

St Louis Catholic Academy News



Dear Parents and Carers

Finally, we are returning to more usual times and opening up a little more. We are excited to begin our toddler drop-in to welcome families and introduce them to nursery. Younger children have experienced a strange Covid environment in their early years and we hope to support them and their families to make new friends.

Year 6 are inviting older parishioners to afternoon tea at school and please let us know if you would like us to invite someone who would benefit from tea, cake and company with our Mini Vinnies group.

We begin Lent with Mass at Church and our focus for fundraising will be Cafod throughout Lent. Mrs Muscionico has framed our beautiful gifted Stations of the Cross and children will pray at the Stations that are being mounted inside corridors across the school. Jane Crone from Cafod joins us on Friday 4th March to launch our Walk Around the World (explained in the newsletter). Lent is a time of prayer and reflection before Easter and I am delighted that LKS2 are preparing to retell the Passion story this year.

Enjoy the warmer Spring days and contact your class teacher anytime with queries or speak to me direct or by email on sueblakeley@stlouisacademy.co.uk.

With best wishes.

Sue Blakeley
Headteacher

Little Louis Stay and Play

Friday 4th March
Friday 1st April
Friday 6th May and
Friday 10th June.

The sessions will start at 9.30am and finish at 10.45am on a drop in/out basis. Tea/coffee and biscuits will be available for parents. This will be a lovely opportunity for parents and toddlers to meet families who are likely to become part of our friendly and welcoming school ahead of joining us in our nursery class. All welcome! You do not have to already be committed to applying for St Louis nursery to join in us and experience what we have to offer. Please register your interest in attending acorns@stlouisacademy.co.uk.



Launching a PTA

We'd like to invite you to join in us to establish a new school parents and teachers fundraising group to take on fundraising from FOSL. Our first meeting will be on **Wednesday 9th March 2022 at 9am** in the School Hall. Our first fundraising event will be a Summer Fayre, which we hope will be a very special and much needed celebration for us all after 2 years of restrictions. We need lots of new families to get involved because many of our families are leaving as their children move to secondary school. Over the two years of Covid, it has been difficult to meet our newer families who we hope will be keen to get involved. I hope that the mix of families and staff will help us to build new funds to invest in the children. Please let me know by email sueblakeley@stlouisacademy.co.uk if you want to come and Shelley will be baking the cakes!

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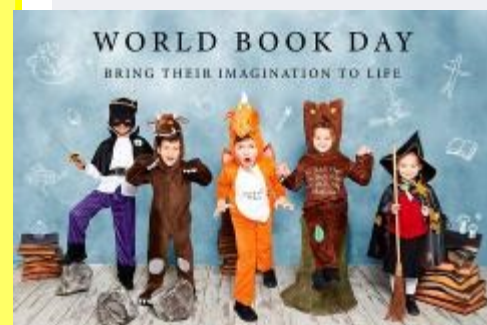
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Thursday 3rd March



Mad science day 18th March

No money needed but donation
for Ukraine appeal accepted

Cafod Fundraising During Lent



TOGETHER WE CAN WALK
40,000KM AROUND THE
WORLD!

Cafod are aiming to walk 40,000km around the world this Lent to help stamp out hunger. Schools across the country are joining the walk.

Walk Against Hunger in solidarity with the 200 million children whose lives are at risk because of malnutrition. Classes are setting a Lenten walking target, and use our prayer and fundraising resources to find out how each step you take will make a big difference!

Fundraisers for Cafod—50p per week (pay each Tuesday please)

Fairtrade Banana with vanilla Ice-Cream Friday 4th March

Midweek milkshakes are back!

Midweek Milkshake Wednesdays 9th, 16th, 23th March

Fairtrade Hot chocolate Wednesday 30th March



**Reception classes have been busy birdwatching,
collaborating and counting**



Our Fairtrade group made wonderful Fairtrade packs for children to buy. They spent hours planning and preparing these goody bags. Well done to the Fairtrade Team!

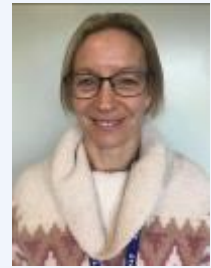


We are here to help

Acorns Nursery	Mrs Bryan	acorns@stlouisacademy.co.uk
Cherry	Mrs Smith	cherry@stlouisacademy.co.uk
Holly	Mrs Baldwin	holly@stlouisacademy.co.uk
Rowan	Mrs Hodson	rowan@stlouisacademy.co.uk
Lime	Miss Coetzee	lime@stlouisacademy.co.uk
Oak	Mrs Cox	oak@stlouisacademy.co.uk
Elm	Mrs Vickerage	elm@stlouisacademy.co.uk
Beech	Mrs White	beech@stlouisacademy.co.uk
Sycamore	Mrs Muscionico	sycamore@stlouisacademy.co.uk
Hazel	Miss Haines	hazel@stlouisacademy.co.uk
Larch	Miss Spratt	larch@stlouisacademy.co.uk
Maple	Mrs Feehan	maple@stlouisacademy.co.uk
Headteacher	Mrs Blakeley	sueblakeley@stlouisacademy.co.uk
Admin	Mrs Crawley and Mrs Jones	admin@stlouisacademy.co.uk

Welcome New Members of Staff

We recently appointed new members to our Admin Team



Mrs Liebenberg

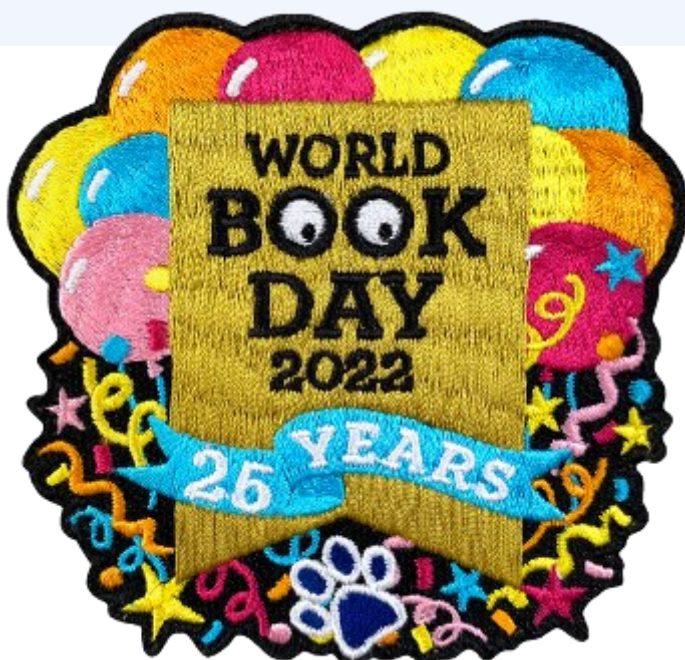
Our new School Receptionist

Mrs Liebenberg is your first point of contact with any school queries.



Mrs Crawley

Our new School Business Manager



We love books at St Louis and we will be giving some away to our best dressed book characters on Thursday 3rd March.

We read a class book every day to children because reading aloud is so important. Try to spend time reading to your child too.



This shows the key themes in feedback when you were asked about one thing that is good and to list your things that you want to see change. This was discussed with school Governors who have identified improvements that we'll be working on in future months.

<i>Themes for Improvement Areas of concern raised were:</i>	<i>Actions that Governors would wish to see over the next 12 months.</i>
<i>Communication</i>	<p>We'll invite reception year families to share a school meal with their child and see how lovely the food is.</p> <p>Now that Covid restrictions are ending, we are introducing stay and read starting Spring B for Reception year and we'll hold termly workshops to model how we teach these younger children.</p> <p>Teacher contact details are shared regularly in the newsletter.</p> <p>Our new School Business Manager will develop a focus group to help identify ways to improve home/school communication. If you want to take part, let her know at admin@stlouisacademy.co.uk.</p> <p>Generally school staff respond to emails promptly. If an email was missed, please accept our apology for the error.</p> <p>We always follow the latest Suffolk advice about notification of Covid cases.</p> <p>With relaxation of Covid rules, in Summer term, we'll hold a lesson in each class for you to stay and see how we teach our core subjects.</p> <p>The Headteacher has an open door and is always happy to speak with any families who wish to share their ideas and views: contact sueblakeley@stlouisacademy.co.uk</p>
<i>School meals</i>	<p>All families are invited to join our food panel who help us design termly menus. We are planning a meet up to taste some recipes in Summer Term.</p> <p>We buy locally where possible, sausages from the town butcher and fruit from the Tuesday market. As a Healthy School, we try to maintain a healthy menu and encourage lifelong healthy eating habits.</p> <p>In the Summer Term, we'll be introducing cooking into the curriculum in support of our learning because our new teaching kitchen will be in place. This will provide new opportunities for a cooking club.</p>
<i>Homework</i>	<p>Some families say there is too much homework and others say too little. If you have concerns about homework, please speak with your class teacher.</p> <p>Homework club for UKS2 takes place weekly with the class teachers kindly working through their lunchbreak to facilitate this.</p> <p>We have laptops available to loan to home and encourage families to complete homework at home please.</p>
<i>Teaching staff and diversity SENDCo</i>	<p>We feel that our SENDCo support is very good. Parents with concerns may always contact the Headteacher if they have any issues.</p> <p>Vacancies are widely advertised and we always appoint the best candidate to the post.</p> <p>Governors are appointed where vacancies arise and we look for new talents from these volunteers to help us further improve our school.</p> <p>We'll include a governor update in the April newsletter.</p>
<i>Catholic Faith Lack of prayer and Mass attendance</i>	<p>As a Catholic School, we teach RE for 10% of curriculum time. We are committed to the Catholic Life of our school and live out our faith daily. What makes us special is this Catholic faith.</p> <p>We have held Mass throughout lockdowns in classrooms, the School Hall and in Church. As a Catholic School, we have enjoyed visits into school from Fr Christopher and Fr Leo.</p> <p>We fundraise for Cafod but donations to our Catholic charity are voluntary, as are other charitable fundraising events. Charitable giving is part of our faith and we involve children to teach them about their wider social responsibilities locally and globally.</p>
<i>Traffic</i>	<p>We'll be providing access for drop off and collection from both Fordham Road and Rayes Lane by mid-March once all construction fencing is removed.</p>
<i>Sport and extra-curricular offer</i>	<p>Our sport, teaching and club offer is extensive- football, table tennis, dance, basketball, cricket, tennis, French, Ukulele, netball, multi-skills, archery, gymnastics, swimming, dry land first aid, running etc. We have brought in specialist coaches throughout the year and will continue to do so.</p> <p>There was no interest in a morning dodgeball club, so we did not go ahead.</p> <p>We'll ask again next school year.</p> <p>A new sports teaching contract is being tendered ready for Summer Term. A Play leader has been nominated and is undergoing training to lead playtime games – including skipping.</p>

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<p><i>Year 6 offer</i></p>	<p><i>The year 6 residential visit is booked for those wishing to attend. There will be a Year 6 live show performance in July. Year 6 continue to undertake a range of roles across school.</i></p>
<p><i>School awards (one concern was raised that we should not have them)</i></p>	<p><i>Artsmark brings in many offers of free learning – example Tiny Plays for Year 6, artist in school workshops, live plays and workshops in school. This offers us many more opportunities than we would be able to afford or access without the accreditation. We are using Artsmark to support writing too. Our Healthy School status provides access to resources and training too. Children's University is a great way to access events and activities but it is a voluntary group which families do not need their child to participate in.</i></p>

Administration Officer



We are looking for an **Administration Officer** (Extra Care) to join our lovely friendly team at **Richard Newcombe Court** in **North Cambridge**

- **£13,736.21 - £15,913.00** pa for 24 hours per week
- Part time/ Permanent/4 days - hours to be agreed with successful candidate
 - 30 days holiday increasing to 35 days pro rata
 - Company sick pay scheme
 - Contributory pension scheme

www.chsgroup.org.uk/work-for-us/current-vacancies/



Monday 16 to Friday 20 May 2022



Keep Moving Suffolk - Walk to School Week challenge (16th - 20th May)



<https://int.depaulcharity.org/>

DEPAUL UKRAINE EMERGENCY APPEAL

Support Depaul Ukraine's life-saving work with homeless and displaced people. For all media enquiries, please email media@depaulinternational.org

Learn More

DO YOU NEED HELP
KEEPING YOUR HOUSE
WARM THIS WINTER?



GET IN TOUCH TODAY ON
0800 6300 443
TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT OUR WINTER FUEL GRANT

Skillsbuilder <https://www.skillsbuilder.org/homezone>

Skills Builder PARTNERSHIP

Framework What we do Tools & Resources Insights News & Blog About Contact

Helping parents and carers to build their child's essential skills at home.

LISTENING SPEAKING PROBLEM SOLVING CREATIVITY STAYING POSITIVE AIMING HIGH LEADERSHIP TEAMWORK

Enjoy activities together at a time and pace to suit you and your family.

We are working with children to develop their skills. You can access many resources at home using the homezone site. A common skill that we are working to develop is listening.

Look out for these story books which all include Listening as a theme in your local library. Read, share and enjoy with your child.

- *Howard B. Wigglebottom Learns to Listen* by Susan Cornelison
- *My Mouth is a Volcano* by Julia Cook
- *Listen Buddy* by Helen Lester
- *Lacey Walker, Nonstop Talker* by Christianne C. Jones
- *Worst Day of My Life Ever!* by Julia Cook
- *Why Should I Listen?* by Claire Llewellyn
- *I Have a Little Problem, Said the Bear* by Heinz Janisch
- *Quiet Please, Owen McPhee!* by Trudy Ludwig and Patrice Barto
- *Wordy Birdy* by Tammi Sauer
- *Listen, Listen* by Phillis Gershator

Ask a family member which is their favourite season and why.

Listen carefully to their answer and summarise what they have told you, asking any questions to further your understanding. Find more listening resources at Homezone.

A Guide to Prayer at Home

The importance and value of prayer cannot be underestimated; as Fr Mike says, “**Prayer is not an option, prayer is absolutely necessary. We can’t be the people we’re called to be unless we have a profound prayer life.**” Prayer has therefore always played an important part of our daily rhythm here at St Louis: we start our day with our morning prayer, sing grace before lunch and sing our thanks at the end of lunch and close our school day with it. We pray together during assemblies too, including in singing assembly – as St Augustine once said, “**He who sings prays twice**”! The whole school has, as of this term, also timetabled in some ‘quiet time prayer’. Every Wednesday morning between 9:00am-9:15am, the whole school spends some time in reflection. There are many ways, both formal and more informal that this happens; it would be a wonderful opportunity for you and your children) to have a go at some of these at home too! Mrs Muscionico is St Louis’ RE Subject Leader (sycamore@stlouisacademy.co.uk)

ACTS.

This is a really easy way to structure prayer or reflection about your day. You could do this together as a family before bed!

It stands for:

A: Adoration – we think about who God is and recognise Him for who He is and what He’s done.

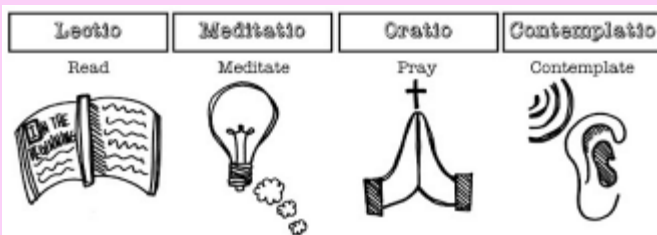
C: Confession – we think about the unkind or wrong decisions that we have made and say sorry to God.

T: Thanksgiving – we think about what we can be thankful for in our lives and thank God for these gifts!

S: Supplication – we ask God for anything that we, or somebody else, may need for the coming day.

Lectio Divina (‘Divine Reading’)

An easy way to explain the ancient practice of Lectio Divina is that it’s a ‘thoughtful’ or ‘meditative’ way of engaging with scripture. You read through a short story or few verses so that you become familiar with it. You then identify a word or phrase that stuck out for you and reflect on why this might be; let it ‘roll’ around your mind and meditate on what it *means*. Then pray with God about this word or phrase and chat with Him about what it means for you personally before reflecting on how you apply it to your own life. Fr Josh has got a great little video about it on YouTube.



CCC 469: *Prayer is turning the heart towards God. When a person prays, he enters into a living relationship with God.*

Silent Prayer or Meditation.

This is a lovely opportunity for some peace! It is *not* the same as secular meditation as the aim is not just to ‘empty’ ourselves but to empty ourselves so that we can encounter that little voice of God in our hearts and then fill ourselves with His presence.

Make a calm space; you can perhaps light a candle and have some quiet instrumental music too. Take a few deep breaths, perhaps with a hand on your chest so that you can feel those breaths. Have a word or phrase, such as ‘Come Holy Spirit’, that you sit with and say either quietly or in your heart just slowly and gently until you feel that deep peace in your heart. As Fr Josh would say, “Just chill with the Lord”.

Bible Journaling / Prayer Journaling.

Writing has often been found by individuals to be a wonderful way of laying out their thoughts worries, concerns or prayers. Many people use a Prayer Journal (just a dedicated notebook) to jot down their prayers so that they can keep track of them and then go back and see when God’s answered them.

Bible journaling expresses those thoughts through art, normally around a Bible text.

Both of these can also be helpful for children to spend quiet time engaging with their spiritual side, through thinking and reflection. This can be ‘freestyle’ or there are lots of templates available online that help to provide guidance.



Your Class Parent Contacts

Here are the volunteers who work to keep you informed about your class group.

Cherry/Holly - Siriwan Simmons
(Charlie's Mum)

Rowan - Emma Richardson (George's
Mum)

Lime - Kathleen Das (Gabriel's mum)



Oak - Natalie Dirosa (Oscar's Mum)

Elm - Julie Giblin (Daisy's Mum)



Beech - Lucy Loyd (Kamari's mum)



Sycamore - Katie Abbs (Stanley's
mum)



Hazel - Bethan Byrne (Alys' mum)



Larch - Wendy Patman Smyth
(Jessica's mum)

Maple - Margo Walsh (Jack's Mum)

FREE SCHOOL MEALS

Did you know?

Pupil Premium registered children have access to :

Free after school club places allocated each enrolment;

Lunchtime French classes have some free spaces;

Forest Club has some free spaces too;

School receives extra money to support your child with their learning;

We subsidise learning visits and provide small group learning for your child using some of this money

Your child will get free school meals if you receive any of the following:

- Income Support
- Income-based Job Seeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Guarantee element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit but **no element of Working Tax Credit** and have an annual income (as assessed by HM Revenues & Customs) that does not exceed £16,190
- If you are supported under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Working Tax Credit during the four-week period immediately after your employment finishes or after you start to work fewer hours per week
- Universal Credit (provided you have an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400 (£616.67 per month), as assessed by earnings from up to three of your most recent assessment periods).

To check if your child is eligible, apply online for an immediate response or call 0345 606 6067 for advice.



Suffolk Advice and Support Service (SASS) is a free phoneline and is available to support vulnerable people in our communities (who do not have a network of family or friends to call upon), to access emergency support such as:

- **emergency** food and medicine deliveries, **if you are self-isolating**
- befriending schemes
- support with basic care needs
- debt/money advice

The telephone number is freephone **0800 068 3131** and is staffed from 9am to 5pm Monday to Friday.

You will be asked to indicate what you need help with. Your call will then be routed to an appropriate organisation in your local area who can support you or signpost where appropriate. This may include uploading your details onto the Warm Handover digital platform that member organisations can use to send referrals in a secure way. Read more about the Warm Handover platform below.



<https://www.bbcgoodfood.com/recipes/collection/lunchbox-recipes>

Has the impact of Coronavirus left you worrying about your bills, your job or your home?

There are people that can help.
Call us free on **0800 068 3131**

The Suffolk Advice and Support Line is open from 9am to 5pm, Monday to Friday.

Little Louis Stay and Play

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Friday 1st April
Friday 6th May and
Friday 10th June

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Fairtrade Fortnight
21st February - 6th March
2022



Season of Lent 2nd March 2022 - 16th April 2022. Ash Wednesday Mass in church



PARENT CONSULTATIONS

Tuesday 8th and Wednesday 9th March 2022

Face to Face

British Science Week



Mad Science Day Dress up

18th March

Scientist Talks

Live Science Show

Food Bank Collection

Throughout March in class

= Pasta, rice and cereals please



Little Louis drop- in 4th March

This is a stay and play session for pre nursery children. Contact admin@stlouisacademy.co.uk for details



Our Parish Church

<http://www.olise.co.uk/wordpress/>



Our Lady Immaculate and St. Etheldreda Catholic Church, Newmarket

Cake sale

7th March in aid of the people of Ukraine

Coffee Morning

9th March—please join our new PTA

World Book Day

3rd March

Dress as your favourite Book character



Monday 21st February to

Friday 25th February – Half Term

Friday 8th April – Term Ends

Summer Term 2022

Staff Professional Day – Monday 25th April

Tuesday 26th April – Term Commences

Friday 27th May –Queen's Platinum Celebration, Additional Bank Holiday.

Monday 30th May to Friday 3rd June – Half Term

Wednesday 20th July – Term Ends

Staff Professional Day - Thursday 21st July