some of this new learning resource will be shared with our nursery. Installation date is set for 19th April and will last 5 days. We can't wait to see this put to great use and to welcome families to join us in an official opening once safe to do so.

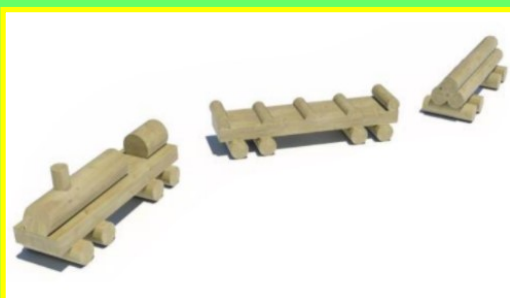
We're welcoming new friends with a bug hotel, stretching and supporting our body weight with monkey bars, using stepping stones to promote balance and agility and including activity boards for fine motor skills, creativity and maths' learning. We've included a log train, time out trail, leap frog trail and play lodge.



There will be outdoor learning for writers, mathematicians and building constructors. This will give our Foundation learners a final boost before graduating into KS1.



The Foundation teaching team have chosen every piece of new equipment to optimise the opportunities to support development of the children's early learning goals. Movement has been a specific focus because the scheme is primarily funded through Sports Premium and with support from FOSL and Godolphin.



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FAIRTRADE FORTNIGHT

Newmarket Open Door

Churches Together With People in Need



®

Mrs Cox is preparing for Fairtrade Fortnight between 22 February and 7 March 2021 but we are extending our celebrations into the

following week too because we hope everyone can take part in school.



Mrs Cox has her final plans for Fairtrade Fortnight in place and despite bubbles and families not coming into school, she's ensured everyone can join in the celebrations this year. She joining forces with Trina to make this a fantastic first week back in school for home learners.

For two weeks each year at the end of February and start of March, thousands of individuals, companies and groups across the UK come together to share the stories of the people who grow our food and drinks. mine our gold and who grow the cotton in our clothes, people who are often exploited and underpaid.

The COVID-19 pandemic has shown us more than ever how interconnected we are globally. This interconnection is at the very heart of the Fairtrade message and is where your role begins. You are part of the Fairtrade movement and you have the power to drive long-term change, not only with your shopping choices but with your support in spreading the message. We just have to do this a little differently in 2021!

Tuesday 9th March- tasty homemade Fairtrade soup (50p served at morning break)

Wednesday 10th March - delicious Fairtrade hot chocolate (50p served at morning break)

Thursday 11th March—yummy Fairtrade cookie/brownie and juice (£1.50, to take home and share—order extra for your family) **All profits go to Cafod—Our charity during Lent**

FOOD BANK

COLLECTION DAY IS EVERYDAY DURING LOCKDOWN

The Food Bank is very much in need of our support and so a trolley is left at the front of the school by reception daily for any donations. As soon as it is filled, we'll deliver the contents to the food bank and start again. Please try to give to help struggling families in Newmarket.

During Lent, we are doing things a little differently and asking children to bring in a different item each week. Home learners, please save up your items at home until you return on 8th March.

w/c 22nd February

soups

w/c 1st March

pasta, noodles & rice

w/c 8th March

cereal

w/c 15th March

cleaning products for home and beauty/skincare

w/c 22nd March

jams and spreads



World Book Day Menu Poster Competition Winners

We had some wonderful entries for our World Book Day Poster Competition to Design a School Menu and it was difficult choosing, but here are our lucky winners:

Overall Winner and whose menu will be served on World Book Day 4th March

Rufus Hetherington (Reception Class)

Winners for each phase:

Reception

Albie Knappett

Key Stage 1

Finn Burgess

LKS2

Evelyn Scott

UKS2

Thea Burgess

Huge congratulations to the above winners—they will each receive a book and a free school meal.

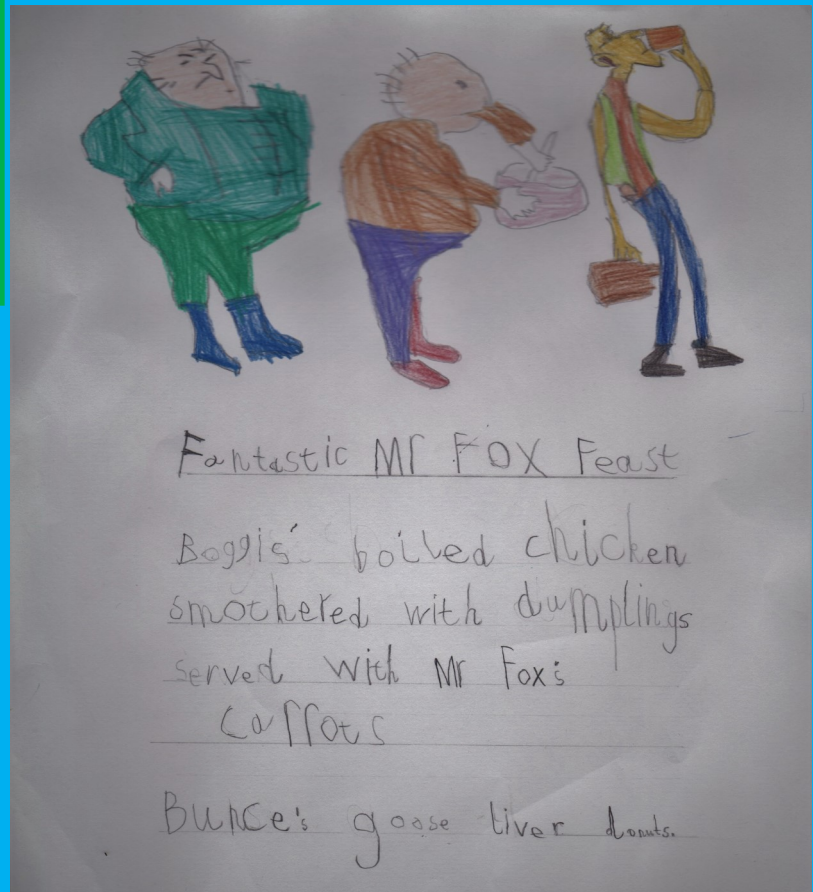
World Book Day Menu – 4th March 2021 (Fantastic Mr Fox Feast)

**Boggis' Boiled Chicken smothered with Dumplings
(Chicken Casserole with Dumplings)**

Served with Mr Fox Carrots

**Bunce's Goose Liver Doughnuts (Chocolate Mousse
with a Mini Doughnut)**

We hope that your child will have a school dinner on World Book Day. The cost of a school meal is £2.30 (no cost to children in years Reception to Year 2 and those who are entitled to a free school meal).



We're busy learning in school and online : look at all our work in February



5-14 March
British
Science
Week
2021



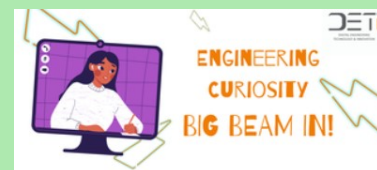
Mad Science Day!



12th March 2021 Mad Scientist dress up day . A fundraising day towards the Friends of St Louis who support the school in its ongoing improvements.

During science week, all classes will be enjoying a day of science experiments and we're hoping that everyone will be back in school and ready to use their science skills. We are planning to have live links to scientists, computer programmers, mathematicians and engineers to promote science related vocations to our children.

British Science Week is a 10-day programme of thousands of events running throughout the whole of the UK with the aim of celebrating science, engineering, technology and maths.



FRIENDS OF ST LOUIS (FOSL)

FOSL have been busy recruiting new members. A huge thank you to those who have come forward to help this group who raise money for St Louis children. Please think about joining this growing group. We're always on the lookout for new ideas for fundraising, so drop us a line with your ideas. FOSL will be running a **Monster Easter Egg Raffle** this year and we'd welcome donations of eggs to raffle. From 15th March, tickets will be



sold in class bubbles for 20p each.

All £1 donations for World Book Day and Mad Science Day are for FOSL fundraising that goes directly back to supporting children with extras in school. FOSL make a huge difference to St Louis.

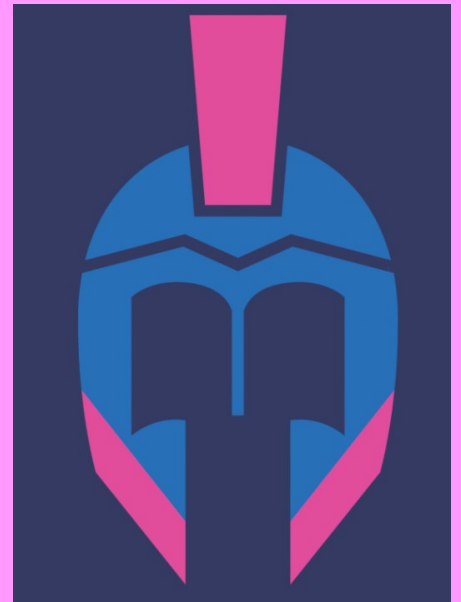
Shelley Bosley and Wendy Patman– Smyth



JUST IMAGINE...
READING
GLADIATORS

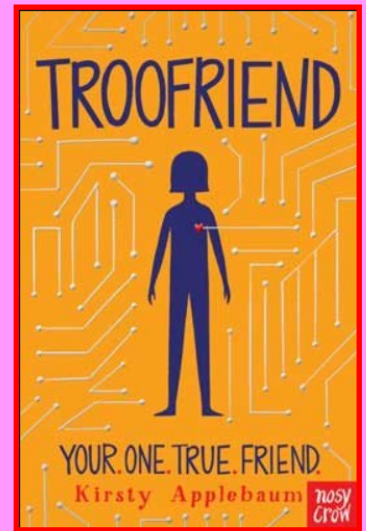
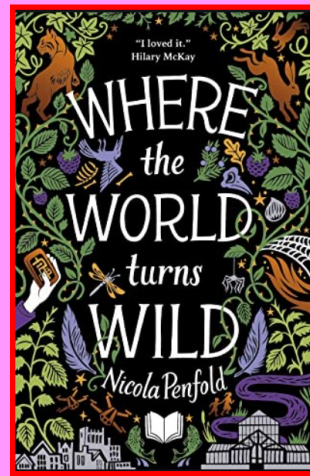
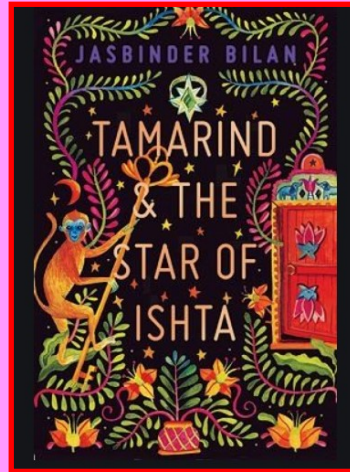
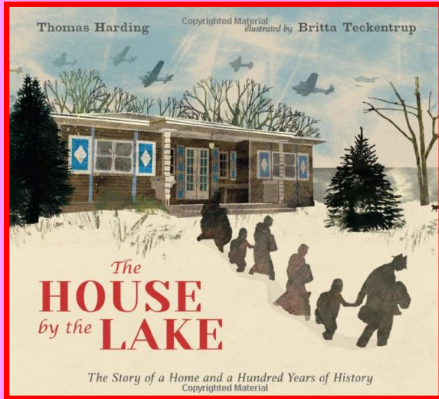
We have signed up to Reading Gladiators for years 3, 4 and 5. This scheme challenges great readers to engage in some challenging texts. This provides children with an additional reading challenge beyond the school reading curriculum. We are trialing this up to the end of the school year.

If your child is not part of the first reading gladiator group, you might want to read the books at home.

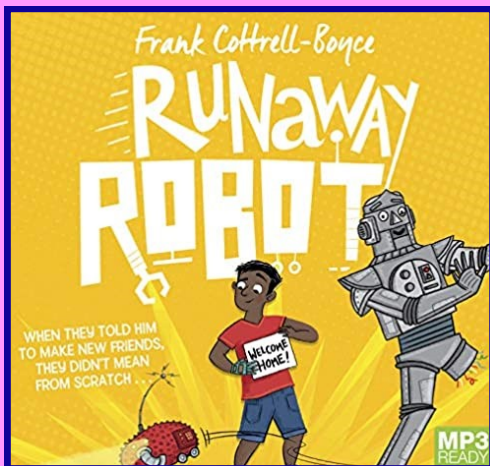
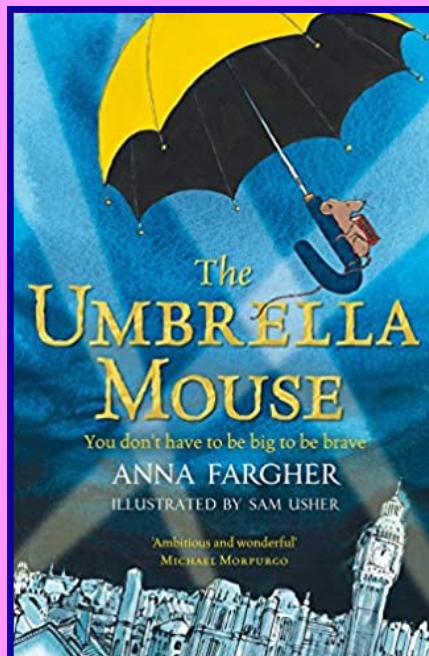
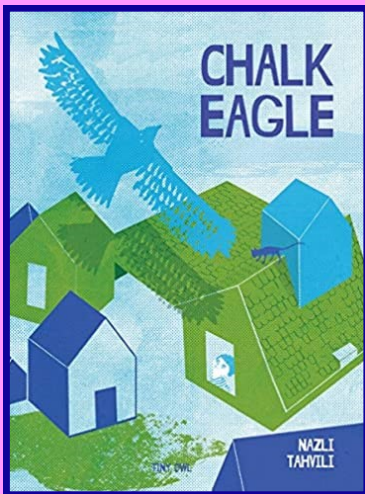


<https://readinggladiators.org.uk/>

**YEAR 5
BOOKS**



Year 3 and 4



Every Key Stage will hold their own Cafod Fundraiser during Lent

FS1 and FS2 separately are organising two 'guess how many sweets in the jar' competitions (small prize for all entrants).

KS1 are holding a fairground/carnival theme for their fundraiser. Children will bring in some coins to spend on some fairground games. Their exciting fun afternoon will be held on Friday 19th March.

LKS2 are raising money by wearing slippers and dressing gowns to school (uniform still underneath and outside shoes to change into).

UKS2 are hosting a book + toy + bake stall, where the UKS2 children donate items to sell and set up their stalls.

KICKSTART
SCHEME

Creating hundreds of thousands of jobs for 16-24 year olds, building their skills and experience.

The Kickstart Scheme is a new Government initiative that provides funding for employers to create job placements for 16 to 24 year olds. The funding is to create new 6-month job placements for young people who are currently on Universal Credit and at risk of long-term unemployment.

This is part of the government's Plan for Jobs and aims to create hundreds and thousands of new, fully funded jobs across England, Scotland and Wales.

The jobs are for 25 hours a week. There will also be extra funding to support young people to build their experience and help them move into sustained employment after they have completed their Kickstart Scheme funded job.

We are awaiting approval to support five young people into employment. Four will be classroom based as teaching support assistants and one will be a facilities assistant.

If you have anyone in your family who might be eligible to apply, let us know and we'll contact them once the positions are advertised.



Your School Council is still active in lock down

The School Council is looking forward to meeting when all representatives return to school from the 8th March. Through this home schooling experience we have all learnt so much about how to maintain our social, physical, and mental health. How can we incorporate this into our daily classroom? Representatives will discuss potential changes to implement at a school wide level to support all students as they return to normal schooling life. In addition, we look forward to participating in Lent and the school 'Walk for Water' fundraising. Representatives will develop strategies to motivate and encourage all students to participate in the school Lent initiatives in a big or small way; from donating food or books, to purchasing a Wednesday milkshake. We look forward to leading by example and welcoming all students back to finish off the Spring term together.

Free school meals

<https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/children-families-and-learning/schools/school-meals-uniforms-and-trips/apply-for-free-school-meals/>

We've been busy working with our parent panel and volunteer nutritionist to improve our menus. Children loved the chicken burgers on fresh wholemeal roll. You can now enjoy a school roast on Tuesdays and Thursdays up to Easter.





Our Catholic Faith in School and at Home



Lent is a very special time for Catholic schools like St Louis and we will be joining Fr. Christopher in prayer each Thursday morning throughout this season. Our key themes for Lent are

Pray

We will pray in class and at home with an added mid-week reflection led by teachers.

Stop

We're encouraging children to do a little less of things for themselves and free up time to help others. Screen time is the ideal thing to cut back on.

Go

With time saved, we are encouraging children to help others, at home, in school, in the local community and wider world.

Give

We feel children have given up a lot this year already and so our school community wants to focus upon giving to others including our children who have struggled in lockdown. If you want to give a little gift to a child in school, we welcome donations. A pack of coloured pens, a book or something similar is ideal.

Also please give to our Open Door Food Bank collection

- Week 1 soups
- Week 2 pasta, noodles & rice
- Week 3 cereal
- Week 4 cleaning products
- Week 5 jams and spreads

Share

We're sharing our food, time and talents to support Cafod, one another and during Lent.

Take Care

Our Mini-Vinnies are writing to people in the parish who remain isolated during Covid.

Cafod Milkshake Wednesdays

Preorder each Tuesday to enjoy your milkshake delivered to you in class every Wednesday during Lent (except Wednesday 10th March when our delicious Fairtrade soup is on sale)

Choose from Strawberry or Chocolate

50p minimum donation to Cafod each milkshake

please send exact change to avoid too much money handling as part of Covid safety.



Cafod Family Fast Day is 26th February—you are invited to join with your family in this fast on Friday. You can give to Cafod online

cafod.org.uk/fastday

We have made contact with Jane Crone Community Participation Coordinator at Cafod and she's asked Mary Humphrey to lead an assembly for us - KS2 at 9.30am and KS1 at 10.30am

A prayer for Lent



Almighty and ever living God, you invite us deeper into your world, your people, your Lent. May this time be one of outward focus; seeking you in those we often ignore. Help us live a Lent focused on freedom, generosity, and encounter. Give us hearts hungry to serve you and those who need what we have to give.



We are walking for water in support of the Cafod Lent appeal



Dates for your diary

Season of Lent 17th February 2021 - 29th March 2021 Catholic Charitable Giving.

Fairtrade Fortnight 22nd February 2021—7th March 2021—extended for an extra week at St Louis



Wednesday 24th February - Midweek Milkshake (50p minimum donation) - **prepay on Tuesday**

Monday 1st March—meat free Mondays during Lent

Wednesday 3rd March - Midweek Milkshake (50p minimum donation) - **prepay on Tuesday**

4th March 2021 World Book Day We love the **World Book Day** led by the National Literacy Trust! The annual celebration of authors, illustrators, books and reading is one of our favourite **days** of the year. **World Book Day 2020** is coming on Thursday 4th March with this year's theme to 'share a million stories'. Children are invited to dress as their favourite book character. Please donate towards the Friends of St Louis School Fund. Start making your costume now!



£1 donation to FOSL please

5th—14th March School Science Week—a celebration of all STEM teaching and learning including a whole day of science with lots of fizzes and bangs

Monday 8th March - meat free Mondays during Lent

Tuesday 9th March—tasty homemade Fairtrade soup (50p served at morning break) - **prepay**



Wednesday 10th March - delicious Fairtrade hot chocolate (50p served at morning break) **prepay**

Thursday 11th March—yummy Fairtrade cookie/brownie and juice (£1.50, to take home and share – order extra for your family). All profits go to Cafod—Our charity during Lent **prepay**

12th March 2021 Mad Scientist dress up day . A fundraising day towards the Friends of St Louis who support the school in its ongoing improvements. **£1 donation to FOSL please**

Wednesday 17th March -Midweek Milkshake (50p minimum donation) - **prepay on Tuesday**

**Saturday—Date to be confirmed:
Friends of St Louis Spring Grounds
Tidy- Up Day (in bubbles) 10am to
2pm**

**Open Door Food Bank Classroom
Collections**

w/c 22nd February soups

w/c 1st March

pasta, noodles & rice

w/c 8th March

cereal

w/c 15th March

cleaning products for home and beauty/
skincare

w/c 22nd March jams and Spreads



Walk for Water

Are you ready to change your life and transform someone else's this Lent?

**10,000
steps a day
every day for 40 days**

Monday 22nd
March —meat
free Mondays
during Lent

Our Lady Immaculate and St. Etheldreda Catholic Church, Newmarket

For all church dates and news, check the weekly church bulletin <http://www.olise.co.uk/>



We will keep adding more to this list throughout the year but we hope that you find it helpful